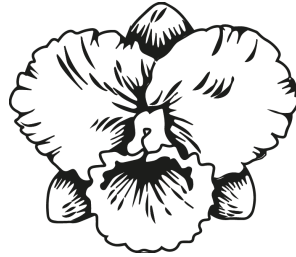


# THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

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

VOLUME 61 No 1



JANUARY 2021

The next meeting of the Orchid Society of Western Australia (Inc.) will be held at the **at the home of Trevor and Barbara Burnett, 33 Salisbury Road Beechboro, on Friday 22 January 2021.** Arrive from 6:00 pm for a 6:30 pm start.

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## THIS MONTH'S MEETING

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

## FEBRUARY MEETING DATES

OSWA Committee: 7:30 pm Friday 5th  
General Meeting: 7:30 pm Friday 26th

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**We acknowledge assistance from Lotterywest for the printing of this Bulletin**

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**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 6:00 pm onwards for 6:30 pm start.

- BBQ meat (sausages and maybe more) will be supplied.
- Bring a plant or small gift 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.
- Bring a chair if you want to sit down...there are some, but maybe not enough for everyone.
- Feel free to park on the lawn or in the driveway.
- 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. Trevor is one of the club's expert growers, and although he specialises in paphiopedilum orchids, he grows a few other genera as well. His collection is well worth a look.

For COVID-safe purposes as well as our usual insurance reasons, hand sanitizer will be available. Please remember to sign the register when you arrive. Please observe the social distancing (6-8 people per table). Also, as usual, **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.

**Membership Subscriptions were due on 1 November 2020.**

\$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 in person at a Westpac branch:**

Account name - Orchid Society of Western Australia Inc.  
Bank - Westpac Bank, Booragoon, WA  
BSB - 036069 Account Number - 457265  
Just take your cheque to a teller, show the teller the above details, and the teller will take it from there. Your bulletin editor deposited cheques this way twice during December and found the tellers to be super helpful and happy to have a customer to chat to.

**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 Treasurer, Registrar, or Committee Member will be especially welcome. Nominations should reach the secretary (Harry) by Friday 12 February 2021. Nomination forms are included at the end of this bulletin and will be available at the January BBQ 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. Being a Committee Member is not an onerous task and does not require any special skills, just enough time to attend one committee meeting per month. In the words of Tom Dixon, "You've got to be involved!"

## 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.

## New Member

Welcome to Kim James (Nedlands). We hope you have many rewarding years ahead with our Society.

New members are eligible to receive three free orchids. If you are a new member, you should receive a letter about how to receive your free orchids. If you have not received your letter, contact Courtney at a meeting or on 0407 049 717.

## What's on in 2021

This year, as long as the pandemic does not get the better of us, we will be having our monthly meetings at the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre on the 4th Friday of the month, as usual. The exception will be the December meeting, which will be the *third* Friday, 17 December, which is not usual, but it's closer to Christmas than usual, which is nice. As well, we have a few other activities planned:

- **Perth Garden Festival:** 29 April - 2 May. (Stall with small display, raffle tickets, etc.)
- **Koi Show:** *to be confirmed.* (OSWA will have a stall with a small display, raffle tickets, etc. The Koi are interesting, and it is fun to meet enthusiasts who are enthused about something other than orchids!)
- **Nursery visit:** *to be confirmed.*
- **Intersociety Display and Workshop:** Setup Friday 6 August, event Saturday 7 August - Sunday 8 August. (This will be the biggest orchid event of 2021.)
- **Kardinya Spring Show:** *to be confirmed.* (The plan is for setup on Tuesday 31 August, with the show open to the public on Wednesday 1 September - Saturday 4 September.)
- Presentation at the **Mundaring Garden Club:** Tuesday 5 October, 10am.

If there is some other orchid-related activity you would like OSWA to be involved with (home visit to a member's place, guided visit to see native orchids in Kings Park or Wireless Hill...), let your Committee know or make your suggestion at a General Meeting.

## CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (JAN-FEB 2021)

— 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 2021) 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. Stike 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 2021) 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.

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

#### Minutes of the General Meeting held in the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning, on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**Welcome:** 7:50 pm. **Apologies and Members Present:** per attendance register

**Presentation:** Christmas party and trophy presentation

**Certificates of appreciation:** Margaret Rathbone, Ann Lam, Enid and Laura Chelva

**Minutes:** Moved Ray Taylor, seconded M Brechin that the Minutes of the Nov. meeting be accepted. Carried.

**New Member:** Patricia Lefante

**Correspondence:**

- 30/11- OWA minutes
  - 4/12- received flask list from Orchids on Newbold
  - 8/12- emailed Glenn confirming our dates for 2021, confirmation received
  - 8/12/- emailed Orchidup/COCWA/ANOS confirming Late Flowering Show Dates
  - 8/12- emailed Manning markets scoping interest for attending in 2021 (? Autumn?)
  - 8/12- emailed new member welcome letter
  - 8/12- emailed T Burnett advising of meat budget and asking if he would be happy to buy the meat
- Moved H Ashton, seconded J Bateman that the correspondence be accepted. Carried.

