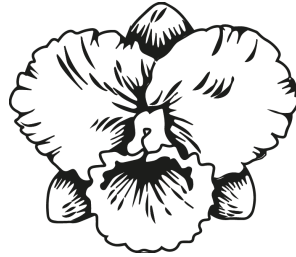


# THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE ORCHID SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
FOUNDED 1946. A MEMBER OF THE AUSTRALIAN ORCHID COUNCIL.

VOLUME 60 No 1



JANUARY 2020

NEXT MEETING of the Orchid Society of Western Australia (Inc.) will be held at the home of Trevor and Barbara Burnett, 33 Salisbury Road Beechboro, on Friday 24 January, 2019. Arrive from 5:30 pm for a 6 pm start.

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**THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:**

BBQ AT THE HOME OF  
TREVOR AND BARBARA BURNETT  
SAUSAGES, RAFFLE, AND MORE!

**FEBRUARY MEETING DATES:**

OSWA Committee 7 pm Friday 7th

General Meeting 7:30 pm Friday 28th

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**Birthdays**

January: 17th Ann Lam; 23rd Betty Saul; 25th Margaret Rathbone; 31st John Carless.

February: 7th Jim Baylis; 11th Nancie Jones.

Best wishes to anyone else celebrating Birthdays or Anniversaries. To any member on the sick list we wish you a speedy recovery & may you soon be well.

**January Meeting - BBQ! Sausages! Everyone-gets-a-plant Raffle! And more!**

OSWA's January meeting will be a BBQ at the home of Trevor & Barbara Burnett, 33 Salisbury Road, Beechboro 6063. Arrive from 5:30 pm onwards for 6 pm start.

- BBQ meat (sausages and maybe a few steaks) will be supplied.
- Bring a plant for the raffle. If everyone brings a plant, everyone will take a plant home.
- Bring your own drinks.
- Bring a salad or sweets to share.
- Feel free to park on the lawn. If you get lost, call Trevor or Barbara on 9377 6781.

There won't be a monthly plant competition but please bring along any unusual plants to show. Extra chairs would also help. This is a wonderful way to start the new year of orchid growing.

**Membership Subscriptions were due on 1 November 2019.**

\$26 double, \$21 single. For your convenience OSWA accepts payment by direct deposit (preferred method), cheque, or cash (paid at a general meeting). Direct deposit can be made via electronic banking or at any Westpac branch. If possible, please use direct deposit or cheque, to lessen stress and chaos at the general meetings.

**For direct deposit to OSWA's account:**

Account name - Orchid Society of Western Australia Inc.

Bank - Westpac Bank, Booragoon, WA

BSB - 036069 Account Number - 457265

Reference - please use your name, to help us identify your payment.

**For payment by cheque:**

Make cheques payable to The Orchid Society of WA Inc. and bring them to a general meeting or post them to OSWA, 58 Gladstone Rd, Leeming 6149.

**The AGM is approaching...**

Our AGM is in February. Please consider nominating for a position. Nominations for President, Secretary, Treasurer, or Committee Members should reach the secretary (Murray) by Friday 14 February 2020 (which is 14 days prior to the AGM). Nominations for the position of secretary will be especially joyfully received. Nomination forms are included at the end of this bulletin and will be available at the January general meeting. Being involved in the Committee is a great way to help OSWA and get to know more about OSWA and the WA orchid community. In the words of Tom Dixon, "You've got to be involved!"

**New Members**

Welcome to Rachel Atkinson, Val Gray, Wai Chen and Q Nye, and Kiki Suermond. We hope you have many rewarding years ahead with our Society.

**Free Shadehouse**

An old shadehouse and some home-made benches that are no longer needed are available for free to a good home. They need to be dismantled and removed from their current home in Waikiki. Pictures on the next page. If interested, please contact Lynn (contrarymiss@hotmail.com).



### How much are your orchids really worth?

There are two important factors that will help determine the answer to this question:

1. How well prepared and presented your orchids are for the sales table.
2. How much the buyer is prepared to pay. This will vary on any given day.

I have little doubt the first factor will greatly influence the second.

Unfortunately some people ignore these factors and simply adopt the approach 'I'll just drop the price and someone will buy it because it's cheap'.

Some key points to remember when preparing your plants for sale include:

**Sick plants** (those suffering fungal problems, bulb rot etc.) should not be put on the sales table at all, but rather should be kept aside and given remedial treatment until they have recovered. The same goes for plants that have suffered scale or mealy bug infestation or mechanical damage, **and are still showing the symptoms or effects**. Plants that have been recently divided and have not yet re-established a vigorous and or healthy root system should also be withheld from sale.

