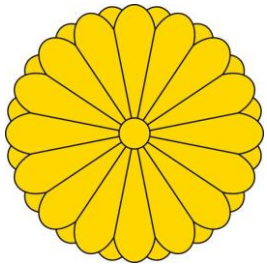


The hibernating like a groundhog



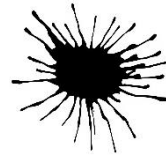
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN



CHRYSANTHEMUM

"the golden flower and queen of the autumn"

SOCIETY



July - August 2023

President's Notes

Greetings trendsetters, opinion leaders and eccentrics!

This felicitous salutation is inspired by the editor's 'Sermon on the Throne' from the last edition regarding emotional intelligence and other forms of questionable psycho-babble.

On an extremely tenuous related note, the Australian Championship, like our chrysiess, is all done and dusted for another year. Yours truly was the winner, deserving or not. There were only four entrants, which was a tad disappointing but, due to a late show and the vagaries of the season and the world as we know it, I guess we should not complain. My commiserations are offered to the other entrants, at least one of whom can consider himself somewhat unlucky, especially when you wonder how someone can be an Australian Champion when they cannot even win their State Championships. A list of the main show results will be included later in this edition.

I hope that you are all enjoying a restful hiatus in your chrysanthemum 'journey' and will emerge from your repose with renewed enthusiasm to grow a plethora of extraordinary, magnificent, spherical, untarnished, refulgent blooms of staggering immensity glorified by brilliant art shades. Those of you who also like to grow 'any other genera' over the winter break will most assuredly have their enthusiasm renewed because nothing compares to chrysanthemums. In consequence of that, they are "our favourite flower

2023 Show Results (The abridged version.)

Australian Championship

- 1st Carl Slusarczyk
- 2nd Ron Seaton
- 3rd Michael Drake-Brockman
- 4th Ron Atyeo

Grand Champion Bloom

Seatons Galaxy - Ron Seaton

Champion Exhibition

Kokka Kinzan - Carl Slusarczyk

Champion Decorative

Rose Stoakes - Carl Slusarczyk

Champion Anemone

Seatons Ruby - Carl Slusarczyk

Champion Single

Kellies Gown - Ron Seaton

Champion Fantasy

Seatons Galaxy - Ron Seaton

WACS Show

State A Championship

- 1st Ron Seaton
- 2nd Carl Slusarczyk

State B Championship

- 1st Ron Seaton
- 2nd Carl Slusarczyk
- 3rd Richard Williams
- 4th Michael Drake-Brockman

Best Exhibit of WA Show

Hawaiian Championship - Ron Seaton

Grand Champion Bloom of WA Show

Mount Shasta - Carl Slusarczyk



Ron Seaton with his State A and B Championship trophies.



Pockett Championship

Ron Seaton

Hawaiian Championship

Ron Seaton

Jack Eastlake Trophy

Ron Seaton

Wallace Brook Medal

Murray Ryall



ANZAC Memorial Vase

Ron Seaton

Ken & Gladys May Trophy - Formal Floral Art

Vase of Decoratives - Noel Blunt

Leila Blackwell Memorial Trophy - Informal Floral Art

"Autumn Glory" - Patricia Savory

Clive Griffiths Award - Most Points: Specimen Classes

Ron Seaton

Bendigo Goldfields Award - Best Single (Show/Cut)

