

Albany Orchid Society
P.O. Box 1982
Albany W.A. 6331
<https://albanyorchids.org.au>



Ron Gresswell's *Propetalum* Kiwi Leopard x *Zygopetalum* Titanic Aztec

June 2021 Newsletter

President:	Mrs Barbara Hawes	0419422916
Vice President:	Mr Ron Panting	98411695
Secretary:	Mrs Libby Hocking	0402666091
Treasurer:	Mr Glen Diggins	0411054750
Newsletter:	Mrs Gail Brodziak	0428155814
Patron:	Mr Murray Montgomery	

NEXT MEETING SUNDAY 27th JUNE 2021

1.30 pm	Bench Orchids
2.00 pm	General Meeting
Venue:	Albany Bridge Club, Mill Street Albany

Competition Plant for June:- :- *Paphiopedalum Spicerianum* 'Sandy' Lovely Moon 'Sandy'

AOS Calendar 2021 Please keep these details handy on your fridge or on your mobile phone

Morning Cuppa Friday 11 th June	10 00am at Emu Point Cafe
AOS Monthly Meeting Sunday 27 th June	1.30pm benching 2.00pm Meeting begins
Committee meeting Tuesday 6 th July	1.30pm Vancouver Street Cafe

BENCHING RESULTS FOR MAY

OPEN SECTION

- 1st *Cymbidium* Valley Torch 'The Lip'
1st *Propetalum* Kiwi Leopard x *Zygo* Titanic Aztec
2nd *Cattleya* Portia 'True Blue'
1st *Laelinae Cattleya* Dream Trader
2nd *Paphiopedilum* gratixianum
1st *Paphiopedilum* Vietnamense x delenatii
1st *Phalaenopsis* Unknown
1st *Zygopetalum* Unknown
1st *Zygopetalum* Mackayii
1st *Oncidium* 'Kaiulani'
3rd *Dendrobium* Jonathon's Glory 'Dark Joy'
1st *Paphiopedilum* lawrenceanum
1st *Phalaenopsis* Unknown
1st *Dendrobium* Regal Hilda 'Rockstar' x Jesmond Sparkler 'Greg Hall'
3rd *Cattleya* Portia 'True Blue'
1st *Gomesa planifolia*
2nd *Cattleya* Unknown
2nd *Dendrobium* Splish Splash 'Rockstar'
2nd *Cymbidium* Valley Hogan 'Westpoint'
2nd *Cymbidium* Another world

NOVICE SECTION

- 1st *Phalaenopsis* Unknown

ORCHID GROWERS

3 points	Ron Panting
3 points	Ron Gresswell
2 points	Ron Gresswell
3 points	Julie Elliott
2 points	Julie Elliott
3 points	Edna Murdoch
3 points	Gail Brodziak
1 point	Gail Brodziak
3 points	Deidre Black
3 points	Janet Bevan
3 points	Max Anning
1 point	Max Anning
3 points	Mary Warnes
2 points	Carol White
3 points	Libby Hocking

The most popular vote was a draw between

Cattleya Unknown, grown by Mary Warnes and *Phalaenopsis* Unknown, grown by Libby Hocking.



Mary's Cattleya



Libby's Phalaenopsis

May meeting Raffle results:-

1 st Prize	Libby Hocking
2 nd Prize	Carol White
Door Prize	Max Anning

CUPPA MORNING Our next cuppa morning is on Friday 11th June, the venue is Emu Point Café at 10.00 am. Hopefully we will catch up with you there.

COMPETITION ORCHID WINNER

Congratulations go to Carol White whose orchid, *Cymbidium* Another World, flowered first and won the Cymbidium plant competition. We will be getting another Cymbidium competition plant soon.

COMMITTEE MEETING

The next Committee meeting is at 1.30pm on Friday 9th July at Vancouver Street Café. Discussion will be mainly about the winter show and the Inter Society Orchid Show and Display in August.

POPUK LOUNGE

Carol's report on the popup lounge said it went reasonably well, with some interest from the public. She had a very nice pullout poster made and some handouts as well which will be excellent for our shows and other promotional exhibitions, raffles etc. that we do in the future.

ALBAY ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW DATES

The show dates for 2021 are:- Winter Show 22nd, 23rd and 24th July
& Spring Show 9th, 10th and 11th September.

By now most of us will be preparing our orchids for benching at the winter show in July. You can pick up plant labels and show schedules at the next meeting for any plants that you may want to enter in the show. It is time to check your plants for scale, mealy bug or aphids and disease. There are quite a lot of products in the local nurseries for controlling pests on orchid plants. Clean plants are more appealing and any plants with diseases or bugs will not be included in the show. There is nothing more unappealing than a plant with old bits still leftover from last years' spikes. Don't forget, you must own a plant for at least 6 months before you can bench it in a show or at the monthly meetings.