**Reports:** Nil

**Financial report:** Moved K Bayliss seconded Ray Taylor that the financial report be accepted. Carried.

**General Business:**

- **January Meeting-** OSWA's January meeting will be a BBQ at the home of Trevor & Barbara Burnett, 33 Salisbury Road, Beechboro 6063. Arrive from 6:00 pm onwards. Sausages and meat for the BBQ will be supplied. BYO drinks and a plate of salad or sweets to share. Please bring a plant or small gift to donate for our traditional January raffle. If everyone brings something for the raffle, then everyone will go home with a raffle prize. This event is always very enjoyable, so mark the date
- **Secret Santa** – everyone received a gift
- **Shirts leftover from WAROO** – in the spirit of recycling members were given the opportunity to get a free shirt.
- **Committee, Treasurer, Committee Member roles** - we have lost some committee members over the last year and the COVID period and require new members to help run the society- please consider joining at our AGM! In particular, we need a new treasurer and registrar. Please let us know if you can help.

**Raffle:** Arnold Davies, Margaret Armstrong, Alan Rowe, Patricia Lefante, Helen Stretch, Tara Peters, Alan Rowe, Bill Davidson

**Open popular vote:** Merrill Brechin with Oncidium Catatante 'Kilauea Karma' – Merrill grows this oncidium hybrid under 50% shadecloth most of the year, with an additional layer in summer.

**Novice popular vote:** Margaret Rathbone: Encyclia Bees' Knees – Margaret acquired this plant from Betty. Grown in medium bark only, in a shadehouse 50% shadecloth and an additional layer of plastic to provide protection from rain in winter. Margaret fertilizes infrequently, and waters once or twice a week.

**Door Prize:** Betty Saul

**Meeting Closed** at 9:34pm



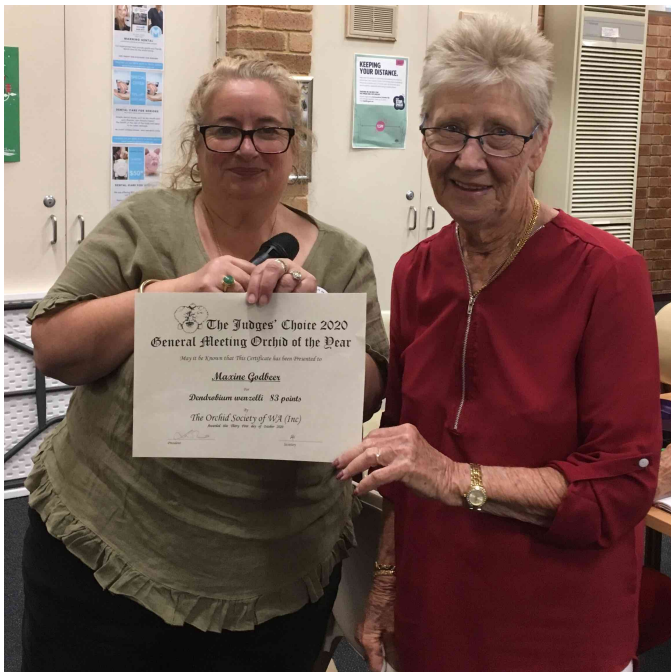
From recent General Meetings...



**Novice Popular Vote Winner (December)**  
*Encyclia Bees' Knees*, grown by Margaret Rathbone



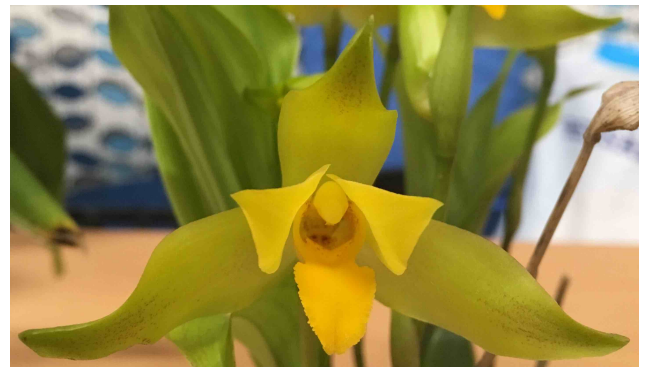
**Open Popular Vote Winner (December)**  
*Oncidium Catantate* 'Kilauea Karma', grown by Merrill Brechin



Lina presenting Maxine Godbeer with her certificate for Judges' Choice for General Meeting Orchid of the Year. (The winning orchid was *Dendrochilum wenzelii*, at the July general meeting and featured in the August Bulletin.)



*Coilastylis falcata*, grown by Tara Peeters.