Kellies Gold Bar - Ron Seaton

Rev. Franklyn Blackwell Trophy for WACS Section One

Championship Ron Seaton

Allan Aitken Award - Best Novice Bloom

Seatons Spectre - Daniel Birch

Champion Bloom - Large Exhibition

Mount Shasta - Carl Slusarczyk

Champion Bloom - Medium Exhibition

Kokka Syozen - Richard Williams

Best Pocket Bloom

T. W. Pockett - Ron Seaton

Champion Bloom - Incurved Decorative

Seatons Flirt - Ron Seaton

Champion Bloom - Reflexed Decorative

Dorridge King - Carl Slusarczyk

Champion Bloom - Intermediate Decorative

Stoakes Vanilla - Carl Slusarczyk

Champion Bloom - Anemone

Seatons Spectre - Ron Seaton

Champion Cut - Singles

Telfer Gold - Carl Slusarczyk

Champion Bloom - Show Single

Kellies Gold Bar - Ron Seaton



Champion Bloom or Cut - Pompone

Falls Goldy - Michael Drake-Brockman

Champion Spray

Ryski - Carl Slusarczyk

Champion Bloom - Fantasy

Seiko No Asa - Richard Williams

Best Any Other Type

Seatons Orange Fan - Carl Slusarczyk

Champion Charm

Cottage Mushroom - Michael Drake-Brockman

Champion Cascade

Pink Fleece - Ralph Coombes

WACS Section 1 Championship - Large Exhibition

Ron Seaton

WACS Section 2 Championship - Medium Exhibition

Carl Slusarczyk

WACS Section 3 Championship - Incurved Decorative

Ron Seaton

WACS Section 4 Championship - Reflexed Decorative

Carl Slusarczyk

WACS Section 5 Championship - Intermediate Dec.

Carl Slusarczyk

WACS Section 6 Championship - Anemone

Ron Seaton

WACS Section 7 Championship - Show Singles

Carl Slusarczyk

WACS Section 7 Championship - Cuts of Singles

Carl Slusarczyk

WACS Section 8 Championship - Pompone

Murray Ryall

WACS Section 9 Championship - Sprays

Carl Slusarczyk

WACS Section 10 Championship - Fantasy

Ron Seaton

Cultural Notes

Now is an opportune time to think about how you intend to grow your plants for the coming season. If you think that everything went well last year then you are lying to yourself. If it didn't then now is the time to think about how you can avoid the problems that you ran into.

Although there is not much to be done in the chrysie patch in July it is still worthwhile putting a little fertiliser into the pots, scattering a few snail baits around (best avoided if you have pets) and checking for signs of insect or fungal attack so that curative methods can be started. If the soil level has dropped due to decomposition of the organic matter in the soil and there are some stolons visible then apply a top dressing of fresh potting mix.



The stools should be cut back close to the ground at the beginning of August so that a start can be made to taking cuttings at the beginning of September. As the new shoots emerge spray them with a pesticide and fungicide and apply some snail pellets. If the shoots are a bit yellow, they should respond to an application of iron chelate to green them up.

In early September there should be some shoots big enough to allow propagation to start. Remove 5-7cm from the tip of the new stem which should snap off easily if it is in the right condition. Some growers like to bathe their cuttings in a pesticide/fungicide solution before planting them and if you do then please wear gloves. Commercial seedling and cutting propagation mixes are available and are suitable. Pot cuttings singly into thumb pots or multiple cuttings into 100mm pots. I continue to take cuttings in batches until the end of September in case the early cuttings fail to root for some reason. Some growers coat the broken ends of their cuttings with rooting powder but other growers have not found that this has helped them.

Cuttings can also be taken from below the soil level with some roots attached. These are almost certain to survive and grow but commonly they do not produce the highest quality exhibition blooms.

The potting mix should be kept well hydrated but not continuously sopping wet. High humidity around the leaves is important. This can be produced by frequent misting of the leaves on any warmer sunny day. Some growers like to construct a terrarium like structure but it is important to keep it out of direct sunlight and useful to remove the lid overnight occasionally to allow a little air movement which reduces the risk of fungal rot.

After about three weeks the cuttings will hopefully have rooted and then they should be potted up singly into



100mm pots with your preferred potting mix. Allow the cuttings a week or so to grow roots into the new mix and then give them as much sun as is available to stop them growing leggy. If any cutting runs straight to bud, then replace it with another one or cut it down low and hope for a new shoot to emerge.

The better quality commercial mixes are suitable. Some growers like to make their own mixes using the John Innes formulas which are freely available on the internet and very good if you can obtain the ingredients.