Any plants that are infected with virus, or is seriously suspect of being so, should be totally destroyed, e.g. incinerated or chopped into very small pieces then bagged up and disposed of in the wheelie bin, so that they can not be resurrected by some scavenger at the tip.

If you put an orchid up for sale with any of the above-mentioned problems, your reputation as a grower is very much at risk, regardless of how cheap your asking price is. But worse than that, the integrity of the show or event where the plants are offered, and the reputation of your club will also suffer.

With regard to how much a buyer is prepared to pay, I have observed the following over the last 10-12 years. Firstly, with a few exceptions, the prices have not changed very much. Secondly, while some growers have a system for determining the price that they will ask for their plants (e.g. so much for the plant, say \$20, plus so much for each raceme of flowers, say \$10, would make the asking price for a plant with two racemes of flowers \$40), a lot of growers seem hesitant to ask a reasonable price for the plants that they want to sell, preferring instead to ask for less than the plant is worth, in order to try and make sure of a sale. If enough sellers do this at the same time, the end result is lots and lots of very cheap plants. The problem with this approach is that it gives the general public an unrealistic notion of the true value of the orchids. Because of this, I believe prices have been held lower than they should have been for some time now.

I am not advocating that all sellers should charge like wounded bulls. However, I do believe it is reasonable to try and recoup somewhere near what it has cost you to get the plant to sale condition. For at least ten years now, all plants that I have put on the sales table have been amongst the most expensive plants offered at that particular event. In spite of this, they have sold, often being among the

first to sell. If they don't sell at the start of an event, e.g. within the first day or two, I have the option to reduce the price because I started out by asking for a reasonable amount. Generally I don't drop the price, and it seldom happens that I do not sell all of the plants that I have put on the sales table.

Clearly there are plenty of people who go to orchid shows that are prepared to pay a reasonable price for something that is healthy and well presented. To the untrained eye, healthy plants that are well presented appear to be of a better quality than plants that are not... Food for thought.

Courtney

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### **CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (JAN-FEB 2020)**

— based on notes from Courtney Rogasch and Roy Brown

Summer is a time of year when there are not a lot of cymbidiums in flower here in Perth. Those that are in flower tend to be the starchy pendulous flower type. Some say these are an acquired taste, however they do break the monotony of nothing but green leaves.

Now that we are into the summer months, we can expect hot days and evenings, coupled with hot dry easterly winds. Don't allow the cymbidiums to dry out under any circumstances. The plants should be watered every day, and during heat waves, twice a day. My retic is set for 10 minutes per station starting at 6:00 am. If necessary (depending on the temperature during the day) I will hand water again in the late afternoon. This also allows me to apply a very weak application of Neutrog's Strike Back for Orchids liquid fertilizer. If you don't have time to apply weak fertilizer frequently, consider using some slow release fertilizer, such as the pellet form of Strike Back. The new leads on your plants are in a rapid growth phase at this time, therefore regular and frequent fertilizing with high nitrogen fertilizer helps your plants grow sufficiently for some of them enter the flowering process this season, rather than next season. During summer some cymbidium growers like to water the shade house with a fine spray in the early evening. This is a good time to water as there is less water loss through evaporation, and it also helps to keep the evening temperature down. The initiation of new flower spikes occurs during cool nights, so cool night temperatures are vital if we want our cymbidiums to flower in the coming season.

The increase in water and humidity can sometimes cause or contribute to an increase in fungal problems such as bulb rot. If this occurs, remove the affected bulbs immediately. If you leave the rotten bulbs in the pot, the problem can spread to other bulbs and destroy the whole plant. Mancozeb Plus and or Fongarid can help control fungal problems.

Make sure there are no holes or tears in your shade cloth. Your plants will quickly suffer sunburn on the leaves if exposed to direct sunlight at this time of the year. Once sunburnt, the leaves become discolored and unsightly.

Summer is also the time when Red Spider Mite and Two Spotted Mite will pose a threat. The actual mites are very small and hard to see without a good magnifying glass or microscope. Watch for evidence of mites on the underside of the leaves of your cymbidiums. It will look like a very fine spider's web all over the underside of the leaf, but it won't come off if you rub it. If it is at all possible, ensure the undersides of the leaves get thoroughly wet when you water your plants. It may be necessary to increase the space between pots to allow this to happen. There are lots of miticide sprays available. Most are 'kill on contact' sprays that need to be applied once to kill the adult mites, then again 10 days or so later to kill any newly hatched mites. It is imperative to read and follow the instructions on the pack, and follow all the safety precautions. Otherwise it won't just be the mites that are feeling crook.

