

# THE SPECIES ORCHID SOCIETY OF WA (INC.)

[http://members.iinet.net.au/~emntee/species Newsletter.htm](http://members.iinet.net.au/~emntee/species%20Newsletter.htm)



Vol 33 No 4 September 2021



Anne O'Callaghan Award August 2021

*Oncidium sotoanum*

Helen

# NEWSLETTER

**NEXT MEETING Tuesday 14 September**

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# MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

10 August 2021 7.00pm

**Present:** 25 members as per register.

**Apologies:** 6 as per register.

**Visitors:** Jenny

**New members:** Nil

**Minutes:** Acceptance of minutes from July meeting moved Graham, seconded Richard. Carried.

**Business Arising:** Nil

**Financial Report:** Treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Adrian. The account balance is \$6,852.89. Acceptance moved Adrian, seconded Arnold. Carried.

**Business Arising:** The Treasurer reported that \$563.50 was generated at the July silent auction

**Correspondence:**

**Inwards:**

- AOC - AGM agenda and invoice annual membership fee \$100
- Members – plants for Species Society ISODW display
- Garden Clubs – convention promotion and information,
- Gary Yong Gee – plant identification July GM
- Perth Orchid Fair committee minutes
- ANOS national committee nomination forms
- Request to include plants in 'wanted to buy' from 2 members
- Tony – thanks to helpers at Chris' auction

**Outwards:**

- Committee – agendas, minutes.
- Committee - ANOS national committee nomination forms

- City of Canning - COVID-19 contact register sheet July GM

Acceptance of correspondence report moved Richard, seconded Graham. Carried.

**Business Arising:** Nil

**General Business:**

- Peter reported the successful hosting of ISODW by South Eastern Orchid Society, and the displays staged by seven societies and clubs. He thanked members who provided plants for the Society's display but was disappointed that the majority were from committee members and encouraged other members to display plants. However, it is recognised that many SOSWA members are also members of other societies that were competing in the judged sections as well as staging displays. He encouraged members to advise Ken of any plants that might be in flower for the Perth Orchid Fair display in two weeks' time.
- Ken confirmed that SOSWA can buy Orchiata Bark at wholesale price from Garden City Plastics at \$23.48 plus GST per bag. Possible to share a full pallet (90 bags) with Paphiopedilum Study Group, WJOS and NDOS. Super coarse perlite is also available at \$35.70 per bag. Please let Ken know if you want to order either bark or Perlite or both.
- Ken reminded members about the Perth Orchid Fair, Aranmore College Leederville on 21-22 August, set up Friday August 2021. Rosters for helpers and the 'bring and share' dinner on

Saturday evening are on the committee table for completion. Ken asked for the names of display plants as soon as possible.

- Ken also reminded members about Perth Orchid Fair plant sales. The normal 10% commission will be applied, and members can use whatever plant sales slips and sheets they already have. It is best to bring plants in on Friday if possible as Saturday morning can be very busy.
- Peter asked members attending the Perth Orchid Fair to shift their cars to the car park in front of the school once they have unloaded their plants so that close car parking is available for the disabled, elderly and general public.
- Peter thanked members for their support of the Special Raffle. He advised that another large flowering plant of *Encyclia hanburyi* will be offered by way of special raffle starting at the August home visit at Graham & Margaret's home.
- Chris moved a vote of thanks to Adrian, Paul and Graham who both assembled, staged and removed the display, and particularly, Adrian who undertook its construction. Members endorsed by acclamation.

### **Anne O'Callaghan Cultural Award:**

Awarded to Helen for a well grown plant of *Oncidium sotoanum*.

**Special Raffle:** Chris

**Raffle:** Lina, Ian, Jacqui, Graham, Ken, Tara

**Badge Prize:** Lina

Meeting closed 9.55pm

### **Life Members**

Graham & Margaret  
Chris  
Barry (dec'd)  
Gordon (dec'd)  
Maxine  
Ken & Chris  
Adrian & Deanna.  
Joan (dec'd) & Ted (dec'd)  
Trevor (dec'd)  
Neville (dec'd)  
Noel & Eva  
Tony & Mavis

### **Quiet Achievers**

2013 Ian  
2014 Chris  
2015 Margaret  
2016 Tom & Pat  
2017 Charly & Gerda  
2018 Paul  
2020 Adrian & Deanna  
2021 John

# NOTICEBOARD

## FORTH-COMING EVENTS

### Home visits:

At 10 am on the Sunday after the fourth Thursday of each month. Please bring chairs and food to share.