Newbies for the Show Bench



A number of new cultivars have become available over the last few years, mostly from the breeding of Ron Seaton, and some old favourites have been recovered. Some of these cultivars that proven their worth at our 2023 show are as follows:

Exhibition

Payneham Splendour - Pink Section 2

Decorative

Seatons Pink Bliss - Pink Section 3

Dorridge King - Red Section 4

Elsie Seaton - Pink Section 4

Anemone

Seatons Companion - Red

Seatons Spectre - Purple

Single

Seatons Gold Bar - Yellow

Fantasy (Spiders and Quills)

Seatons Honesty - Light Bronze

Seatons Pink Frills - Pink

Seatons Topaz

Spoons (Section 11c)

Seatons Orange Fan

Seatons Red Fan

There are other good new and older ones as well but these were the ones seen at our 2023 show. Hopefully, we will see some more, especially as I am told that Ron will be releasing some more newbies for the 2023-4 season.

Editor's Notes

I was intending to write some notes for this edition, even if they were minim-al. However, I overheard some members speaking quaver-ingly at the probability of some further outrageous editorial blather disgracing the society. In consequence, I am presently too crotchety to write any notes. You can all breathe a sigh of relief.

A movie studio is casting roles for a documentary about classical musicians.

Geoffrey Rush says "I'll play the part of Mozart"

Liam Neeson says "I'll make a great Beethoven"

Arnold Schwarzenegger says "I'll be Bach"

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Newsletter Editor – Carl Slusarczyk 9272 1356 (H) carl.lina.slu@gmail.com

Forthcoming Meetings & Events

WAHC Garden Clubs' & Societies' Plant Fair 9th & 10th September 2023 South Perth Community Centre

AGM & General Meeting Noon, Tuesday 12th September John McGrath Pavilion, 97 Hensman Street, South Perth.

Distribution Day 1:30 pm Sunday 29th October 2023 John McGrath Pavilion, 97 Hensman Street, South Perth.

General Meeting Noon, Tuesday 14 November 2023 John McGrath Pavilion, 97 Hensman Street, South Perth.

Facebook Page

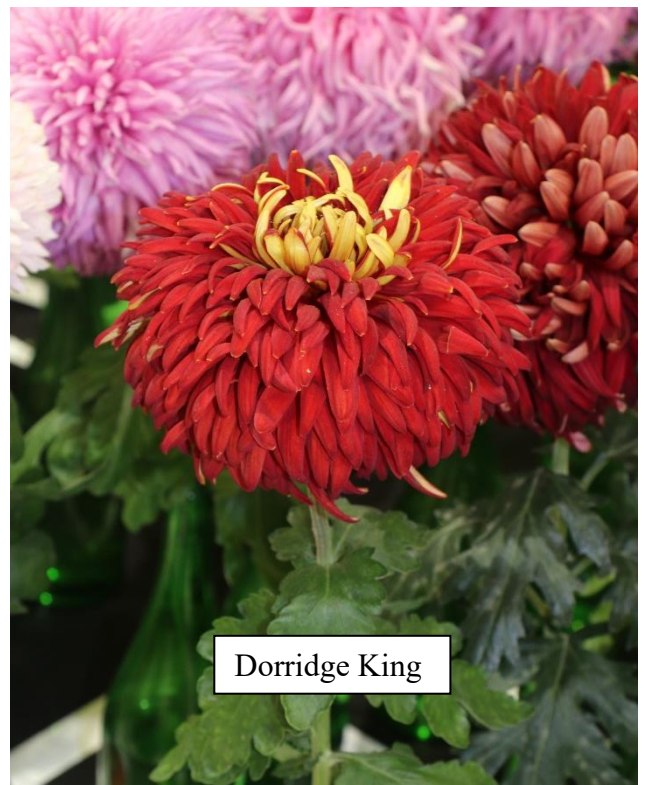
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/chrysanthemumwa/>

Website

www.chrysanthemumwa.com

Mentors

Ian Blackwell – Kelmscott 0424 432 608
Ralph Coombes – Maida Vale 9454 3373
Michael Drake-Brockman – Pickering Brook 0421 778 717
Carl Slusarczyk – Mount Lawley 0480 188 875
Richard Williams – Inglewood 0439 103 500



Dorridge King