

# NEWSLETTER

*Apr. 2010*

**NEXT MEETING Sun 9<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 1.30 pm**

**NEXT MEETING:** **Dennis Chuah** from Waitakere Orchid Club (also an honorary HOS member) will speak and show photos of his favourite orchid, the Dendrobium.

## **LAST MEETING**

The meeting began with Glenn giving away 3 nice Cyms 1 each to Betty Everson, Lee Stone and John Shepherd for answering some questions, the answers were in the last Newsletter.

Following the club notices, the AGM was held see below for results.

Our speakers **Gary & Heather Cooke** talked about their beautiful Broms with plenty of examples from their collection of stunning new hybrids on show. As usual our members showed a lot of interest as Gary demonstrated how to remove the pups and repot them. It was an interesting and entertaining insight into this very popular plant, which still manages to attract a lot of people to clubs and sales.

Thanks to our speakers for the donations of all the repotted pups for our raffle table.

**RAFFLE:** With 11 draws we are really spoilt with our raffles. Thanks again for all the donations, Tris must surely be running low on plants now? HOS supplied the Miltonia in flower.

## **ELECTION of OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT:	Glenn Poffley (unopposed)
VICE PRESIDENT:	Anton Wehman (unopposed)
SECRETARY:	Janet Wehman (unopposed)
TREASURER:	Winsome Webster (unopposed)      NEW
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	Leonard Cobb, John Muddiman, Kathy Rimmer, Lee Stone, Raewyn McCormack, Manee Poffley, Ken Tse, Julie Duff. (all unopposed)

Glenn thanked Jackie for her dedication in the position of Treasurer. She has handed over the accounts in a very healthy state to **Winsome Webster** who has only recently joined the society. Jackie will be busy looking after her new baby plus her other son who is now growing quickly. We hope to see Jackie back from time to time as her home life permits.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS** are now over-DUE. Those that have not paid by the May meeting may be deleted from the Newsletter list and will be classed as visitors to meetings.

**NEW MEMBERS:** Welcome to **Barbara Goodmon** (Howick).

## EDITOR'S COMMENT

Planning for the **Orchid Extravaganza** in Palmerston North in September is well under way with a design already drawn up by our artist and designer Len. We now have 4 members' vehicles going down with the gear and plants to mount and dismantle the display, which should be ample as all have large vehicles. It is really great to see the support we are getting.

Manee and I went to the BOP show in Te Puke recently and although a few less orchids on display the quality and variety were up to their usual high standard. The sales areas provided me with some hard to find species so I was pleased we had made the effort to go down.

All of the photos published this month are from this show and feature *Dendrobium cuthbertsonii*.

## PLANTS ON DISPLAY (Apr. meeting)

Michelle has kindly checked and provided the plant names for this column. I'm sure she will benefit greatly by doing this as I have. Michelle also helps me to fill out the entry cards at many of the shows we mount displays. With English as a 2<sup>nd</sup> language this is no easy task for her and it is indicative of her commitment to making NZ her permanent home.

## OPEN

Glenn & Manee: C. Dayana, C. *maxima* x ?, Gsl Pukalani Golden Star, Phal. *fasciata*

Michelle Tung: S. Marriottiana x Sc. California Apricot, Lyc. Koolena, Milt. Moir Moir, Phrag. Cardinale.

Ken & Chui Tse: Den. phalaenopsis (Cook Town Orchid), Prosthechea *prismatocarpa* x sibling (= Epi. *prismatocarpum*), C. White Bounty, Milt. Connie Warne, Mtssa. War Eagle

John Muddiman: Stenoglottis *longifolia*, Den. Snow Jump, Coelogynes *mooreana*, Phal Callum's Pride.

Grahame Leafberg: Neostylis Lou Sneary, Ascda. Summer Delight 'Susan', Arundina *graminifolia*.

Pam Forde: Wils. Jean Du Pont, Phal unknown, Gomesa *crispa*

Kathy Rimmer: Pleurothallis sanderana, Lc.C G Roebling

Lea & Bryce Westlake: Vanda *rothchildiana*, Onc. marshallianum\*, Cym. *erosthrotylum*.

