



Vol 36 No 1 June 2024



Anne O'Callaghan Award May 2024
Prosthechea boothiana
Adrian & Deanne

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING Tuesday 11 June

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

14 May 2024 7.30pm

Present: 19 members as per register.

Apologies: 5 as per register.

Visitors: Nil

New members: Nil

Minutes: Acceptance of minutes from April meeting moved Rod, seconded Graham. Carried.

Business Arising: Nil

Financial Report: Adrian presented the financial report. The balance at 30 April was \$6,908.39. Acceptance of financial report moved Bruce, seconded Ian. Carried.

Business Arising: Nil.

Correspondence:

Inwards:

- Committee - draft committee minutes and agenda, draft GM agenda, draft GM minutes, display plant photos
- Adrian & Paul – annual financial spreadsheet, newsletters and photos uploaded to One Drive for website
- Jordana – offer to develop social media promotion for SOSWA
- Murray - photos of Maxine and her orchids (sent to Danielle)
- Orchids WA agenda, reports, draft minutes last meeting
- Invoices from Mich for name badges and apparel, Paul Smith for flasks.

Outwards:

- Committee - draft committee meeting minutes and agenda, draft GM agenda, draft GM minutes, planning and arranging auction of Maxine's orchid

collection.

- Mary Brogan – information for vale John Brogan
- Members - Maxine funeral details, auction of Maxine's orchid collection, AGM notice, committee nomination forms and Orchid Society Secretaries advising of Maxine's passing and funeral details and auction.
- Guy re purchase raffle and award plants
- Reimbursement for flasks and postage, orchids purchased at Maxine's auction.

Correspondence report moved Paul, seconded Ian. Carried.

Business Arising: Nil

General Business:

Lee-Anne thanked Norm for donating four seedlings for the raffle, Adrian who donated three natural cork mounts and Paul & Andrea who donated a large mass of *Rodriguezia decora*. Ken thanked Lee-Anne who also donated a plant for the raffle.

Maxine Godbeer's orchid auction

Lee-Anne advised members that Maxine's collection of species and hybrid orchids was successfully auctioned on Sunday 28 April, and expressed our sincere thanks to our brilliant auctioneer Norm, our volunteers on the day Bruce, Mavis, Adrian, Rod, Chris, Graham and Paul, and Maxine's family Danielle and Wendy and their partners Darren, David and Wendy's daughter's partner Jayden who did much of the heavy moving of lots once sold. Danielle and Wendy have asked us to

pass on their sincere thanks to everybody involved.

Spirited bidding for the majority of the 64 lots offered for sale resulted in sales in excess of \$6,000 for Maxine's family but more importantly, ensured that many of her prized orchids went to enthusiastic orchid hobbyists who will equally value and grow them.

Acknowledgement was also given to Bruce, Lee-Anne, Adrian, Paul, Murray and Darren who all helped Ken Jones with auction planning, cataloguing the collection and making up the lots.

Perth Orchid Fair 7-8 September 2024

The next meeting of the Perth Orchid Fair organising committee is scheduled for Thursday 16 May. Societies that have committed to participation have received a request for payment of the \$300 seed funding to be transferred to NDOS.

2024 Home Visit Program

Mavis is currently developing the 2024 program. If you would be happy to host a home visit, or have any ideas about somewhere we could visit, please let Mavis know.

June Home Visit

The June Home Visit will be hosted by Helen at her home in Kewdale on Sunday 23 June. A show of hands indicated that Helen could expect about 15 members. Helen reminded us that it will be a morning tea and coffee (not luncheon), so it would be appreciated if some members brought cakes or biscuits to share.

Members were asked if they had any suggestions for discussion that could take place at this event to please let a

committee member know so that we can arrange for it.

Maxine Godbeer Award

Members were advised that the last committee meeting, a proposal that a monthly award recognising Maxine's long-time commitment of the Species Orchid Society be established. It was suggested that an award of a species orchid could be made to a new member benching a species orchid in flower in the monthly display for the first time.

Consideration was also given to an award for a member who displayed a flowering species orchid that had not previously been benched.

Discussion on this proposal strongly favoured keeping the two proposals separate. Perhaps one could be named for Tony.