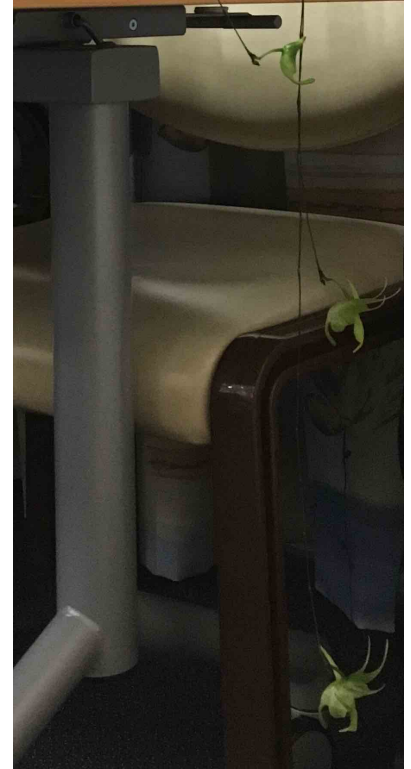
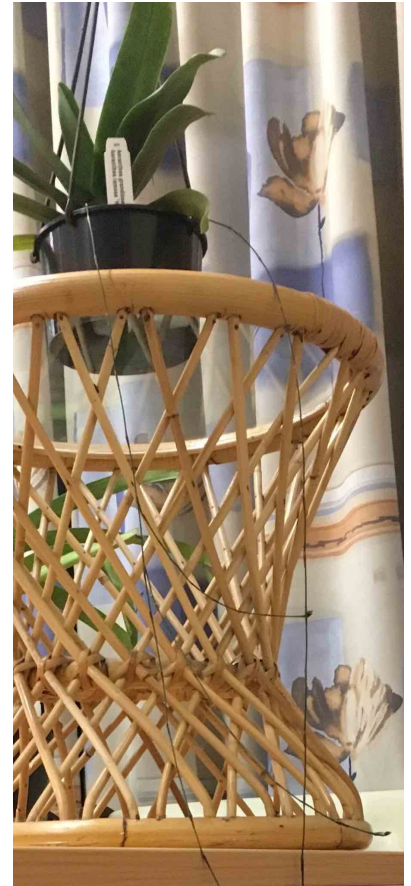
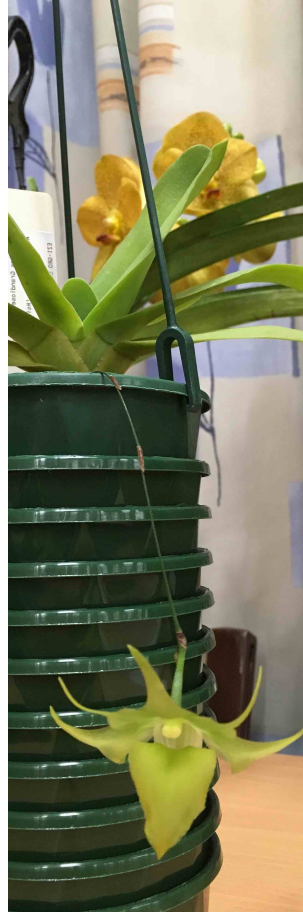


*Lycaste x groganii*, grown by Harry Ashton. This orchid is a natural hybrid of *Lycaste aromatica* and *Lycaste deppei* and is native to Mexico and Guatemala.





*Aeranthes Grandiose* x *Aeranthes ramosa*. The specimen above and to the right was grown by Tara Peeters, but Ray Taylor also benched an impressive specimen (far right). The flowers of this orchid grow at the end of long thin stems. Tara had to jack up her plant up on a stack of pots to keep the flower off the tabletop, while Ray had to resort to a more elaborate strategy.



*Epidendrum Inferno*, grown by Yen Tran.





Above left: *Vanda Somsri 'Thai Spots'*, grown by Ray Taylor. This orchid was displayed at both the November and December meetings and the flowers lasted beautifully despite there being *no potting medium in the pot!* This technique works well for vandas when high humidity can be obtained.

Above right: *Bulbophyllum kubahensis*, grown and photographed by Charly Hartmann. This orchid is being grown in sphagnum moss in a piece of PVC pipe that has been cut in half lengthwise. Charly bent the end of the pipe to stop the sphagnum moss from sliding out, and hangs the PVC pipe tilted to allow excess water to drain away. This plant is a very unusual and rare bulbophyllum that Charly imported from Malaysia through quarantine in 2016. It cost \$600 per plant, so naturally Charly decided to buy 2!! The plant had ONE leaf at the time of purchase!! The plant now has many, many leaves, and Charly indicated he would be interested in dividing the plant soon, so if anyone is willing to mortgage their property, pieces may be available for purchase.

**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.

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

I hereby nominate .....

for the position of.....

Nominator.....

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

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