

Newsletters together with our other publications may be found on our website at www.chrysanthemumwa.com

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Upcoming Events February

Tuesday 14th Feb 2017 12pm

General Meeting

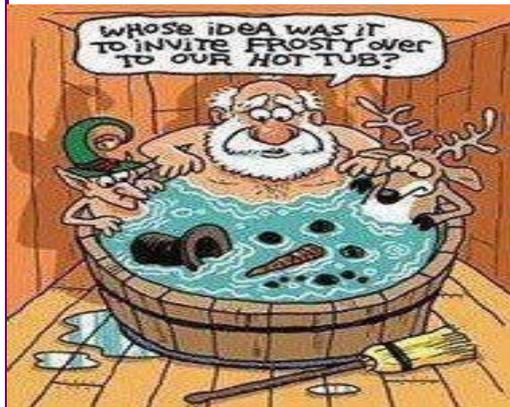
Tuesday 21st Feb 2017 12pm

Committee Meeting

Rotary Hall, South Perth

Social/Cultural Visits

To Be Advised. The editor wishes all growers and their families a Happy Christmas and a wonderful new year. Best wishes for successful growing in 2017.



WAES Subscriptions

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

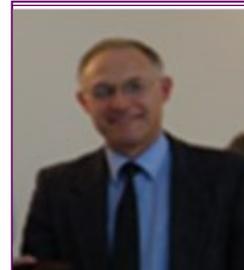
Please send to Treasurer

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NEWSLETTER of The Western Australian Chrysanthemum Society Inc.

The logo is circular with a yellow border. Inside, there is a map of Australia with a chrysanthemum flower superimposed on it. The text "THE CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY INC." is written around the inner edge of the circle.

November/December 2016



President's Notes

On a similar note to my last universal greeting - "Happy holidays". For any Poles reading this - *Wesołych Świąt i Szczęśliwego Nowego Roku*; and yes,

they grow chrysanthemums in Poland. This is an attractive website <http://www.chryzantemy.pl/en/> that proves the point.

It was great to see a large turn out for our first social day of the season at my home and I hope that you all had an enjoyable afternoon. Since then I have planted out all my chrysies. Half of them are in 250mm or 300mm pots under 50% shadecloth and the other half are in a garden bed in full sun. It will be interesting to see the difference. I noticed a number of blind shoots on my plants and then noticed a number of small insects in them. It is a pity that the first problem is a lot easier to see than the second. Some growers adopt a regular preventative spraying program for pests and diseases and it seems difficult to argue with them. I have a number of late struck surplus plants going into 140mm pots for the Horticultural Council fair in February as well. Thanks to any other growers who may also be producing some. Hopefully we can sell any left overs at the Annual Show. The Society has had a number of changes this season. Colleen Ryall has now taken over the Treasurer's role with Ian Blackwell continuing to provide great assistance with updates to several of our important documents. The Society's bottles and vases have been relocated to Michael Drake-Brockman's property and



many thanks to him for agreeing to store them. Thanks also to Roy Shilling for storing them up until now. I am in contact with a local printer to produce some new prize cards for our show as the old stocks are exhausted. We now have a good supply of trestle table covers which became available due to the demise of a local craft group. Thanks to Brenda Benn for obtaining them at a very reasonable cost. The demise of community groups is due to a multitude of different factors and it is reassuring to know that at least WACS continues to prosper. As the whole is the sum of its component parts may you all have a very prosperous new year as well.

Carl Slusarczyk

Cultural Notes

SPRAYS - Growing Sprays in WA. Frank Blackwell

In the year 2000 Roy Shilling produced some very attractive sprays for the show bench. In fact it proved to be a highlight of the show, with the Grand Champion award going to "Pink Gin". Roy followed the UK process. In more recent times we have found that artificially altering the length of the day by covering is not necessary in WA.

For those interested, a full coverage of Roy's method appears in the Jan/Feb 2000 newsletter. The full notes of the UK method appears in Jan/Feb; March/April; May/June 2000 newsletters.

Following is the method I have found successful over the last few years.

Take cuttings as for other chrysies, including potting on. I use 10" / 250mm pots. Water, feed, spray, stake, tie as for other chrysies. **BUT** do not break. Select from new growth coming up in the pot. Remove other growth in the pot. (I like to keep a second growth in case something goes wrong with the first one. When you are



sure that the first spray appears to be OK, you can remove the second one. Remember – do not pull the unwanted growth out, cut it off cleanly at soil level.)

For bigger sprays select a growth between Boxing Day and New Year's Day. You can select any new growth up to late February. They all seem to flower at about our showtime. As these are Exhibition Sprays you will need to take out the lead bud early. As each pedicel grows you leave the lead bud and remove all others.

The common sprays we have grown in WA (Ryski group and Pink Gin Group) are 10 week sprays and normally flower 10 weeks from the time the growth appears. They do last, but need protection from wind, rain and flies that love to leave marks on the blooms.

Contact me at blackwell@bigpond.com if you have any queries. Frank Blackwell..

Thanks go to Frank for sharing his expertise Ed.



Interesting Links

Some great photos of the recent shows in the UK and USA

<http://www.nationalchrysanthemumsociety.co.uk/#/2016-early-show-winners/4593028923>

<http://www.nationalchrysanthemumsociety.co.uk/#/2016-late-show-winners/4593362326>

<http://www.mums.org/2016-national-convention-and-show/>