

# THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE ORCHID SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
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The next meeting of the Orchid Society of Western Australia (Inc.) will be held at the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, Manning, on **Friday 24 September 2021**.

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## THIS MONTH'S MEETING

LYNN BROOKS

WATER CULTURE

## OCTOBER MEETING DATES

OSWA Committee: 7:30 pm Friday 1st

General Meeting: 7:30 pm Friday 22nd

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## Birthdays

September: 14th Bob Longmore, 30th Wanda Frantom

October: 4th, Kristene Northover, 9th Tara Peeters, 11th Enid Chelva, 14<sup>th</sup> Eric Bateman, 16th Barbara Burnett, 21st Ann Walker

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.

## Thank you!

**Kardinia Spring Show:** Thank you to everyone who helped by bringing in plants for the competition, display, and sales table. Thank you to everyone who helped setting up, packing up, or looking after the display and chatting with visitors. As usual, the display attracted a lot of interest and was much appreciated by the public and the Centre management. Special thank yous to Lynn Brooks and her helpers, who managed to assemble an attractive display with fewer plants than we've had in previous years, and Merril Brechin and her helpers, for coordinating the show. The bulletin editor is especially indebted to Richard Gordon, for warding off a would-be thief trying to escape with his *Dendrobium speciosum* on Wednesday morning.

**John and Karen Carless home visit:** Thank you to John and Karen for hosting their home visit for OSWA members. It was a busy time of year so unfortunately the turnout was small, but those who did attend enjoyed the Carless's hospitality and their fine orchid collection and growing setup. (Also, a belated thank you to John for his help setting up OSWA's plants for benching at the ISODW!)

**75th Anniversary Dinner:** Thank you to Lynn Brooks for organising the dinner at Chin's Noodle House in Leeming. Attendees had a very enjoyable evening and the food was excellent.

## Potting Workshop: Sunday 17 October, 10 am - 3 pm

The Potting Workshop is a highlight of the OSWA calendar and is an excellent event for anyone wishing to learn more about potting and other aspects of orchid culture. And members get in for free! And members might get free scones!

Setup will be from around 9 am (to be confirmed at the September General Meeting). *Speakers, potters & helpers needed, as well as plants for the display and for the sales table and donations for the kitchen.*

The workshop will be at the Manning Senior Citizens Activity Centre, 3 Downey Drive, Manning (where we hold our General Meetings). Plants will be potted, there will be sales of orchids and orchid-related paraphernalia, there will be talks, there will be a display, and there will be coffee, tea, soft drinks and snacks.

We will need:

- Members to help with repotting. Don't worry if you don't know how, the best way to learn is to practice, and you'll get plenty of practice and on-the-job training at this event.
- Helpers willing to give a short talk about some aspect of orchid culture on the day.
- Helpers for the kitchen, entrance table, etc.
- Donations for the kitchen (scones, cake, sandwiches...)
- Plants for the display.
- Plants for the sales table. Plant sales tags will be available at the general meeting.

## OSWA Christmas Dinner - Wednesday 24 November from 6:30 pm

Our Christmas Dinner this year will be at Bentley Pines, Hayman Road, Bentley. For a three-course meal, the cost is only \$30 per person, payment due by the October general meeting. Owing to the style of restaurant, we are unable to provide a menu, but all members who have dined there have only glowing reports. Those who attended the Christmas dinner at the venue back in 2019 were very impressed with the venue, food and drinks, and value for money. More info and perhaps a menu will be in the October bulletin.

### New Members

Welcome to Lien Nguyen (Ballajura) and Jean Paton (Rockingham). We hope you have many rewarding years ahead with our Society.

### It is time to bring the Trophies back!

Could members who are holding the trophies please return them by the October General Meeting, as they need to be engraved during November, before our Christmas Meeting and presentation night. If you wish to polish them, please use Silvo. Thanks to those who have already returned them.

### Late Flowering Orchid Display: Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 November.

November is traditionally a slack time for shows, which can be disappointing for all those growers who have special orchids that only flower around that time. In collaboration with the Cymbidium Orchid Club of WA and the Australian Native Orchid Society (ANOS WA), we will be having our third Late Flowering Orchid Display in November to show off our late-flowering orchids. Setup will be in the evening of Friday 12 November, from about 5 pm, and the display will be open to the public over the weekend. This will be a Display only, so no plant competition or judging, but there will be plant sales, snacks, and the chance to meet members of other clubs. More info at upcoming general meetings and in the October Bulletin.

### CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021) based on notes from Roy Brown



*Cymbidium* Khan Flame 'Meka' (best Cymbidium at the Spring Show, grown by Courtney Rogasch)

We are now (at last! finally!) entering into the spring months, when we see the majority of our cymbidiums flowering once again. Also, these are the months when the orchid societies hold their annual Spring Shows, so give your plants that are in spike that little extra care and attention, then enter them into the shows so that everyone can enjoy them with you. (It's a bit late for our Spring Show, but we still have opportunities to show off our orchids at the Potting Workshop and the Late Flowering Orchid Display.) I should start off this month with a few hints on preparing your plants for exhibition. Firstly, give the pots a good clean up. Next, wipe the leaves over with a clean, damp, soft cloth. Trim the ends of the leaves, some may have dead tips and these can look rather unsightly. Always remember to sterilize the cutting instrument after attending to each plant. Then, probably the most important point, make sure that those plants that need it are properly staked, to present their flowers in a proper manner. It doesn't really take long to prepare each plant for a show, but it does make all the difference to the finished product. Finally, on the morning of the day that the Show is to be set up, give your plants a good watering as they may have to be on display for 3 or 4 days. You should already be hard at it with dividing and repotting by now, and by doing each plant in turn after it has flowered, it will save a lot of last minute, hurried work at the end of October. Many cymbidiums will have new growths, so now is a good time to begin increasing the amount of fertiliser you give to your plants after their winter hiatus. Strike Back for Orchids, liquid or pellet forms, would be suitable.

### CATTLEYA CULTURAL NOTES (SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021) based on notes from Henry Eaton

Even though there has been some miserable cold windy weather over the last week or so, with the increase in daylight hours, there is evidence that spring is here after a winter of cold nights and late winter rains. Your Cattleyas should now be showing signs of recovering from dormancy, by growth buds beginning to enlarge in some and by the appearance of new roots in others. Where you see these signs

on plants they provide an indication that those plants are ready to be repotted in new mix if they are growing out of the pot, or if the mix has been there for a long while and is probably going stale and is unlikely to last for another year in good condition. These plants should be inspected to see if they only need transfer to a bigger pot or whether they need to be divided. If division is contemplated, do not go for divisions of less than 4 mature bulbs each. If there appears not to be any new roots on the posterior divisions, the plant could be partially divided at the necessary spot and left for a couple of months to let a new growth appear, when the cut could be completed and the division made. This also reminds me that when thinking of dividing a plant, make sure by removing any old sheaths around it, that there is a viable bud at the point of division. If none is found, do not divide it at that point but seek another spot. When



*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Shinfong Unique (best Laeliinae at Spring Show, grown by Helen Stretch). The flower was actually much darker than it appears in this photo.

potting on a Cattleya it is worth choosing a mix that will be adaptable to the time you can give to watering your plants. If frequent watering is possible, a coarser, less absorbent mix can be used, while those people who cannot spare enough time to water the plants should use a smaller sized mix which will hold water for longer. Cattleyas like a wet to nearly dry cycle for best growth. Use a pot size you feel will be adequate to allow at least 2-3 years growth before the need for repotting arises. Do not over-pot. When repotting, hold the plant so that the oldest bulb sits plumb with the back edge of the pot, giving the new growth at least 2 years of growth in front. After filling the pot with your mix, the plant should be anchored firmly enough for you to lift it up by the leaves without separating it from the pot. A stake alongside the foremost growth to which it is tied is also worth considering if there is any doubt about stability. Water the plant well and leave it a shady area of the shadehouse for a couple of weeks before returning it to its normal spot. You can feed the plant with something like Seamungus or a light application of Strikeback for Orchids before commencing its normal feeding after 3-4 weeks.

### PAPHIOPEDILUM CULTURAL NOTES (SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021) by Trevor Burnett

As I discussed last month you should now be ensuring that, by the end of October, you have completed repotting of the plants that have finished flowering. The plants that did not produce spikes should already have been done. (If you complete your repotting by the end of October, contact Murray, who will allocate you additional repotting duties.) With warmer conditions now gradually becoming the norm during these months, increased attention needs to be given to the watering. As all my plants now have a nice new open mix, I increase my watering programme to once a week, but always in the morning. When you water now, check to ensure that the water freely flows out of the drainage holes at the bottom of the pot. As a lot of us place small crock pieces in the base of the pot, we need to ensure that good drainage is maintained and we have not retarded the water flow with crocking of the pots. With the warmer weather, the fertilizer programme can be increased to weekly or fortnightly with a high nitrogen based fertilizer to promote good development of the new growths. When repotting plants from the existing pot, carefully extract all the growing mix with your fingers and remove any dead roots. Care must be taken not to damage live roots when repotting as paphiopedilums have a limited root system. Place the plant in the pot, with the base of the plant some 15mm below the rim of the pot, and work the mix in and around the roots. Gently bumping the pot on the bench can also assist in the placement of the mix. On top of the mix I spread a small quantity of crushed sea shells or gravel sand which helps support the plant from moving in the pot, which will cause root damage.