These mites love hot dry conditions especially if there is little or no air movement, typical of Perth summer days, so you may have to repeat actions to control them, several times during the summer and autumn months. About every 5-6 weeks is recommended.

It's too late in the year now for dividing and repotting: any plants that were not attended to will be better left until autumn. However, in an emergency, it is always better to repot at any time of the year, rather than risk losing the plant because of sour or rotten compost.

Always keep a neat and tidy shade house, free from weeds and dead vegetation, and you should have a house free from insect pests.

### **CATTLEYA CULTURAL NOTES (JAN-FEB 2020) based on notes from Henry Eaton**

Some hot weather has finally arrived. With the onset of hot dry conditions, examination of your plants will show the development of new growths which will elongate quickly.

Increase shading if necessary and the use of fans to cool the growing area is called for. Because of the dryness, watering frequency will need to be increased as the mix dries out sooner. Correct watering will help with enlargement of the new growths. Damping down of the growing area by watering or misting beneath the benches will help with raising humidity.

A fertilizer programme will also be needed to provide sufficient nitrogen (N) for growth as well as potassium (K) for maturing those growths. Strike Back for Orchids liquid is a good all-round fertiliser to meet these requirements. The aim should be to produce big fat bulbs without inducing the appearance of further weak new growths. New growths should be watched and trained into an erect position before they mature off, so that when flowers appear, they are well displayed.

At this time of the year, look out for the appearance of cockroaches, grasshoppers, scale insects and other pests and deal with them promptly. Snails and slugs are ever present, but not as many as when the ground is wet in the wintery months.

### **PAPHIOPEDILUM CULTURAL NOTES (JAN-FEB 2020) by Trevor Burnett**

The hot weather will be in full swing during these months, but I still only water 3 times a week. If the forecast is for very hot weather over four days, I will increase the watering to every second day but always in the morning.

Keep your additional shade in place if the plants are showing signs of yellowing, as they are receiving more light than is required. If plants show any signs of burning, add some extra shade for the next few months. Any burning will cause a setback at this stage which will definitely effect our flowering season. If you have a variety of pot sizes, you will need to ensure that the smaller pots do not dry out completely between waterings. A simple solution to prevent some pots drying out quicker is to double pot, so the final size pots in the house are all the same. By this I mean placing the smaller pots into a larger pot which is filled with compost which encircles the smaller pot. This way all the pots end up drying at the same rate. Paphiopedilum growths should be promoted, so keep the regular fertilizer programme in place to ensure the growths mature ready for the flowering season ahead.

Let's get back to looking after our plants after our Christmas break by:

- checking to ensure good air movement
- misting to assist with maintaining humidity, especially in the glasshouse
- weekly fertilizing with Strike Back for Orchids liquid
- checking to ensure plants are not overcrowded
- checking for pests and treating if necessary
- keeping the area clean of dying leaves or other material
- increasing watering to 3 times a week or more often if plants have dried out
- checking all plants to see if there are any signs of stress
- watering in the early morning before the sun is too high
- watching and control your shading.

*Paphiopedilum* TB Lorna Doone 'Karwar', bred and owned by Trevor Burnett, and named in honour of Lorna Dodd.



**The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.)**

**Minutes of the General Meeting held in the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning, on Friday 13 December**

**Welcome:** 7:36 pm.

**Apologies and visitors:** as per register.

**Birthdays in December:** 4th Donna Drew, 5th Pauline Chia, Kristyn O'Brien, 6th Val Seaman, 17th, Bridget Seaman, 23rd Cheryl Compagnone, 27th Maxine Godbeer, 31st Peter Blackley, Yvonne King

