

THE SPECIES ORCHID SOCIETY OF WA (INC.)

<https://speciesorchidsocietywa.com/>



Vol 35 No 2 July 2023



Anne O'Callaghan Award June 2023  
*Cattleya wittigiana*  
Harry

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING Tuesday 11 July

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# MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

13 June 2023 7.50pm

**Present:** 18 members as per register.

**Apologies:** 10 as per register.

**Visitors:** Zedy & Minnie

**New members:** Nil

**Minutes:** Acceptance of minutes from April meeting moved Lee-Anne, seconded Helen. Carried.

**Business Arising:** Nil

**Financial Report:** Adrian presented the financial report. The balance at 31 May was \$6,927.58

Acceptance of correspondence report moved Lynn, seconded Norm. Carried.

**Business Arising:** Nil

**Correspondence:**

**Inwards:**

- Committee members – additions/ amendments to draft agendas and minutes
- Microsoft Non-profit updated advice on application, approval of application for not-for-profit support
- Paul – advice on Microsoft not-for-profit application
- Draft Orchids WA minutes
- Adrian – President's report, more SOS-WA plants collected from Peter Masters, copies of ISODW correspondence with OSWA, advice of Peter's passing away
- Copy of Form 4 submitted to GCA
- Bruce - POF planning committee notes
- Graham – monthly plants for the past 20+ years.
- E-mail from Secretary Orchids WA advising of Trevor's passing, requesting AOC matters for the next

Orchids WA meeting, AOC 2022/23 financial report.

- City of Canning – end of financial year reminder

**Outwards:**

- Committee – draft GM minutes, draft committee minutes, draft GM agenda, committee and general meeting minutes.
- Form 4 lodged with GCA
- June Newsletter to members
- Microsoft Non-profit – further data supplied
- E-mail advice to members of Peter Masters' passing
- Paul Smith, Foliage Plus Australian species flask pricing.

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

**Business Arising:** Nil

**General Business:**

**Inter Society Orchid Display and Workshop – 5/6 August 2023**

Adrian asked members to advise the Secretary of any orchids that you expect to have for the SOWA display by the end of July so that name tags can be prepared.

He also asked for assistance in staging our display – please let Adrian or Ken know if you are able to help.

Ray reminded members that Scott Barrie (Barrita Orchids ) is coming to the ISODW and will be bringing plants for sale . If members are interested, he is happy to take pre-orders and bring the plants saving postage costs. Barrita Orchids website is <https://barritaorchids.com/>. It is likely that he will

also have some orchids that are not on his published list.

### **Perth Orchid Fair -2/3 September 2023**

Ken reminded members that set up will be in the afternoon of Friday 1st and open to the public on Saturday and Sunday. Helen has brought a supply of promotional flyers for members to distribute. If you had previously collected flyers for this event, please discard as they showed the incorrect street address. As previously advised, this event will be strongly promoted as an opportunity to purchase flowering size orchids. If you are planning to sell orchids, please see Ken to get plant sale sheets. Members are encouraged to prepare sale as well as display plants for this event.

If you will have plants for the display, please provide details to Ken by 25 August to allow him to prepare name tags.

A roster will be prepared for volunteers at the event and will be at the July meeting so that you can let us know when you are available, and what you can help us do to make this event a success.

### **2025 Perth International Orchid Fair and AOC Conference**

The Perth International Orchid Fair 2025 has been cancelled as we have been unable to secure a suitable venue for the preferred early September 2025 date at a cost that could be accommodated in our budget. AOCC 2025 will now be hosted by Woolgoola Districts Orchid Society, NSW.

It is planned to stage a larger Perth Orchid Fair in early September 2025 subject to finding a suitable venue, inviting either interstate or international vendors to attend. The viability of this plan will be assessed after the September 2023 POF.