*Paphiopedilum* Ky So (Best Paphiopedilum at the Spring Show, grown by Howard Tan)



## The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.): Minutes of the General Meeting held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2021

**Welcome:** 7:30 pm

**Presentation:** Brian Klepzig, Neutrog

**Minutes:** Unavailable. Correspondence and finances for both months will be included in these minutes.

**New Member:** Lien Nguyen

### Correspondence (July and August):

- 28/6- Glenn re access to the dining room for setup of Late Flowering Orchid Display.
- 4/7- emailed ANOS inviting the club to Wireless Hill picnic
- 4/7- Kardinya S/C re Spring Show setup
- 7/7- received AOC club membership invoice > forwarded to treasurer
- 9,10/7- received OWA draft minutes, membership invoice
- 12/7- received some POF planning details
- 13/7- Sue confirming receipt of our dinner RSVP and asking if we need entry cards
- 15/7- received info re Brunnings order
- 26-7- received MSAC invoice, list of members, request to circulate the membership form to our new members
- 1/8- emailed Little Aussie re advertising (last year they reached out in July)
- 5/8- received responses from Orchidup accepting invitation to the Late Flowering Orchid Display in November
- 6/8- received GCA calendar details
- 13/8 received AOC AGM report
- 19/8- emailed Kardinya re Spring Show (in regards to renovations and sponsorship)
- Received card from SEOS thanking us for participating in the ISDW
- 1/9- received information from OWA re: new orchid vendor in Belmont (run by Flora Plant)

Moved Helen, seconded Nataliya that the correspondence be accepted. Carried.

### Reports:

- Intersociety Display and Workshop – Lynn put out a BIG thank you to all our members who helped put on the display, with a special thanks to Trevor and Barbara for the incredible work in designing our display. We won not only the display competition but also the plant benching competition, despite our significant handicap!
- Perth Orchid Fair was also a successful event with a number of our members entering plants.

**Financial report (July and August):** Presented by J Bateman

**Business arising from the financial report:** Nil

Moved J Bateman seconded L Brooks that the financial report be accepted. Carried.

**Orchid Tips and Tricks:** Harry- quick and easy ant baits demonstration.

### General Business:

- **Orchid Judging-** Maxine Godbeer proudly announced that Kirsty Bayliss has passed our judging exams and is the latest addition to the WA Australian Orchid Council Judging Panel. Maxine expressed that Kirsty was a pleasure to teach!
- **Courtney: OSWA Spring Show** (sales process, plant benching process). Courtney highlighted the importance of selling plants that are in good condition and free from pests and disease (especially ants). Courtney also noted that it is important to charge reasonable prices for our plants.
- **Harry : New Grower Incentive Scene Participation** – new OSWA members are encouraged to bench plants at our monthly meetings. Members in the second, third and fourth year as OSWA members collect points from benching plants, and at the end of the year the grower in each year with the most 'points' will be awarded a quality, flowering sized plant from the OSWA stockpile.
- **Harry: Manning Senior Citizens Memberships** – Keng is happy to be added as a member.
- **Lina: New raffle prizes:** Given a large amount of interest in OSWA raffles, the committee have agreed to increase the number of raffle prizes available by 2 plants, and also add some non-plant prizes!
- **Lina: OSWA 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner- Roster is circulating.** This will be held on Saturday September 11<sup>th</sup>, at Chin's Chinese Restaurant in Leeming, at 6:30pm! Please come along, as we have some special 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary gifts in store to celebrate and thank you for being part of OSWA 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
- **Lina: John Carless Home Visit.** OSWA has been invited to the home of John and Karen Carless who run a home nursery (Orchids by John). Home visits like this are a fantastic way to learn (and see!) how people grow plants, and John has mastered the art of growing orchids outdoors in the wind and rain, with very impressive results. Plants will be available for sale, so please bring cash if you intend to make purchases.

**Event calendar for 2021:** John Carless Home visit (29/8); Spring Show (31/8-4/9); Potting Workshop (17/10); Late Flowering Orchid Display (12-14/11); Christmas dinner at Bentley Pines (24/11, 6:30pm)

**Raffle:** Tara, James, Chris, Helen, Anne, Betty, Lynn, Jenny, Nataliya. **Door Prize:** Nantha

**Open popular vote:** Courtney Rogasch with Cymbidium Bedivere 'Highbree'. The main species contributing to this multifloral cymbidium is appropriately named floribundum. Courtney grows this in pine bark, blue metal, with some broken up polystyrene in the bottom of the pot for drainage.

**Novice popular vote:** J Bateman with a beautiful dark zygotepalum hybrid. Jacqui says that this plant flowers every year for her!