**Minutes:** Moved M Brechin seconded M Rathbone that the Minutes of the previous meeting be accepted. Carried.

**New Members:** Rachel Atkinson, Val Gray, Wai Chen and Q Nye, Kiki Suermond.

**Correspondence:** No significant correspondence.

**Financial Report:** posted on Notice Board

**Meeting Item:** Trophy Presentation, Certificates of Appreciation, Special Merit Badges

- Schokman Trophy: Malcolm Davis
- Harold Hill Memorial Trophy: Lynn Brooks
- Cyperidium Champion/Best Paph at Spring Show: Ray Taylor
- Vera Kennedy Trophy (most points for novice): Harry Ashton
- Champion Cymbidium Trophy: Courtney Rogasch
- J&C Sullivan Trophy (best specimen Australian Native in Spring Show): Malcolm Davis
- George Marshall Trophy (most points in open): Ray Taylor
- W&L Janney Trophy (purecolour cymbidium): Rosemary McGrath
- Jim Grantham (Best Phragmipedium): Howard Tan and Ray Taylor
- Tom Dixon Trophy (best cymbidium seedling): Courtney Rogasch
- Judges Choice:
  - November, Peter Kissell with *Oncidium leucochilum*, 77 points
  - December, Merril Brechin with *Oncidium Kilauea* 'Karma' 74 points
  - February, Ray Taylor with *Oncostele Wildcat* 'Bobcat' 70 points
  - March, Margaret Rathbone with *Phragmipedium Calurum* 72 points
  - April, Harry Ashton with *Oncidium* AKA Baby 'Raspberry Chocolate' 73 points
  - May, Ray Taylor with *Coelogyne* Janine Banks, 74 points
  - June, Trevor Burnett with *Paphiopedilum* Lorna Doone 78 points
  - July, Valerie Cooper with *Blc Momilani* Rainbow 'The Gypsy' 75 points
  - August, Helen Stretch with *Cymbidium* Mem Dean Roester, 75 points
  - September, Courtney Rogasch with *Sarcochilus weinthalii*, 76 points
  - October, Peter Kissell with *Chysis aurea* 'Casey Jane', 82 points
- Orchid of the year Judges Choice: Peter Kissell

**Certificates of Appreciation:** Richard Gordon and Merril Brechin, Graham Esmond

**Secret Santa** During the course of the meeting raffle tickets were drawn for the Secret Santa.

**Auction (Auctioneer Ray Taylor):** *Encyclia* Bees Knees, large healthy specimen in flower ex Ian Duncan. Won by Daphne and Derek Smith

**General Business:**

- Courtney advised that we will be losing some committee members over the next few months, so we need new committee members. Meet once a month to contribute ideas to the running of the club. Need to lodge a nomination form by the January meeting. The club's management committee is a democracy and everyone on it gets a vote. Please have a think about joining the committee in 2020.
- Ray asked if Ian could bring in plants to auction at each meeting. Answer: one auction plant per month. We can assist Ian to sell plants at the sales table. Courtney emphasised that he wants to assist Ian to dispose of his plants in a way that's beneficial to him.
- Ray also asked what was happening for shows for next year. Response: Perth Garden Festival is first, is being run differently to last year and will impact upon Autumn show. We also need to work out how many events the club can run. We are planning Perth Garden Week and Autumn show.

**Raffle:** Thank you to Merril Brechin and Murray and Arni for donating raffle plants. Ian, Laura, Derek, Trevor, Rosemary, Hamish, Margaret, Rosemary, Ann Lam, Merril, Malcolm (kindly gave his prize to Sue Schaffer), Samandika, Ian, Ann Davis.

**Popular Vote:**

**Open:** Equitant *oncidium* unknown (Ray Taylor). Hangs in glasshouse, ex Bunnings. Mounted on cork. Beautiful colour. High humidity (70-90%) but get fungal problems on some plants if humidity stays around 90%. Drops a couple of strike back pellets onto top of root mass, or fertilises with Strike Back Liquid. Ray likes Stirke Back because it is a nice balanced fertiliser. Ray kindly gave his raffle prize to new member Val Gray.

**Novice:** *Vanda miniatum* (Harry Ashton). Mini vanda species, flower spikes about the size of fingers. From Rosella Orchids

**Door Prize:** Tara

**Concluding remarks from the President**

**Meeting closed at: 9:45.**



### THE ORCHID SOCIETY OF WA TROPHY WINNERS LIST 2019

TROPHY	WINNER
The Lester Schokman Memorial Trophy (Cattleya - most points awarded - throughout year)	M Davis
Harold Hill Memorial Trophy (Best Phalaenopsis - Spring Show)	L Brooks
Cypripedium Championship Perpetual Trophy (Paphiopedilum - Winter Show)	R Taylor
Vera Kennedy Perpetual Trophy (Novice - Aggregate Points)	H Ashton
Vicki Browne Perpetual Trophy (Champion Native or Hybrid Terrestrial - Spring Show)	-
Cymbidium Championship Perpetual Trophy (Champion Cymbidium - Spring Show)	C Rogasch
J & C Sullivan Trophy (Best Specimen Plant Australian Native Hybrid or Species – Spring Show)	M Davis
George Marshall Trophy (Open - Aggregate Points)	R Taylor
W & L Janney Perpetual Trophy (Best pure colour cymbidium - Spring Show)	R McGrath
Jim Grantham Memorial Trophy (Best Phragmipedium of the Year)	H Tan, R Taylor
Richard Nichols Memorial Trophy (Best Lycaste of the year)	-
C & L Friar Perpetual Trophy (Best Aust. Native Hybrid Seedling - Spring Show)	-
Roy Brown Perpetual Trophy (Best Novice Cymbidium – Spring Show)	-
Tom Dixon Memorial Trophy (Best Cymbidium Seedling – Spring Show)	C Rogasch