### **Other General Business:**

- Members were advised that the auction of Peter Masters' orchids is being coordinated by South Eastern Orchid Society. It is proposed to hold the auction at Peter's Armadale home on Saturday 24 June. The address and further information can be obtained from Shannon, President South Eastern Orchid Society.
- Lee-Anne asked where she could purchase club apparel. Adrian advised that we do not have any stock-it was done on pre-orders coordinated by Mich. Members were highly impressed with the quality of the embroidered club emblem. Secretary to contact Mich to ascertain whether we can still purchase apparel

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

Awarded to Harry for *Cattleya wittigiana*

**Raffle:** Murray, Tara, Lynne, Lina

**Badge Prize:** Lynn

**Meeting closed: 8.55pm**

# NOTICEBOARD

## FORTH-COMING EVENTS

### Home visits:

At 10 am on Sundays. Please bring chairs and food to share. The next home visit is scheduled for:  
Date TBA

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:harry.ashton@live.com.au).  
Lynn would like to purchase *Section Latouria Dendrobium* orchids.  
Contact Lynn on 0414 922 923 or [contrarymiss@hotmail.com](mailto:contrarymiss@hotmail.com).

**President:** Adrian

**Vice President:**

**Treasurer:** Adrian

**Secretary:** Ken Jones

210 Hermitage Drive, The Vines  
6069. Phone: 9296 1765  
e-mail: [kcjones@tpg.com.au](mailto:kcjones@tpg.com.au)

**Editor:** Ken Jones

**Committee:** Maxine

Murray Paul

Graham Mavis

### Life Members

Graham & Margaret

Chris (dec'd)

Barry (dec'd)

Gordon (dec'd)

Maxine

Ken & Chris

Adrian & Deanna

Joan (dec'd) & Ted (dec'd)

Trevor (dec'd)

Neville (dec'd)

Noel (dec'd) & Eva

Tony (dec'd) & Mavis

Barry (dec'd)

### Quiet Achievers

2013 Ian

2014 Chris (dec'd)

2015 Margaret

2016 Tom & Pat

2017 Charly & Gerda

2018 Paul

2020 Adrian & Deanna

2021 John

## NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- **June monthly plant**

The June monthly plant which was formerly *Oncidium flexuosum* is now *Gomesa flexuosa*. The change was proposed in 2009 and accepted in 2020.

- **ISODW**

The ISODW hosted by the Orchid Society of WA in Manning is now fast approaching. Members are requested to prepare plants for the SOSWA display, (set up on Saturday 5 August) and sale to the general public on Sunday 6 August.

- **Monthly sale/raffle plants.**

If you have species orchids that are surplus to your needs, or have successfully grown species orchids from flask that you wish to sell, the Society needs monthly sale plants (minimum of 20 plants) and raffle plants. Please us know if you have plants for sale.

- **Annual Membership**

Individual member \$20, family \$30. You can pay the Treasurer at a meeting, or transfer payment by EFT to the Society's account at Bendigo Bank, BSB 633-000, account 122491988 including your surname.

## Vale Peter Masters 17/8/1946-5/6/2023

Peter Masters joined the Species Orchid Society in February 1999, was first elected to committee in May 2016, and then elected President from May 2020 to May 2022. Peter brought to the Society extensive experience of orchid culture, much of this accumulated from conducting a small orchid nursery business Greenmasters with his wife Shirley. We recall that this business was started some years prior to Peter's retirement as a heavy-duty motor mechanic as his and Shirley's superannuation and retirement income.

Greenmasters operated for some years primarily cultivating and selling Phalaenopsis orchids before expanding the range of orchids offered for sale. In his earlier life, Peter had spent time working in Papua New Guinea and it seems that he had developed an interest in tropical orchids that led him to join the recently formed Species Orchid Society. Peter was also a long-time member of the South Eastern Orchid Society.



Maxine Godbeer recalls that she spent many a happy hour helping Peter split & pot on Phalaenopsis orchids. Graham & Margaret Bowden also recall with help from Chris Cabassi helping Peter to repot his large orchid collection.

