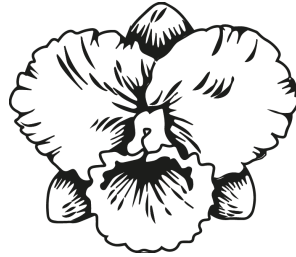


# THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

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

VOLUME 60 No 7



JULY 2020

The next meeting of the Orchid Society of Western Australia (Inc.) will be held at the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning, on Friday 24th July, commencing at 7:30 pm.

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## THIS MONTH'S MEETING

BRIAN KLEPZIG

NEUTROG FERTILIZERS

## AUGUST MEETING DATES

OSWA Committee: 7:30 pm Friday 7th

General Meeting: 7:30 pm Friday 28th

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## Notice about General Meetings

At the next general meeting, our guest speaker will be Brian Klepzig, from Neutrog. Brian always gives an informative and entertaining talk so we hope to see you there.

Please keep in mind the following special arrangements that we have implemented in order to keep our members safe. **Do not forget #6!** The sign-in book will be at the entrance to the Manning Centre, near the hand sanitizer and the money box for your \$1 entry.

- (1) **Please do not attend if you are unwell, or have had respiratory symptoms** (including coughing, sneezing, or fever) in the 2 weeks prior to the meeting.
- (2) **Please observe physical distancing restrictions.** The centre has space to have 70 people attend the meeting, so we should be able to accommodate everyone! Seating will be arranged to comply with physical distancing restrictions.
- (3) **Tea and coffee will not be provided until further notice** — please feel free to bring your own snacks, but do not share with people outside your household.
- (4) **There will be no sales table** and orders for bark, pots etc. will not be accepted at the meeting — but we are working on an order form so that members can still access our competitively priced growing accessories.
- (5) **Hand sanitizer will available at the entry — please use it before entering the meeting.**
- (6) You do not need to physically sign the attendance register but **please ensure you have your attendance recorded on entry.**
- (7) **Please bring exact change for the \$1 entry** (yes, we are still required to collect it for the venue's insurance purposes) and **also bring exact change if you would like to buy raffle tickets.** We will not be handling cash to provide change.

We would still love members to bring their plants to display for the monthly plant competition, but please do not crowd around tables.

Please also note that the OSWA Winter Show has been cancelled, but we hope to attend some smaller community based markets and events instead, to give our members opportunities to display and sell plants. Please have a think about this — suggestions are welcome at the meeting!

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### Floraplant Visit - Saturday 1 August, starting at 9:00 am.

We are pleased to announce that the Floraplant nursery visit will be taking place on August 1st at 9am sharp. The nursery is located at 822 Rowley Rd, Oakford, WA, 6121. Apologies but there will be no bus organised for this event due to coronavirus precautions. This has been a very popular event in the past. In recent years Floraplant has moved away from orchid production towards other flowering plants, indoor plants, bromeliads and aroids—but we hope they still have some orchids! Plants will be available for sale, but Floraplant does not accept Eftpos so please bring cash if you intend to make purchases. Floraplant has done us a big favour by letting us visit and gives us very good prices—please do not haggle or attempt to negotiate further discounts. Kindly observe physical distancing requirements at the visit, hand sanitiser will be provided. Please note that this is an OSWA event available to financial members only. Non-members and non-financial members will not be welcome without express permission from the OSWA committee prior to the event.

***If you plan to attend this visit to Floraplant, let Harry know at the general meeting or contact Harry by email ([harry.ashton@live.com.au](mailto:harry.ashton@live.com.au)) or phone (0412 403 696) to book your place.***

**Birthdays**

July: 1st Kevin Butler, 9th Stephanie Williamson, 15th Dana Mitchell  
 August: 12th Nahiid Stephens, 16th Geoff Braid, 29th Sue Chafer

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.

**Neutrog Bulk Order**

We are due for our next round of OSWA Neutrog orders. Please see the order form that accompanies this bulletin (not for distribution/publication), and note that Kirsty has requested that all payments be made via bank transfer, **to be received prior to the August general meeting**—details on the form. Completed order forms can be emailed to Kirsty (email address on the form). For members not able to do internet banking, payment can also be made at any Westpac branch by direct deposit into OSWA's account.

We have arranged for the Neutrog order to be placed earlier than usual this year, to give Neutrog enough time to arrange for delivery in October, in time for members to collect on October 11th, the day of our Potting Workshop.

The committee would also like to remind everyone that non-financial members are not entitled to the competitively priced Neutrog or Orchiata Bark orders, prizes from plant judging or popular votes, participating in private nursery visits or access to the sales table. OSWA Shows are public open shows and everyone is encouraged to participate in these.

**Pots, Labels, Potting Bark, Charcoal, Perlite, Sphagnum Moss...**

Occasionally OSWA makes bulk purchases of orchid-related products, to provide them to OSWA members at special prices. The chart below shows the types of pots and other items currently on sale. Order forms with current prices listed will be available at general meetings. To place an order, check with Kirsty to make sure the items you want are still in stock, place an order and make your payment (cheque or direct deposit into OSWA's account), then collect your items at the next general meeting.