William & Man Lo: Den. Tropico Song 'Emma Pink', Epi. *prismatocarpum* \*, Phal. Kahurangi\*, Blc. Autumn Glow 'Tradescant', Angraecum\* *didieri* x sibling, Gomesa *recurva*

Anton & Janet Wehman: Stenoglottis *longifolia*.

Verna Latif: Bc. Binosa

## Novice

Lee Stone: Zygo. unknown, Den. *glomeratum*\*.

Alan Robinson: Earina *autumnalis*.

Norman Streater: Den. unknown

(NOTE \* change label)

**OPEN:** 1<sup>st</sup> Lea & Bryce (Vanda), 2<sup>nd</sup> Michelle (Phrag.), 3<sup>rd</sup> Pam (Phal)

**NOVICE:** 1<sup>st</sup> Lee Stone (Zygo), 2<sup>nd</sup> Norman (Den), 3<sup>rd</sup> Alan (Earina).

**NOVELTY:** 1<sup>st</sup> Kathy (Pths), 2<sup>nd</sup> John (Sngl), 3<sup>rd</sup> William & Man (Den)

Commentary was by **Heather** Cooke helped by Glenn. There were some interesting and beautiful orchids this time. Heather picked **Michelle's** lovely Phrag as Plant of the Month, Michelle is certainly coming up trumps this year.

TEACHER: John, why are you doing your math multiplication on the floor?

JOHN: You told me to do it without using tables.

**I wondered** why the baseball kept getting bigger.

Then it hit me.

## RESEARCH

As mentioned during the plant commentary Phrags come from South America. They are very similar to Paphs and should be kept relatively damp. They do not have a bulb and clump up into large plants as was the one displayed. The flowers are sequential so can give a display for quite some time. Michelle grows hers cool. Unfortunately we don't see many for sale at clubs or shows. The stunning variety of colours exhibited by the Den. cuthbertsonii hybrids is enough to get most interested in growing these cool growers from New Guinea but they can be a little tricky.

In PRISON you must deal with sadistic wardens.

At WORK they are called managers

## CULTURE

I am now in the process of covering any orchid growing areas as the risk of frosts is now increasing. Any warm growers should be well sheltered and preferably put into a warm house. Watering should only be carried out on breezy days and preferably in the morning so plants can dry off during the day. DO NOT water if the forecast is for a clear still day and low temperatures when frosts may occur.

Your potting mix will now be a lot slower to dry out and some mixes such as sphagnum can take up to 3 weeks in cool conditions.

Many of your plants will relish winter sun as this will help mature the new growths and encourage flowering. My Cymbs are very slow to show spikes probably because of the warm nights we have had for much of the last month and still continuing.

Dendrobiums and Cattleyas can now be encouraged to enter their winter rest period by reducing water substantially. This is how they survive in nature as their swollen canes/bulbs store enough nutrients to see them over this time. This also can trigger flowering at the correct time.

Many Cattleyas are autumn flowering as we saw on our display bench last meeting.

### *Hello and thank you for calling The State Mental Hospital.*

Please select from the following options menu:

If you are obsessive-compulsive, press 1 repeatedly.

If you are co-dependent, please ask someone to press 2 for you.

If you have multiple personalities, press 3, 4, 5 and 6.

If you are paranoid, we know who you are and what you want, stay on the line so we can trace your call.

If you are delusional, press 7 and your call will be forwarded to the Mother Ship.

If you are schizophrenic, listen carefully and a little voice will tell you which number to press.

If you are manic-depressive, it doesn't matter which number you press, nothing will make you happy anyway.

If you are dyslexic, press 9696969696969696.

If you are bipolar, please leave a message after the beep or before the beep or after the beep.

Please wait for the beep.

If you have short-term memory loss, press 9. If you have short-term memory loss, press 9. If you have short-term memory loss, press 9.

If you have low self-esteem, please hang up our operators are too busy to talk with you.

## COMING EVENTS

### HOS CLUB DAYS for 2010

9 May,	13 June,	11 July,	15 Aug,	12 Sep,	9 Oct (Show),
24 Oct,	14 Nov,	12 Dec.			

Meetings are held **1.30 pm** at the **Fencible Lounge**, Uxbridge Rd. Howick.