Graham and Chris

Cabassi with Peter at a Species Society home visit at the Bowden's.

Maxine also remembers Peter purchasing an old Indian motor bike in the Eastern States. As she recalls, it was the same one that he and his brother rode when they were younger. Peter spent many hours restoring it before shipping it back to his brother. Maxine also observed that Peter rarely read anything that was not a textbook. Peter had an enduring interest in motorcycles and an a few months ago, while riding his motorcycle, Peter was the innocent victim of a crash when a car ran into the back of his stationary motorcycle. This exacerbated his health issues

and from being a member who regularly attended meetings, Peter more often than not was an apology over the past several months.

Despite declining health, Peter continued to repair and rebuild electrical equipment including humidifiers, air coolers, computers and similar equipment and to live independently Peter had not enjoyed good health for a few years, but over the past 12 months his health had significantly deteriorated. Lynn Brooks spent many hours supporting Peter, helping him look after his orchid collection and encouraging him to pay attention to his health. She says that Peter was a mentor to her, and she helped him report his orchids and care for his growing area keeping it tidy and orderly as he became more unwell. She says Peter did a lot for her helping set up her watering systems and providing advice on orchid culture. Sadly however, while towards the end of his life, she helped with his care, but his health progressively deteriorated until his recent admission to hospital where he passed away on 5 June.

### The Subtribe Pleurothalidinae (cont'd from June)

*Octomeria purpurascens* Sambin & Chiron 2014 comes from French Guiana where it is found as an epiphyte in the wet tropical biome. Two populations of a novel *Octomeria* species found in French Guiana were compared to the most closely related species, *Octomeria minor* and *Octomeria deceptrix*. As this new species was quite different, it was considered to be a new entity and was described as *Octomeria purpurascens*.



Unfortunately, the publication is in French and as my knowledge of French dates from high school, I could not decipher much more information. It is included here as it is a quite different flower colour to the majority of other members of this genus.

Photo source: [https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Octomeria-purpurascens-a-plante-b-fleur-c-sepale-dorsal-d-sepales-lateraux-e\\_fig1\\_274389656](https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Octomeria-purpurascens-a-plante-b-fleur-c-sepale-dorsal-d-sepales-lateraux-e_fig1_274389656)

*Octomeria praestans* Barb.Rodr. 1881 can be found in Espirito Santo State, Brazil as a warm to cool growing epiphyte that blooms in the autumn and is distinguished by straight leaves, large and strong plants with acute petals and trilobed lip.

**Harry**

- Brassavola harrisii* (?)
- Cattleya cernua*
- Cattleya wittigiana*
- Dendrobium moniliforme*
- Masdevallia floribunda*
- Paphiopedilum sukhakulii*

**Lynne**

- Epigenium cymbidioides*

**Lynn**

- Epidendrum secundum*
- Phalaenopsis deliciosa*

**Graham & Margaret**

- Brassia gireoudiana*
- Cymbidium dayanum* Red
- Pterostylis aff nana*
- Pterostylis hamiltonii*
- Pterostylis vittata*

**Ken & Chris**

- Catasetum* spp
- Coelogyne cobbianum*
- Coelogyne formosanum*
- Laelia albida*
- Laelia anceps*
- Laelia anceps* Chamberlainianum
- Oncidium* spp
- Paphiopedilum spicerianum*
- Schomburgkia splendida*

**Adrian & Dee**

- Dendrobium goldschmidtianum*
- Dendrobium superbiens*
- Laelia anceps* Chamberlainianum
- Laelia rubescens*
- Paphiopedilum gratixianum*
- Paphiopedilum liemianum*
- Paphiopedilum spicerianum*
- Prosthechea boothiana*

**MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED June 2023**



*Prosthechea boothiana*  
Adrian & Dee



*Laelia albida*  
Ken & Chris





*Masdevallia floribunda*  
Harry

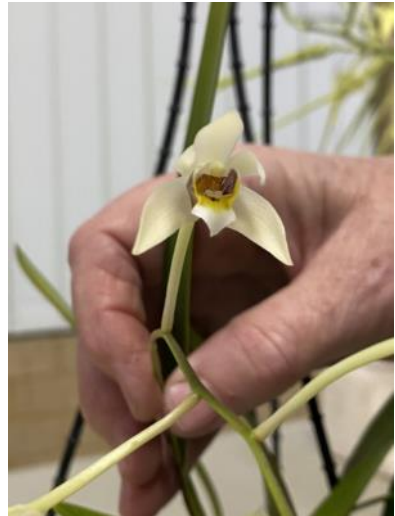


*Brassavola harrisii*  
Harry

## MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED June 2023



*Cymbidium dayanum*  
Graham & Margaret



*Epigenium cymbidioides*  
Lynne



Its common name is the Outstanding Octomeria. The synonym is *Octomeria paulensis* Barb.Rodr. 1937.

Photo source: <https://powo.science.kew.org/taxon/urn:lsid:ipni.org:names:30001581-2>

Leaf and Flowers Photo courtesy of Tony Watkinson and the Species Orchid Society of Western Australia



In situ photo source: <https://www.gbif.org/occurrence/3337745664>

*Octomeria sansoniana* Chiron & Guiard 2012

The native range of this species is Brazil (Espírito Santo). It is an epiphyte and grows primarily in the wet tropical biome.



Photo source: [https://www.researchgate.net/figure/fleur-de-Octomeria-sansoniana\\_fig3\\_273888614](https://www.researchgate.net/figure/fleur-de-Octomeria-sansoniana_fig3_273888614)

Photo source: <https://www.inaturalist.org/photos/59277539>



*Octomeria scirpoidea* (Poepp. & Endl.) Rchb.f. 1852 comes from Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela, Guyana, Fr Guiana, Surinam and northern Brazil at 50-1,100 where it grows as a small sized, hot to cool epiphyte with very long, terete ramicauls basally enveloped by 2 to 3, dry, scarious sheaths and carrying a single, apical, short, terete, acute leaf with no differentiation from the stem and the channelled leaf. Flowering in winter and spring takes place on very short, fasciculate, successively single flowered inflorescences arising on mature stems through a small spathe at the base of the channelled leaf. Its common name is the Reed-like Octomeria from the terete leaves. Synonyms are *Aspegrenia scirpoidea* Poepp. & Endl. 837; *Octomeria brachypetala* Schltr. 1925; *Octomeria brevifolia* Cogn. 1896



Photo source: <http://www.orchidspecies.com/octbrevifolia.htm>

*Octomeria tricolor* Rchb. f. 1872 comes from south-eastern Brazil as a small sized, cool to warm growing epiphyte that blooms in the fall in Brazil. Plants in this alliance are medium to large but always have thin ramicauls enveloped by loose sheaths and carry thin, coriaceous, flexible leaves that narrow at the base to a 1cm long petiole. The sepals and petals of the flowers are obtuse or rounded. Its common name is the Three Coloured Octomeria, and synonyms are *Octomeria albina* Barb.Rodr. 1881; and *Octomeria lacerata* Hoehne & Schltr. 1926.

Photo source: <https://www.biodiversity4all.org/>



taxa/1371150-Octomeria-tricolor



In situ photo source: [https://www.inaturalist.org/taxa/1371150-Octomeria-tricolor/browse\\_photos](https://www.inaturalist.org/taxa/1371150-Octomeria-tricolor/browse_photos)