\* 26 Sep 2021 Lynne, Eden Hill.

\* 31 Oct 2021 Lynn, Belmont.

## MARKETPLACE - FOR SALE/WANTED

Karl would like to purchase a plant of *Ceratocentron fessellii*. If you have a plant for sale, please contact Karl on 0432 956 885 or e-mail karl.khlee@gmail.com.

Harry would like to buy plants of *Cattleya purpurata* var. *werkhauseri* and *Cattleya neokautskyi*. Contact Harry on 0412 403 696 or harry.ashton@live.com.au.

Lynn would like to purchase *Section Latouria Dendrobium* orchids. Contact Lynn on 0414 922 923 or contrarymiss@hotmail.com

**President:** Peter

**Vice President:** Adrian

**Secretary:** Ken Jones  
210 Hermitage Drive, The Vines  
6069. Phone: 9296 1765  
e-mail: kcjones@tpg.com.au

**Treasurer:** Adrian

**Editor:** Ken

**Committee:** Charly  
Graham Paul  
Chris Tony  
Maxine Mavis

## NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- A large *Encyclia hanburyii* with 8 flower racemes acquired from Chris will be offered in a special raffle at \$1 per ticket at the next home visit and general meeting.
- Plants of *Ornithocephalus gladius* provided by Jane & Richard Tempest will be used as the monthly plant at the September GM. A culture sheet will be provided on the night.
- The Society made a good profit on its seed fund investment for the Perth Orchid Fair.
- WA orchid societies have been offered the opportunity to purchase product at wholesale prices at a new outlet established by Richard Dekker of Flora Plants called. de Greenhouse located at 45-47 Belmont Avenue. Initially, product from Richgro, Brunnings, Growth Technology and Flora Plants will be available. Members will need to show their SOSWA membership badge to purchase product.

## Inter Society Orchid Display and Workshop and Perth Orchid Fair

Firstly, sincere thanks to Adrian who constructed our new display seen at both these events. Adrian and Paul have been responsible for several displays over the past few years and have enormously improved the way that we are able to display our plants, especially the smaller species so that show visitors are able to properly see them.

Thanks also to the members who provided plants for display, helped set up and take down the display, and assisted in the conduct of both events.



Special thanks to the hard working committee and members of South Eastern Orchid Society who hosted the 2021 ISODW. It was a thoroughly enjoyable event for the members of the nine orchid societies that competed and/or staged displays, and show visitors who braved the sometime inclement weather to attend on Sunday.



The Inter-society competition was won by OSWA who also won best display.

The Perth Orchid Fair staged at Aranmore College in Leederville was once again very successful with an excellent display of flowering orchids by the competing clubs. Plant sales were also excellent and thanks the Kevin Butler who continually returned to the nursery to being more plants when it seemed that we would run out of plants to sell.

Species Orchid Society display at Perth Orchid Fair

# Home Made Centrifugal Humidifier

By Richard



## A. Introduction

Our local water is high in dissolved solids, making filtration a necessity for use with ultrasonic humidifiers. These would still require regular cleaning to be effective. As such we looked into centrifugal humidifiers but given the apparent lack of local supply and the high cost of imported ones, investigated whether an alternate effective solution was possible with mostly locally bought items, and one preferably more compact.

The system on the following pages uses a misting fan intended for use with drones. These have the longest lead time of all the parts. This fan is, however, noticeably more noisy than commercial humidifiers.

While I built ours to run off our 24V solar/battery system, they could also be run off 240V with an appropriate converter, which I have allowed for in the parts and photos.

This 24V solution cost just over \$200. The 240V conversion adds about \$25.



The intent of this article is show what can be done. Others may be able to do so for less. Feel free to contact me if more detail are required.



## B. Parts List

- |                                    |            |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Elho 23cm Brussels Bowl Pot     | Bunnings   |
| 2. Elho 22cm Brussels Pot          | Bunnings   |
| 3. 100mm x 320mm PVC pipe          | Bunnings   |
| 4. 100mm Kinetic floor/wall flange | Bunnings   |
| 5. 100mm Holman push on cap        | Bunnings   |
| 6. M6 x 40mm Stainless bolts       | Bunnings   |
| 7. 24V brushless drone spray fan   | AliExpress |
| 8. 2 core flex                     | Bunnings   |
| 9. 5 core trailer cable            | Repc       |
| 10. Float Valve                    | eBay       |
| 11. Float Switch                   | Altronics  |
| 12. Chock block                    | Altronics  |