I.S.O.S. & DISPLAY

The Inter Society Orchid Show and Display will be on 5th (setup day and judging) 6th and 7th August. It will be held at the Kelmscott Hall in Kelmscott. If you are interested in going please let Libby know. It was discussed at the May meeting not to do a floor display but we will definitely be benching orchids, don't worry, there will be more discussion on this over the next couple of meetings. Mary has secured accommodation at Avocado's, which is in 2 Mount St, Kelmscott. Here is a link to their website <https://www.avocadosperth.com/>

Here is a link to Airbnb <https://www.airbnb.com.au/kelmscott-australia/stays>

AOS ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

We will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of the inauguration of Albany Orchid Society this year. The Society will hold a lunch to celebrate possibly on 16th October further details will be advised when details are confirmed. If anyone has any old stories, photos or other information please let Libby or Gail know.



Cymbidium Orchid Culture



Cymbidiums are a popular orchid, and when taken care of correctly, they can flower for between eight and ten weeks. The flowers are usually extremely large in size and appear patterned on the surface. Available in almost every hue but blue, they make the perfect addition to any shadehouse. They're also one of the most maintenance-free orchids available to buy, making them an ideal option for those who possess busy working and social lives. They bloom just once a year, this type of plant usually tends to flower in early winter. They are also a little tougher than other orchid species and can thrive in cooler temperatures. This makes them a great option for those who reside in areas with a milder climate. In most cases, they prefer to be grown outside. If planting your orchid in the garden, it's important to be wary of pests. If the orchid begins to show little or large holes and shredding, it's likely it's been attacked by garden predators. If you follow care instructions from experienced growers down to the last detail, you'll be able to keep your Cymbidium Orchid outside during the frost-free months.

Watering For best results, this particular plant should be watered in the morning, as this will allow plenty of time for the Orchid to dry prior to the coolness of night. It's important to avoid soggy soil. The frequency of watering an orchid can vary greatly, especially in the warm summer months, as the plant is likely to require more water. Most people will water their orchid a few times a week in the summer and less frequently come the winter months. Tips: Once the Orchid's pseudobulbs have grown to their maximum growth, you can reduce the amount of water you give your plant. It is however imperative that you avoid the soil drying out completely.

Light Requirements Cymbidiums, require medium to bright light in order to flourish. If the plant's leaves look a yellow-green colour, it has enough sunlight. If the leaves are overly yellow, this is the sign the Orchid has too much light. If they're extremely dark green, then it's likely it doesn't have enough light.

Fertiliser Options When your Cymbidium Orchid is in active growth, it's recommended you fertilise the plant on a regular basis using a solution of 20-20-20. Once a month during winter, spraying the plant with fertiliser is adequate. The only time you should avoid adding fertiliser to the orchid is if it's extremely dry, as the strong chemicals can cause a great deal of damage to the plant.

Temperature Requirements The perfect day temperature for orchids during the summer months is between 23.9°C and 29.4°C. At night, this can lower to between 10°C and 15.6°C. Having a temperature difference of 20 degrees will help to initiate the growth of flower spikes. In the winter, day temperatures can be between 18.3°C and 29.9°C, whilst recommended night temperatures are between 7.2°C and 12.8°C.

Humidity Requirements In the colder months, Cymbidium orchids require humidity levels of 40-60%. During the winter, the orchid is generally in bud. If you live in a colder climate, you can use a humidifier or a humidity tray to

help increase these levels. If you live in an extremely warm climate, try to encourage air movement as too much heat can breed disease.

Potting Requirements It's important to pot this type of orchid every two years (or when the existing pot has ceased from draining properly). The best time to re-pot an orchid is the spring, once the flowers have bloomed. Prior to transferring the plant to a new pot, cut away any marred roots using a sterile cutting tool. If you wish to divide your existing orchids and plant each bulb in a different pot, it's wise to do so only when the orchid is showing new growth. Each plant must have between three and five pseudobulbs if you wish to divide them. Another way to breed your orchids is to use the back bulbs. These have no leaves and are the oldest part of the plant. To remove them, simply use a sterile cutting tool. You should also remove any dead or discoloured leaves and re-pot the selected bulbs in separate small containers. It will only take a matter of months before you begin to see new growth. It will take around three years to achieve a full-sized plant. If you're unsure of when to re-pot your orchid, simply use your common sense. Although this species doesn't mind being planted alongside a number of the same species, if shoots are starting to hang over the edge of the pot, or in the worst case scenario it splits, it's time to move your plant to a bigger pot. Transferring your plant to a bigger home should usually take place around every two years.