Orchids Acquired at auction

Ken advised that he successfully bid for several lots at the auction. Several large divisible species were acquired, have been split up, and repotted to be grown on for raffle prizes and other awards. He also won the bid for a large specimen of *Maxillaria elatior* that will be used for a special raffle. Some of the lots won included some large hybrid Cattleyas that will be repotted and sold at the Perth Orchid Fair in September.

Other General Business: Nil

Anne O'Callaghan Cultural Award:

Members voted Adrian & Dee José's *Prosthechea boothiana* for the cultural award.

Raffle: Diane (2), Courtney, Adrian, Lee-Anne, Paul, Rod, Bruce and John.

Badge Prize: Diane

Meeting closed: 9.20pm

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- **Maxine Godbeer's library**

Maxine's family asked us to give away her extensive library of orchid books to members of orchid societies. A list of the books available was sent to SOSWA members with the May newsletter and to other orchid societies.

I still have a few books left and will attach a list with this newsletter—if there are any books that you would like to have, please let me know by e-mailing me at secretary@speciesorchidsocietywa.com, or by phone 9296 1765.

- **SOSWA Social Media presence**

For the May meeting, Jordana will put up a photo of the Anne O'Callaghan Award recipient *Prosthechea boothiana* with Adrian's notes about where it comes from and how he grows it.

- **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.

NOTICEBOARD

FORTH-COMING EVENTS

Home visits:

23 June 2024 -Helen, Kewdale.

MARKETPLACE - FOR SALE/WANTED

Harry would like to buy plants of *Cattleya neokautskyi*. Contact Harry on 0412 403 696 or hjaashton@gmail.com.

Courtney would like to purchase a plant of *Phalaenopsis aphrodite* (he too was one of the members who got *Phalaenopsis equestris* instead of *Phalaenopsis aphrodite*).

President: Lee-Anne

Vice President:

Treasurer: Adrian

Secretary: Ken Jones

210 Hermitage Drive, The Vines

6069. Phone: 9296 1765

e-mail: kcjones@tpg.com.au

Editor: Ken

Committee:	Paul
Murray	Mavis
Graham	Rod

Quiet Achievers

2013 Ian

2014 Chris Cabassi (dec'd)

2015 Margaret

2016 Tom & Pat

Life Members

Graham & Margaret

Chris Cabassi (dec'd)

Barry Gardner (dec'd)

Gordon Doherty (dec'd)

Maxine Godbeer (dec'd)

Ken & Chris

Adrian & Deanna

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

Trevor Pratt (dec'd)

Neville Risbey (dec'd)

Paul & Andrea

Noel (dec'd) & Eva Verweider

Tony (dec'd) & Mavis Watkinson

Barry Winter (dec'd)

2017 Charly & Gerda

2018 Paul

2020 Adrian & Deanna

2021 John

2024 Graham

Harry

Cattleya wittigiana
Dendrobium bigibbum
Phalaenopsis equestris

Graham & Margaret

Brassia gireoudiana
Eriochilus dilatata
Laelia anceps

Diane

Phalaenopsis pulcherrima

Ken & Chris

Brassavola nodosa
Cattleya maxima
Coelogyne formosana
Coelogyne saccolabia
Pleurothallis saundersiana
Zelenkoa onusta

Adrian & Deanne

Prosthechea boothiana
Laelia rubescens
Paphiopedilum spicerianum

Bruce

Trichocentrum lanceanum

John

Zygopetalum mackayii

Courtney

Dendrobium bigibbum (3)

MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED May 2024



Cattleya wittigiana
Harry



Laelia rubescens
Adrian & Dee



Dendrobium bigibbum
Courtney



Trichocentrum lanceanum
Bruce

MEMBER PLANTS DISPLAYED May. 2024



Eriochilus dilatata
Graham & Magaret



Zelenkoa onusta
Ken & Chris

MONTHLY PLANT

Cymbidium ensifolium

.....
Country of origin: Mainland and island SE Asia
.....

.....
Description: Thin leaved “Chinese” *Cymbidium* species.
.....

.....
Difficulty: A moderately easy species to grow and flower with winter protection from frosts and cold winds.
.....