**Meeting Closed** at 10:10 pm

## MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION (JULY 2021)

## OPEN

1D	(1)	1	Harry Ashton	<i>Cattleya</i> Chief Gem
1F	(1)	1	Tara Peeters	<i>Cattleya milleri</i> x <i>Cattleya bowringiana</i>
2A	(1)	1	Courtney Rogash	<i>Cymbidium sanderae</i>
2E	(2)	1	Courtney Rogash	<i>Cymbidium</i> Edith's Quest
		2	Courtney Rogash	<i>Cymbidium</i> Bedivere 'Highbury'
3B	(1)	1	Tara Peeters	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> LEEANUM ( <i>insigne</i> x <i>spicerianum</i> )
6D	(1)	1	Helen Stretch	<i>Oncidium</i> Singapore Delight
8A	(2)	1	Harry Ashton	<i>Dendrobium lichenastrum</i> var. <i>prenticei</i>
		2	Harry Ashton	<i>Dendrobium lichenastrum</i>
8B	(1)	1	Tara Peeters	<i>Dendrobium</i> Botanic Fireworks

## NOVICE

16C	(1)	1	Enid Chelva	<i>Cymbidium</i> Unknown
17A	(1)	1	Jacqui Bateman	<i>Paphiopedilum spicerianum</i>
17D	(3)	1	Jacqui Bateman	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Papyrus 'Old Colonial'
		2	Jacqui Bateman	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Papyrus 'Old Colonial'
		3	Jacqui Bateman	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Hsingying Larynx x Hsing Yahoo x <i>charlesworthii</i>
17E	(1)	1	Jacqui Bateman	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Dark Matter
22A	(1)	1	Jenny McLean	<i>Dendrobium speciosum</i> 'Snowflake'
22B	(3)	1	Jenny McLean	<i>Dendrobium</i> Esme Poulton x <i>Dendrobium speciosum</i> var. <i>speciosum</i> 'Windermere'
		2	Enid Chelva	<i>Dendrobium</i> x <i>delicatum</i>
		3	Enid Chelva	<i>Dendrobium</i> Unknown
25B	(1)	1	Jacqui Bateman	<i>Zygopetalum</i> Unknown

## Novice Popular Vote Winner

*Zygopetalum* unknown  
Grown by Jacqui Bateman.



## Open Popular Vote Winner

*Cymbidium* Bedivere 'Highbury'  
Grown by Courtney Rogasch.



## Results of the OSWA Spring Show, Kardinya Park Shopping Centre, September 2021.

Grand Champion	<i>Dendrobium Candice</i>	Courtney Rogasch
Reserve Champion	<i>Phalaenopsis Joy Angel Voice 'Selene'</i>	Howard Tan
Best Cymbidium	<i>Cymbidium Khan Flame 'Meka'</i>	Courtney Rogasch
Best Laeliinae Alliance	<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya Shinfong Unique</i>	Helen Stretch
Best Paphiopedilum	<i>Paphiopedilum Ky So</i>	Howard Tan
Best Phalaenopsis	<i>Phalaenopsis Joy Angel Voice 'Selene'</i>	Howard Tan
Best Australian Native	<i>Dendrobium Candice</i>	Courtney Rogasch
Best Oncidinae	<i>Oncidium Singapore Delight</i>	Helen Stretch
Best Vandaeae	<i>Angraecum eburneum</i>	Ian Duncan
Best Species	<i>Cymbidium sanderae</i>	Courtney Rogasch
Best Australian Native Species	<i>Dendrobium speciosum var. blackdownense x Dendrobium speciosum var. carnarvon gorge</i>	Courtney Rogasch
Best Australian Native Hybrid	<i>Dendrobium Candice</i>	Courtney Rogasch
Best Specimen	<i>Dendrobium Candice</i>	Courtney Rogasch
Best Seedling	<i>Paphiopedilum Tree of Enzam</i>	Howard Tan
Best Novice Entry	<i>Dendrobium aemulum</i>	Lynn Brooks
Most Entries in Open Section		Courtney Rogasch
Most Entries in Novice Section		Lynn Brooks

### Grand Champion of the Spring Show

*Dendrobium Candice*,  
grown by  
Courtney Rogasch

(Photo by  
Tony Budrovich)





**More from the Spring Show.** Clockwise from top left: *Phalaenopsis* Joy Angel Voice 'Selene' (Reserve Champion, grown by Howard Tan); *Angraecum eburneum* (Ian Duncan); *Dendrobium aemulum* (Lynn Brooks); *Oncidium* Singapore Delight (Helen Stretch); *Cymbidium sanderae* (Courtney Rogasch); *Dendrobium x delicatum* (Merril Brechin).



**Orchids in the bush.** Native terrestrial orchids are flowering spectacularly at Wireless Hill and in other areas of bushland around Perth. Harry supplied these photos of some orchids he recently saw near Brookton Highway. From left: cowslip orchids; a blood spider orchid; and a green spider orchid.