Squat Pots



Clear pots



Black water well pots



Sphagnum



Charcoal and Perlite



Green pots with saucer included



Cym pots - medium



Cym pots - large



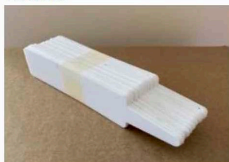
Charcoal and Perlite



Club Spoons



Labels



Clips



Terracotta pots



Club badge



Anniversary badge 2006





**Monthly Plant Competition**

*Popular Vote - Novice*



*Brassolaeliocattleya* Momilani Rainbow 'The Gypsy', grown by Val Cooper.

*Popular Vote - Open*



*Wilsonara* Eye Candy 'Pinkie', grown by Helen Stretch.



*Dendrobium* unknown, grown by Enid Chelva.



*Dendrobium* (Dal's Stunner 'Hot' x Jack Flash), grown by Ian Duncan.



*Cattleya* Hawaiian Splash 'Lea', grown by Harry Ashton.





*Paph. Snow Glory x Paph. (Green Ice x Skip Bartlett,*  
grown by Peter Kissell.



*Cattleya tenebrosa,* grown by Harry Ashton.



Left: *Cymbidium Without Peer 'Soft Touch'.*

Below: *Cymbidium Fairy Rouge 'Lavender Falls'.*

Both grown by Helen Stretch.



**CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (JULY/AUGUST 2020) based on notes from Roy Brown**

The most important job with Cymbidiums for the next month will be caring for the flower spikes, training those that need straightening up and seeing that they receive the proper shade conditions to bring out the best colour in the blooms. During July the flower spikes grow rapidly and soon the majority of the flower buds will be visible. August will see the spikes lengthen further, and the flower buds space themselves out on the stem in readiness for flowering. It's from this stage onwards that they have to be watched carefully. Heavy rain or hail can spoil your flower buds, so the plant will need to be moved into the flowering section where a close watch can be kept on the progress of the spikes. Also watch that the wind doesn't cause the plant's leaves to knock or rub against the flower buds. This quite often happens and a small mark on a bud at this stage will show up as a bad blemish on the flower sepals when the bud opens. Plants that are under cover for protection should be watered regularly. If they are allowed to dry out you'll run the risk of bud drop. Finally this month, make sure you have sufficient pots and a good supply of mix on hand in readiness for the repotting jobs that can be started after the end of next month.

**CATTLEYA CULTURAL NOTES (JULY/AUGUST 2020) based on notes from Henry Eaton**

July and August are usually the coldest months of the year. This seems to be holding true this year, even though these months don't seem as cold as they were last year. Culture of your cattleyas depends on keeping the plants out of the rain so that the roots are not sitting in a cold wet mix, which if it is maintained for a while, will result in the death of the roots. Watering can be done on a bright day, as early in the day as possible, so the plant can dry out as much as possible before the cold night sets in. Also remember that cattleyas like to dry out between waterings, so they may only need two or three waterings for the month. If fertilizing your plants, this could be done perhaps once in the month, with an application of a liquid fertiliser such as Strike Back for Orchids Liquid, because the cold would induce dormancy at this time. Alternatively, a "tonic" such as Seamungus Liquid or GOGO Juice could be applied. There still may be some plants that, because of their genetic inheritance, show signs of new growth with the appearance of new roots at this time. If any of these are spotted and they need potting on or repotting, this should be done now, as if left for later they may not form new roots once again. Protect buds and flower sheaths and keep a constant look out for snails and slugs and bait for them. Keep an eye out for plants in the shadehouse that have spent flowers. Spent flowers and flower sheaths should be removed with scissors or secateurs that are sterilised before use on each plant. At this time of year in particular, water that collects in old flower sheaths and stagnates can lead to rot that will result in loss of the pseudobulb.

**PAPHIOPEDILUM CULTURAL NOTES (JULY/AUGUST 2020) by Trevor Burnett**

These are the truly wonderful months, and most rewarding for the Paphiopedilum growers, especially of the exhibition type clones. We should be flush with flowers with some of our old favourites flowering again, and some new seedlings we have been eagerly awaiting to flower for several years, finally producing flowers. In many cases for new seedlings, we experience disappointment or indeed sheer joy, at the quality of the flowers. My watering programme is still at 14 day intervals, but I may give additional watering if the weather is fine and sunny for 6-8 days in a row. With the flowers now fully in bloom, it is time to re-assess your collection and decide what plants you are going to keep or dispose of as surplus. It is also a good time to work out whether you are short on any particular colour or types, so you can purchase new divisions or seedlings from other growers who are disposing of surplus divisions. I still will give the flowering plants fertilizer on a fortnightly or monthly basis. The smaller, un-flowered plants will still require fertilizer such as Strike Back for Orchids Liquid at one-quarter to one-half strength, on a fortnightly or monthly basis, to keep the growth moving forward. Flowers can be left on 2-3 growth plants without harm, as long as the plants are healthy and showing good, strong growths. With smaller plants flowering for the first time on a single growth, not showing signs of a secondary growth, the quick removal of the flowers will facilitate the best growth. This will promote new growths and ensure strong growth and flowers in future years. The flower can be enjoyed as a cut flower for some time.

