

Newsletters together with our other publications may be found on our website at [www.chrysanthemumwa.com](http://www.chrysanthemumwa.com)

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## Upcoming Events

### February 2016

**General Meeting**

**12 noon Tuesday 9th February**

**Committee Meeting**

**12 noon Tuesday 16th February**

### March 2016

**General Meeting**

**No General Meeting**

**Committee Meeting**

**12 noon Tuesday 15th March**

**Rotary Hall, Sandgate St South Perth**

## Social/Cultural Visits

### March 2016

**Sunday 20th March 2016 1pm.**

**Michael & Judith Drake-Brockmans**

### April 2016

**Sunday 17th April 2016 1pm.**

**Ralph & Elizabeth Coombes**

## WAES Subscriptions

**\$10 p.a. single, \$15 p.a. double**

**Please send to Treasurer**

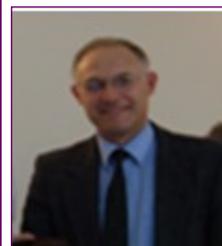
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# NEWSLETTER of The Western Australian Chrysanthemum Society Inc.



## Nov/Dec 2015

### President's Notes



I hope that you are all looking forward to the festive season and your plants are looking happy. Mine are all rather neglected as I am busy trying to get a garden going. At this stage there is just bare earth with lots of holes and trenches so the chrysies must wait. Fortunately they are adaptable, so a late strike and one up with no stops may be the way to go. I am hoping to install a trickle irrigation system as, being time-poor, this will help a lot.

Despite some uncertainty we have decided to take a punt on Forrestfield Forum being available for our 2016 show. While we have already celebrated the Golden Anniversary of the formation of WACS this will be our 50<sup>th</sup> show, as the first was in 1967. As we no longer receive a payment for the show we need to cover running costs and prize money. Last year we were able to sell potted plants, which was very successful. Having sold all that were available we hope to do better this time and if members could grow a few plants for sale, in pots up to 200mm (8 inch), that would be appreciated.

After agreement at our last General Meeting we have applied to the WA Horticultural Council to alter the requirements for the Section B State Championship for this season. The change relates to the removal of cuts of singles and substitution with six exhibition singles (4 distinct). Cuts have a special place in the history of WA chrysanthemum growing but are not competitively grown anywhere else in the world to my knowledge. Some of our older members, in particular, will be unhappy with the change but it has been noted that many growers have been unable to produce sufficient cuts at the right time to enable a State B entry and in some years

there have been no entries at all. I am told that there were a much larger number of suitable cultivars available in years past than what we have now, which may partly explain the problem. There is still a WACS Championship and several Specimen Classes available for growers of cuts. The resurgence of interest in sprays will also ensure that we have a good display of massed single blooms.

We have been lucky to have had a steady supply of new cultivars over many years and with a lot produced in WA they have proven very suitable. Ron Seaton continues to release new cultivars and this year that includes a new exhibition type, Seaton's xxxxx, that was shown in his seedling set at the 2015 show and hopefully it will be seen on the show tables again in 2016. He has a lot of seedlings growing this year so will be looking forward to some more good ones.

Best wishes for Christmas and the coming year.

*Carl Stasarczyk*

## Editorial Notes

Welcome to my first attempt at a newsletter, I hope I can provide the reader with some relevant information and/or entertainment.

I would estimate by now that most Chrissy growers have planted or are in the process of planting their cuttings into their pots for growing on to bloom.

And so begins the summer tasks of watering, fertilizing, pruning, staking and tying which, call me crazy, but happen to be a favourite thing to do for me on a warm afternoon.

During the off season I have been watching some of our friends in the UK and USA grow and show their flowers. If you have access to social media there are many photos and articles that would be of interest to local Chrissy growers. Societies overseas are facing the same issues we are grappling with here. Our numbers are dwindling, as people are drawn into an increasingly fast paced world of LCD screens and instant information. The following link is for an article from a short while ago in the Washington Post.



<https://www.washingtonpost.com/...chrysanthemum.../746f9e2e-7b47-11e5...>

The article is extremely relevant to us even if written on the other side of the planet. One point it does make and one that I think is positive for our society is that if we embrace the modern communication method that is social media we can take our hobby to a new audience. The committee is investigating this right now.



Pictures of the recent Doncaster Late show on the NCS Facebook page Inside one of Ivor Mace's greenhouses below.

One of the most prolific uploaders of photos of Chrysanthemums is Ivor Mace who has a large photographic record on Facebook. Many district societies in the UK and USA have their own Facebook presence. I now receive updates from the NCS and the NCS of USA although there are many more I could monitor if I chose to. By having a presence on social media we may find that there are more crazies like me out there than we thought!



On that scary note I wish everyone all the best for a happy, healthy Christmas and good growing in 2016.

Ron