



# NEWSLETTER of the HOWICK ORCHID SOCIETY Inc.

July 2013

NEXT meeting Sun 11<sup>th</sup> Aug 2013

**NEXT MEETING:** Once again we will have our own member Phil Funnell talking on the Weird and Wacky orchids. Phil will show slides and discuss some of the more unusual species and those that are less commonly grown or seen at local societies.

PHOTOS in this month's newsletter were taken in Singapore last month on our stop over to Turkey. Locations were the Botanic Gardens and the new Marina Gardens.



*Above: A Mottled and Spotted Vanda, Botanic garden orchid shade house.*

**LAST MEETING:** Chris Hubbert showed some interesting slides on his recent trip to the Santa Barbara orchid show. Chris (North Shore OS) along with Terry and Jeannette Austin (HOS) travelled not only to the show but visited various nurseries around the Southern California area where they were given VIP treatment by some of the well known names in orchid breeding. Chris' photos concentrated on some of the more unusual and recent breeding lines in Cymbidiums and Paphs, especially the spotted varieties.

Despite our car parking woes everyone managed to come along to the meeting without too much bother. The library staff has confirmed that the area will be policed by the council.

My *favourite* exercise at the gym would probably be 'Judging'.

My *Dream* Job would be driving the Karma Bus.

## EDITOR'S COMMENT

My earlier concerns with many members failing to renew their membership has been somewhat allayed with a rush last month bringing us back up to a reasonable number.

I recently gave a talk at the Highland Park garden club and was surprised to find that this was their final meeting after 25 years. Like many clubs no one was willing to take on the executive committee jobs so they had no choice but to wind up the club. This is an all too familiar scenario and I suspect many orchid societies will be finding themselves in a similar position if no new younger members are recruited. It is usual to see the same old faces doing all the work on orchid club days and shows with many new members failing to last the distance.

OCNZ Year books are now available at the club to all members who have nominated HOS as their 'home' society. Please pick up your copy at the club as we do not post.

## CULTURE

After 3 weeks of sweltering heat in Turkey we have arrived back to very cool weather. My advice to Anton who was keeping an eye on the orchids was to only water once and then only lightly. This has certainly paid dividends with the plants all looking in great condition. The Cattleyas were not watered at all and the Phalaenopsis left inside also not watered. On our return these were as good as the day we left. Orchids can cope with drought quite well especially during our winter months. Wet roots are fatal to the plant if not given a chance to dry out. With the cold weather expected to continue throughout August watering should be minimal. Cool weather also inhibits spike development and general growth as the plants go into a dormant state.

Keep a close eye out for slugs and snails which will be homing in on those flower inflorescences as they develop. If you water try to keep the buds or flowers dry as fungal infection can ruin them. Sudden changes in temperature can also cause bud drop.



*Paphs grown in natural surroundings in the Cloud Forest*

### **Plants On Display** (July meeting)

Compiled by **Michelle Tung**

(**Plant names in bold type denote label changes are recommended** - either incorrect spelling or a new name of a registered hybrid)

(*Use of italics denotes that the plant or parent plant is a species*)

### **Open Section**

Betty Everson

1 Phalaenopsis

Frances Henrich/Ros Mackay *C. trianaei* 'A.C. Burrage' AM/RHS JOS **SECOND equal**

Raewyn McCormack	1 Paphiopedilum, and 1 Zygopetalum cross (?)	<b>FIRST</b>
		<b>PLANT OF THE MONTH</b>
John Muddiman	<i>Ptst. Curta</i>	<b>SECOND equal</b>
Michelle Tung	1 Dendrobium, 1 Dendrochilium, and <i>Onc. Twinkle</i>	<b>SECOND equal</b>
Anton and Janet Wehman	1 Cymbidium, and 1 Cattleya	

### Novice

Carol Brown	Paphiopedilum unknown	<b>SECOND</b>
Sandra Bullock	<i>Z. Goliath</i> x unknown	<b>THIRD</b>
Jessie O'Hara	<i>Ogm. pulchellum</i> <i>Onc. Sugar Babies</i>	<b>FIRST</b>

### Novelty

Frances Henrich/Ros Mackay	<i>Haraella retrocalla</i>	<b>FIRST</b>
Glenn and Manee Poffley	<i>Rstp. filamentosa</i> <i>Rstp. guttulata</i>	<b>SECOND</b> <b>THIRD</b>

### **Commentary was given by Chris Hubbert.**

Plants were down as most were at the NZOS show where our display won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize.



Above: a *Cattleya* a little different from the usual  
Right: a very pale form of *Arundina graminifolia*

**THANKS** to our librarian Michelle for her continuing efforts to source excellent orchid books for our library at very competitive prices from overseas. There are quite a few new ones recently added with particular emphasis on specialist books for one genus.



### **Waitakere Orchid Club show**

As usual this will be held at the Kelston Community Centre Great Nth Rd. Set up is the morning of Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Aug. with judging in the afternoon.

Open to public Friday and Saturday **ENTRY is FREE**. Please check your year book or WOC website for further details. There will be commercial sellers there.

HOS will be erecting a display under the watchful eyes of Kathy and Len. Please let a committee member know if you have plants available. If only 1 or 2 we can arrange to transport them out but you will need to drop them off to one of our homes.

## RESULTS from NZOS winter show

HOS Display – 2<sup>nd</sup>

Kathy Rimmer – Joan Parker Trophy (small flower), 2<sup>nd</sup> species small, 2<sup>nd</sup> Miltonia,  
Glenn & Manee – 1<sup>st</sup> Odm/Oda full form, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cattleya cluster type, 2<sup>nd</sup> Intergeneric hybrid, 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Phal. other colours, 3<sup>rd</sup> Species small.

Lea & Bryce Westlake – 1<sup>st</sup> specimen, 3<sup>rd</sup> Cattleya species

Len Cobb – 1<sup>st</sup> Paph. Hybrid White/yellow

Anton & Janet – 2<sup>nd</sup> Oncidiinae full form

Grahame Leafberg – AD award for Cymbidium on HOS display



*Above: Spathoglottis a warm growing terrestrial seldom seen in NZ. Modern hybrids come in a good range of colours. They flower sequentially so flower for a long time. Botanic garden, orchid garden.*

*Right: A beautiful vini-coloured Paph growing terrestrially under other shrubs in the Cloud Forest.*

## HOS Club meeting Dates for 2013

8<sup>th</sup> SEPT.      4<sup>th</sup> OCT. (Show Set Up)

5<sup>th</sup> OCT. (**SHOW**)

20<sup>th</sup> OCT. (Prize Giving)      10<sup>th</sup> NOV. (Auction)

8<sup>th</sup> DEC. (Social)



*There were other cool growing varieties as well in the Cloud Forest. Masdevallias and Oncidiinae*