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

**Agenda of the General Meeting held in the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning, on Friday 26 June 2020**

**Welcome:** 7:39 pm

**Apologies:** As per register.

**Minutes:** Moved L Brooks, seconded M Rathbone that the Minutes of the February 2020 meeting be accepted. Carried.

**Business arising:** Nil

**New Members:** Katie Hartley, Margaret Armstrong

**Correspondence:**

- Koi society show cancellation, hopefully to happen later in the year.
- Richard Tempest re: *Mystacidium capense* – does anyone have a plant? > No
- Manning Activity Centre re: COVID restrictions
- SEOS re: cancellation of ISDW, to be hosted next year
- OWA meeting minutes / reports
- Kirsty re: Orchid Sale 27-28 June – collection belonging to John Brunsgard
- Trident re: directors insurance
- Neutrog re: permission to use cultural notes and sourcing SBFO for Trevor to trial on paphs, and confirming Brian for July guest speaker (usually brings free samples so don't miss out!)
- Wild Orchid Watch for measuring cards
- GCP re: recycling plastics workshop

Moved L Brooks, seconded P Kissell that the correspondence be accepted. Carried.

**Reports:**

- Rosemary re: uncollected Neutrog orders > to be done next GM
- Big thank you to Malcolm for making feet for our Pickett fence to help make our shows and displays safer- it's very much appreciated! > to be done next GM

**General Business:**

- OSWA donation- Harry will bring this to the next meeting if anyone would like to take a look
- Congratulations to our online popular vote winners- Kirsty Bayliss and Murray Baker for March, Val Cooper and Rosemary McGrath for April, and Murray Baker and Val Cooper for May. We owe you some prizes but unfortunately we don't have enough this meeting- we'll make sure we have them for the next one!
- Congratulations to Lynn Brooks for winning our plant competition for her beautifully flowered *Dendrobium bigibbum*!
- Shows and displays- considering putting on a sale at John MacMillan park in Vic Park swap meet- weather permitting! If any interest, these will be short events from 8am-12pm, but will give members opportunities to sell plants.
- Sales table: we are looking at producing an order form so that members can order bark, potting equipment. We'll keep you updated!
- Open for member discussion and suggestions regarding how they would like OSWA to be managed through the pandemic- Membership expressed that they would like to reinstate tea and coffee- plan to make in large pots and pour into cups to minimise handling. Members encouraged to buy keep cups, but Styrofoam cups will be provided- but please consider the environment!
- August Spring Show- membership expressed satisfaction with the plan to proceed with organising the Spring show. There was robust discussion about whether to participate in both the OSWA Sprign Show and the Spring Orchid Fair (if we are invited), and members were asked for a show of hands indicating whether they would participate in both shows or just the OSWA Spring Show. The overwhelming majority of members supported the
- Eric encouraged our members to go out and support our country towns- the following months are an excellent time to go and see our Australian native terrestrial orchids!  
If you travel down south make sure to pay Orchidup a visit- he grows and sells an excellent selection of Australian native sarcochilus orchids with great success!
- Tara and Helen shared their expertise in growing sarcochilus orchids in Perth conditions
- Margaret kindly asked that members bring back library books for the next meeting

**Break for Popular Vote**

**Raffle:** Peter Kissell

**Open popular vote:** Helen Stretch with *Wilsonara* Eye Candy 'Pinkie' – grown in an anti spiral pot under double shade cloth.

**Novice popular vote:** Val Cooper with a stunning splash petal cattleya, *B/c.* Momilani Rainbow 'The Gypsy'

**Door Prize:** Melanie Elsum

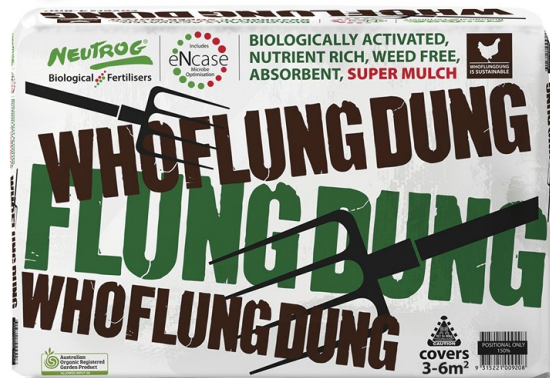
**Plant descriptions**

**Meeting Closed** at 9:29 pm



# Seasoned performers for **Spring**

**Whoflungdung** is a biologically activated, nutrient-rich, weed-free, absorbent super mulch that introduces a wide diversity of beneficial bacteria to the soil.



**Sudden Impact for Roses** is ideal for all flowering and fruiting plants, not just roses! Its organic base provides a full range of plant nutrients in a slow release form, whilst the carefully selected water-soluble nutrients have been added to maximise the performance of each application.



**GOGO Juice** is teeming with beneficial microbiology and is essentially a pro-biotic for your soil and plants. GOGO Juice combines the "catalytic" power of the billions of beneficial bacteria with the well documented benefits of applying kelp, seaweed, fish and humic acid.



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