**Harry**

*Masdevallia floribunda*

**Ken & Chris**

*Dendrobium aff. guerreroi*  
*Dendrochilum cobbianum*  
*Dendrochilum convallariforme*  
*Dendrochilum stenophyllum*  
*Dendrochilum wenzelii*  
*Laelia anceps* var. *veitchiana*  
*Paphiopedilum venustum album*  
*Paphiopedilum villosum*  
*Pleurothallis stricta*

**Adrian & Dee**

*Leptotes pohlitincoi*  
*Paphiopedilum fairrieianum*  
*Paphiopedilum spicerianum*  
*Paphiopedilum wardii*

**Courtney**

*Cymbidium sinense* 'Hong Yu'

**Helen**

*Oncidium sotoanum*  
*Pterostylis curta*  
*Rhyncholaelia digbyana*

**Tony & Mavis**

*Haraella retrocalla*

**MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED August 2021**



*Pterostylis curta*  
Helen



*Paphiopedilum venustum album*  
Ken & Chris





*Haraella retrocalla*  
Tony & Mavis



*Leptotes pohlitincoi*  
Adrian & Dee

## MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED August 2021



*Rhyncholaelia digbyana*  
Helen



*Cymbidium sinense* 'Hong Yu'  
Courtney

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 13. 12V pump                                  | eBay      |
| 14. 10mm hose                                 | Bunnings  |
| 15. Elec box                                  | Altronics |
| 16. 240V – 24V transformer (if you want 240V) | eBay      |
| 17. 24V timer                                 | Altronics |
| 18. 24V electronic speed controller           | eBay      |
| 19. Single throw single pole (SPST) switch    | Altronics |
| 20. 24V – 12V converter                       | eBay      |

Also:

- Little screws
- Cable ties
- grommets

### C. Instructions

#### 1) Top Cover

a) Cut 100mm hole in 22cm pot and push on cap and glue together





## 2) Reservoir

- a) Drill 15mm hole in 23cm bowl pot and fit float valve
- b) Adjust float to achieve desired water level in reservoir

## 3) Fit out internal assembly

- a) Cut slots in 100mm PVC pipe for airflow & to accommodate float valve & switch
- b) Drill 2 extra 3mm holes in fan (only came with 2)
- c) Drill 5.5mm holes approx. 35mm from top of PVC pipe
- d) Mount fan approx. 10mm from top and secure in place with M6 bolts
- e) Drill suitable holes at base and secure pump with cable ties
- f) Connect pump to fan with 10mm hose
- g) Drill 15mm hole in floor / wall flange and fit the float switch



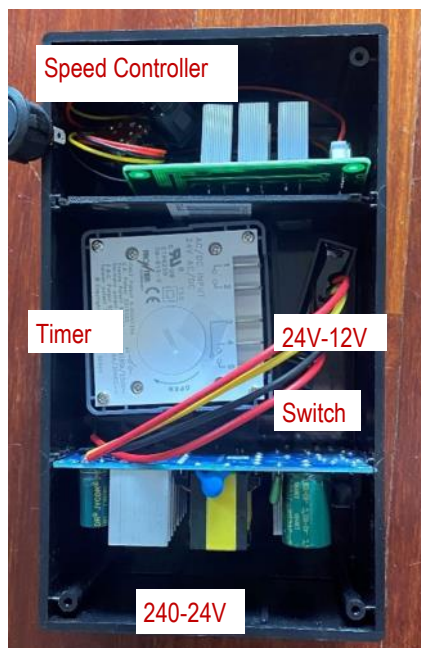
- h) Connect floor / wall flange to 100mm PVC pipe at height to suit reservoir with screws
- i) Connect chock block to 100mm PVC pipe at convenient
- j) Connect pump & fan wires (incl float switch to pump) to chock block – I used more 10mm hose secured with cable ties to keep wires neat
- k) Connect 5 core wire to chock block
- l) Place internal assembly into reservoir

4) Electrical Box

- a) Drill & Cut holes for wires (grommets), timer (if you want one), speed controller and switches
- b) Insert grommets, timer, speed controller and switches
- c) Cut the 5 core wire to suitable length and insert through grommet
- d) Cut the 2 core flex to suitable length and insert through grommet
- e) Install timer if you want one
- f) Install switch and speed controller
- g) If supply is 240V then install 240V-24V converter & connect 2 core flex to the 240V converter. If 24V supply skip this step