#### OSWA Winners 2019 – Points

Most Points in Open Class	Ray Taylor	222 points
Most Points in Novice Class	Harry Ashton	88 points

*Most points in Novice and Open classes are calculated by adding up points awarded for plants that receive 1st place (3 points), 2nd place (2 points) or 3rd place (1 point) in any class at monthly meetings.*

#### OSWA Winners 2019 – Points

Schokman Trophy (Cattleya)	1st	Malcolm Davis	<i>Cattleya</i> unknown	75.5 pts
Jim Grantham Trophy (Phragmipedium)	1st (eq.)	Howard Tan	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Sorcerer's Apprentice	74 pts
	1st (eq.)	Ray Taylor	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Nicholle Tower	74 pts
Judges Choice – Monthly	Nov.	Peter Kissell	<i>Oncidium leucochilum</i>	77 pts
	Dec.	Merril Brechin	<i>Oncidium</i> Kilauea 'Karma'	74 pts
	Feb.	Ray Taylor	<i>Oncostele</i> Wildcat 'Bobcat'	70 pts
	Mar.	Margaret Rathbone	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Calurum	72 pts
	Apr.	Harry Ashton	<i>Oncidium</i> AKA Baby 'Raspberry Chocolate'	73 pts
	May	Ray Taylor	<i>Coelogyne</i> Janine Banks	74 pts
	Jun.	Trevor Burnett	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Lorna Doone	78 pts
	Jul.	Valerie Cooper	<i>Blc.</i> Momilani Rainbow 'The Gypsy'	75 pts
	Aug.	Helen Stretch	<i>Cymbidium</i> Mem Dean Roester	75 pts
	Sep.	Courtney Rogasch	<i>Sarcochilus</i> <i>weinthalii</i>	77 pts
Oct.	Peter Kissell	<i>Chysis aurea</i> 'Casey Jane'	82 pts	
Overall winner of Plant of the Month	Peter Kissell		<i>Chysis aurea</i> 'Casey Jane'	82 pts

**Certificates of Appreciation:** Richard Gordon and Merril Brechin, Graham Esmond

**Congratulations to all members who won Trophies** for their successful presentation of orchid plants both at Shows & at Monthly Meetings. Wishing you all every success with your orchids in 2020

**From the December General Meeting...**



Harry Ashton receiving the Vera Kennedy Perpetual Trophy (novice grower who accumulated the most points during the year), for the second year in a row!



Ray Taylor and Howard Tan tied as winners of the Jim Grantham Trophy for Best Phragmipedium, for the second year in a row!



Trevor presented Courtney with Cymbidium Championship Perpetual Trophy (Champion Cymbidium - Spring Show).



Lynn Brooks was excited to win the Harold Hill Memorial Trophy (Best Phalaenopsis - Spring Show).





Lorna Dodd presented Trevor Burnett with his certificate for the Judges' Choice at the June 2019 meeting, for *Paphiopedilum* Lorna Doone. Trevor bred the orchid and named it in honour of Lorna.



Trevor presenting Rosemary McGrath with the W & L Janney Perpetual Trophy (Best pure colour cymbidium - Spring Show).



Margaret Rathbone receiving her certificate for her impressive *Phragmipedium* Calurum, Judges' Choice at the March 2019 meeting.



Helen Stretch was winner of the Judges' Choice at the August 2019 meeting with her *Cymbidium* Memoria Dean Roester.



Peter Kissell was the overall winner of the Judges' Choice plant of the month for 2019 with his *Chysis aurea* 'Casey Jane' HCC.



Richard Gordon and Merrill Brechin received a Certificate of Appreciation for their help in towing the trailer to OSWA functions during the year. Richard received the certificate from Trevor while Merrill watched on.

**THE ORCHID SOCIETY OF WA (INC)**

I hereby nominate .....  
 for the position of.....  
 Nominator.....  
 Secunder.....

I hereby accept nomination & declare that I have not breached any of the 4 conditions (listed below) under the New Act

Signed.....  
 Date.....

Under the New Law a person is excluded from being on the Committee if they:

1. Are bankrupt or their affairs are under insolvency laws
2. Have been convicted of an indictable offence in relation to the formation or management of a body corporate in the last 5 years
3. Have been convicted of an offence involving fraud or dishonesty, punishable by at least 3 months imprisonment in the last 5 years
4. Have been convicted of an offence under the Act, where a person has allowed an association to operate while insolvent in the past 5 years.

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