.....
Cost: \$15.00

Cymbidium ensifolium [L] Swartz 1799
Section Jensoa, Schlechter 1924
Is found in Japan, China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, and Hong Kong to Sumatra and Java. It is primarily a hot-cool medium size terrestrial or occasional lithophyte in evergreen broad-leaved forests, humidified by mist and splash from steep watercourses at 0-1,500m. Small pseudobulbs are enveloped by imbricating leaf-bearing sheaths each carrying 3 to 4, strap-shaped, thin, acute and sometimes variegated leaves. Flowering occurs in summer through autumn on erect 30 cm racemose inflorescences with 3 to 9 long-lasting, fragrant flowers. This cultivar is *Cymbidium ensifolium* Hong Cao Hong He. The cultivars of many of the “Chinese” *Cymbidium*s are well known and though often not registered with RHS, the more desirable and rarer cultivars often command high prices.

Flowering size plants of this cultivar are advertised as rare, fragrant and for sale at US\$80-\$110 in US.

If the seedlings are true to name, this is a form with reasonably large pink flowers on an upright raceme and reddish colouration on the underside of the leaves and should be relatively easy to grow providing protection from winter frosts and cold winds in our winter when plants are wet is provided, along with regular water to increase humidity on hot dry summer days. A free draining media is recommended.

Photo source: <https://theorchidpatio.com.au/products/cymbidium-ensifolium-hong-cao-hong-he-extremely-rare-fragrant>



Paul & Andrea - our 2024 Life Members

Paul & Andrea joined the Species Orchid Society in 2012. Paul was soon persuaded to join the committee serving as our Vice-President for two years from 2016 to 2018, President for two years from 2018 to 2020 and as our Treasurer for one year from 2020 to 2021. Paul is an enthusiastic grower of a wide range of orchids, while Andrea has an equally large collection of Cymbidiums.

Given his skills and ability, Paul was soon coerced into helping plan and construct displays and the props needed to effectively display species orchids. He assisted in transporting these displays and props to the orchid events in which SOSWA participated, and both helped stage the displays that consistently draw positive feedback from event attendees .

Paul & Andrea and Adrian & Dee have stored this material for the society for several years.

Paul was a key member of the SOSWA subcommittee that planned and conducted the successful Intersociety Orchid Display and Workshop at Morley in 2018.

Photo- Paul& Andrea receiving their Life Membership at the AGM

Following the sudden passing of Tony Watkinson, Paul assisted SOSWA, Orchids WA and other societies to access their data that Tony had previously maintained.

This meant that there was an opportunity to develop a more contemporary IT presence for SOSWA., and to upgrade the existing website using current software. Paul single-handedly applied his impressive IT skills to develop the Society's current website. He continues as our webmaster and assists Adrian as Treasurer to maintain the Society's financial recording system and membership records, and is a co-signatory for all banking transactions.



Graham - our 2024 Quiet Achiever

Graham & Margaret joined the Species Orchid Society in 1994, and were made life members in 2019. The Quiet Achiever award is generally made to recognise an individual member who is not necessarily in a formal or society management role, but someone who is always there when help is needed, and who sees what needs to be done and quietly, without fuss, gets on and does it. Margaret was our 2015 Quiet Achiever.

Graham receiving his award at the AGM



Graham was our Secretary from 1999 until elected as Vice-President in 2010 and President in 2012. At the expiry of his term as President, Graham resumed the role of Secretary until he retired at the 2021 AGM.

Graham and Margaret have also been actively involved in arranging visits to see Western Australian terrestrial orchids in flower in September each year, and they regularly display flowering terrestrial orchids at our meetings and in public displays. They have been actively involved in rescuing terrestrial orchids from the Northern Freeway extension, Fiona Stanley Hospital, and more recently helping Chris and I transfer the orchids from Park Street.

This award however recognises the quiet and consistent support for me as incoming secretary as they continue to open up and close the hall, and commence setting out the chairs and tables each meeting night and clean up the hall after our meetings. This has been a most welcome and valuable help to me, and was something they chose to do without being asked. They really are quiet achievers!

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 June 2024