In situ photo source: <https://www.orchidspecies.com/octtricolor.htm>



*Octomeria yauaperyensis* Barb.Rodr. 1891 comes from Venezuela, Guyana, northern Brazil and Peru in rain forests at 50-100m where it grows as a miniature sized, hot growing, erect to sub-pendulous epiphyte with an elongate stem that carries a single, apical, shorter than the stem, subterete, acute leaf that merges into the stem. Flowering occurs in late summer and early autumn on fascicles of successive, short, single flowered inflorescences. It is distinguished by leaves that are always much shorter than the ramicauls. Its common name is the Yauaperi' Octomeria named after an Amazonas River in Brazil. Synonyms are *Octomeria complanata* C.Schweinf. 1942; and *Octomeria hondurensis* Ames 1933



Photo source:

<http://clubperuanodeorquideas.com/Galeria/Orquidea/yauaperyensis>

### *Physosiphon* (30 recognised species)

This genus is included despite being few in number as there are some species around. Carlyle Luer in 1981 published in Selbyana in a paper titled "A Evaluation of the Genus *Physosiphon* (Orchidaceae) wrote" the Genus *Physosiphon* Lindl. sensu lato is based upon a single character: partial union of the sepals, which brings together a number of very unrelated elements. Connation of the sepals, found in varying degrees in most of the other genera of the Pleurothallidinae, fails to circumscribe a definable unit. If constriction of the sepaline tube near the middle were considered an additional criterion, many species currently assumed to belong to *Physosiphon* would be excluded, leaving only a few species in the genus sensu stricto, but even this combination of characters occurs in other indisputable genera.

However, I suspect that his argument for transferring many of the genus to *Pleurothallis* was not accepted as the most recent publication still shows some 30 species.

The genus name arises from Greek *physis* – bellows; *siphon* – tube; the tube formed by the fused sepals is inflated at the base. The sepals are joined for more than half their length, forming an inflated tube.

*Physosiphon greenwoodii* [Soto Arenas & Solano] comb novo Pfafl 2014 can be found in the Durango, Sinaloa, Nayarit, Jalisco, Colima, Michoacan, Mexico, Guerrero, Oaxaca and Chiapas states of Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and possibly Nicaragua as a warm to cold growing epiphyte in humid to dry oak forests at 1,400-2,150m. Erect,

terete ramicauls enveloped completely by tubular, obtuse sheaths carry a single, apical, erect, fleshy, oblanceolate to elliptic, round, lightly recurved leaf. Flowering in summer occurs on a single (rarely 2) erect, terete, racemose, 12-25cm very congested simultaneously 14-32 flowered inflorescence arising through a fat, conduplicate, triangular annulus near the apex of the ramicaul. It has tubular, acute, carinate, shortly apiculate, membranous floral bracts.



Its common name is Greenwood's Physosiphon named for an American orchid enthusiast who collected in Mexico in the 1900's. The synonym is *Stelis greenwoodii* Soto Arenas & Solano 2002 publ. 2003.

Photo source: <http://www.orchidspecies.com/stelgreenwoodii.htm>

*Physosiphon inaequisepalus*

Schltr. 1921 comes from Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru in where it grows as a mini-miniature sized, cold growing epiphyte in dwarf, mossy forests at 3,000m. The short, erect ramicauls enveloped basally by 2 to 3 tubular sheaths carry single, apical, coriaceous, mucronate (sharp pointed), fleshy leaves. This species flowers on an erect to arching 4cm few to several flowered, racemose, filiform inflorescence. All the flowers face to one side of the rachis and are held well above the leaves. Its common name is the



Unequal Sepals Physosiphon. Synonyms are *Anathallis declivis* (Lindl.) Pridgeon & M.W.Chase 2001; *Humboldtia declivis* (Lindl.) Kuntze 1891; *Pleurothallis declivis* Lindl. 1859; *Stelis declivis* (Lindl.) Luer 2002

Photo source: <https://www.sborchid.com/plantdisplay.php?ocode=PHYSO0020>

Contd. next month

# 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 \$14.00 or magnet fastening \$16.00 [*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 \$14.00 or magnet fastening \$16.00. [*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 11 July**