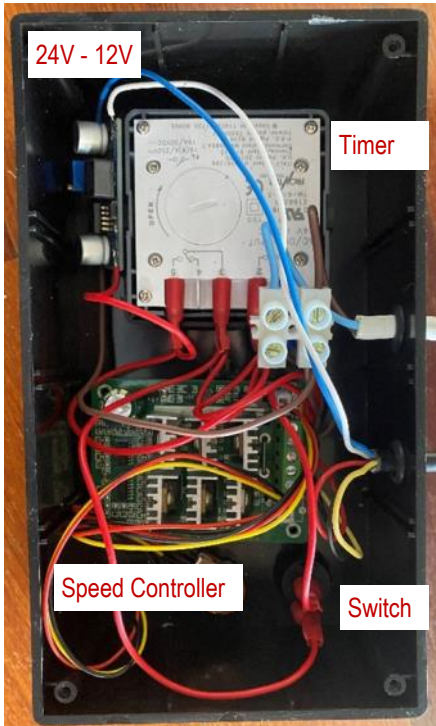


Front/Top of 24V Elec box



240V Elec Box internals





- h) Connect 24V supply to timer and SPST switch in parallel
- i) Connect switch / timer output to speed controller and 24V-12V converter in parallel
- j) Connect 3 output wires of speed controller to 3 cores of 5 core wire connected to the fan
- k) Connect 2 output wires of 24V-12V converter to 2 cores of 5 core wire connect to the pump

24V Elec Box internals

### 5) Finishing

- a) Place Top cover over internal assembly
- b) Connect water supply (we connected ours to the shadehouse sprinkler, so it filled up, if required, when the plants were watered)
- c) Connect to power supply
- d) Test using switch
- e) Set Timer if required

### NOTE:

Our units were initially controlled by the timer on the 24V Solar / Battery system.



As our grow area has evolved, I have now configured ours with both 24V and 240V input options so that they can be used either with timers on the 24V Solar / Battery system or controlled by a humidistat on 240V.

### WHAT NEXT?

Currently working to see if the concept can be miniaturised for a vivarium application.



### Editor's Note

This article was kindly provided by Richard for publication after he demonstrated the unit to us in January 2021. Thanks Richard for developing something that works and is considerably less expensive than the ultrasonic humidifiers that several of us currently use.



# ABOUT US

## Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month at Wilson Community Hall, Braibrise St, Wilson commencing 7.45 pm. Usually, the short formal meeting is followed by plant descriptions given by members. Supper follows to allow member's time to socialise and discuss orchids. All visitors are very welcome

## Membership Fees

**Family** \$30 pa. For first year only, new family members will need to purchase two name badges. Badges come in two versions - pin fastening \$11.50 or magnet fastening \$13.50 [*Please indicate preference*]

**Single** \$20.00 pa. For first year only, new members will need to purchase a name badge. Badges come in two versions - pin fastening \$11.50 or magnet fastening \$13.50. [*Please indicate preference*]

New members who don't live in Perth will not require name badges, therefore membership cost will be at the renewal fee only

## Monthly Home Visit

On the weekend following the fourth Thursday of each month (generally on the Sunday morning), a home visit is held at a member's home. This gives members an opportunity to enjoy the fellowship that our mutual interest provides, and to see how others go about growing their orchids.

## Monthly Plant Display

Given that the prime objective of the Society is to promote the cultivation of species orchids, only species or natural hybrids are acceptable for display. Since we all may be uncertain about the identification of a plant from time to time, we encourage

members to bring plants along about which they are unsure since someone may be able to identify them. There is no competition nor restriction on flower count, quality or length of ownership. We want members to be able to see species plants in flower. So even if your flowers are a bit past their best, bring them in as others may not have seen that species in flower.

## Plant Sales

The Society provides an opportunity table for members to sell surplus plants and equipment, and for the Society to sell product from time to time.

## Plant Purchases

The Society endeavours to obtain a different species seedling for sale at each meeting, usually costing between \$6.00 and \$15.00. The Society makes a small profit on these sales which is invested in benefits to members. As it is always difficult to get new or different species, should members have 20 or more plants of one species which they feel might be suitable as a monthly plant, please contact a Committee member.

## Raffle

The Society conducts a raffle each meeting and at home visits as a means of generating funds. If you have spare species orchids that you wish to sell to the Society for raffles, please advise a committee member.

## Management

In accordance with the Rules, the Annual General meeting is held in May each year at which time the office-bearers and committee are elected. The majority of Committee members serve two year terms.

If unclaimed, return to  
The Editor  
210 Hermitage Drive, The Vines WA 6069

**Next meeting Tuesday 14 September**