

# NEWSLETTER

Oct. 2008

**NEXT MEETING Sun 9<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2008 at 1.30 pm**

*Orchid Auction*

**SPEAKER:** Next meeting is the HOS annual **AUCTION**. We already have some plants and books put aside for this but to make it even more interesting we hope many of our members have put 1 orchid aside for this event. Last year was very successful with an excellent result.

Plants collected so far:

6 large Cattleyas (unnamed); 3 large Nobile Dendrobiums and 2 divisions of Cym. tracyanum (not easy to find now) from Mabel; 2 x Coelogyne cristata in slatted baskets, 2 x Den. kingianum 'alba' (slab mounted), 2 slab mounted kingianum (1 dark form), 2 x Cym lowianum (the real thing) and 2 unnamed *Laelias?* from the Stan Harris estate; some other (hopefully still flowering) Cyms; books from Sandra; 2 other good sized nobile Dendrobiums. 4 boxes of metal shelving. The committee has decided that **only HOS members** will be eligible to take part in the auction as it is for their benefit as much as it is for the club.

**LAST MEETING:** Our Patron Alf Day gave a very interesting talk about some of the history of HOS, especially the club's input into the 1990 World Orchid conference held in Auckland. Some of the HOS members at that time were key figures in the construction of the huge exhibit of the combined Auck. Societies and even mounted displays of their own.

Alf with the help of Assistant Show Marshal John Muddiman then presented the trophies. Alf made special mention on the significance of the name of each trophy.

After the lovely cake donated from Lea and Bryce Westlake was cut, we all enjoyed a generous portion before every HOS member who exhibited at the show was presented with a nice seedling Cattleya. The selection contained good crosses, some standards and some minis bought from **B & F Johnson** Whangarei. This year we relaxed the rules and gave commercial growers a gift and will also keep other plants that were unable to be collected on the day until the **Nov. meeting only**. I have already looked after them for 4 months! As pointed out at the meeting the reasons we introduced this giveaway was to encourage HOS members to exhibit at the show and also to attend the Prize giving. Going by the number of plants NOT picked up we may be reviewing this idea next year. Novice class entries (or should I say entry) was abysmal this year and I know that many of you have orchids in flower so don't be shy, bring them to the show or club day.

**RAFFLE:** A very pleased Norma Clark won the beautiful large Cymbidium (3 inflorescences 34 blooms), donated by **John Cairns**. 5 other orchid donations were gratefully received from our regular donors.

**WELCOME to NEW MEMBERS – Chris Lu (Howick), Yvonne Davies (Howick), Melanie Smith (Farm Cove) and Alan Robinson (Papatoetoe).**

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Meetings: Fencible Lounge Uxbridge Rd Howick

## PLANTS ON DISPLAY (Oct. meeting)

### OPEN

Mick Hughes: *Cym.* Red Planet x *devonianum*, *Cym.* Square Dancer.

Glenn & Manee: Basket of Phals, basket of Oncidiae, basket mixed (Sarcs, masdevallia), basket of nobile Dendrobiums, basket mixed (Cattleyas, *cym*, dendrochilum).

John Muddiman: *Den.* unknown, 3 x nobile Dens, *Dtps.*\* Kai Hou x Rendezvous, *Phal.* Golden Peoker x Brother Amar, *Coel. mooreana*.

Sandra Moore: *Oda.* Donald\* (no Campbell) x *Oda.* Trixero, *Odcdm.* Purbeck Gold x *Oda.*

Remembrance = Wils. Golden Remembrance, *Odcdm.* Hans Neuenhaus 'Bert', Box of 12 Sarcs.

Peggy Bell-Booth: *Miltadium* Pupuke Sunset? (only *Onc.* Pupukea Sunset), *Degamoara* Starshot\*.

Ken & Chui Tse: *Masd. coccinea*, *Sarc. hartmanii*, *Masd.* Rubicon, *Den. nobile*, *Slc.* Jewel Box 'Dark Waters'.

Pam Forde: *Odcdm.* Unknown, *Den. kingianum* (Magenta x Best Red) x Inferno, *Phal.* Unknown.

Julie Duff: *Cym.* Vogelsang 'Eastbourne', *Cym.* Rum Runner.

### NOVICE

Jenny Richards: *Phal.* Unknown

Verna Latif: *Slc.* Desert Orange.

Maurice & Audrey Roffey: *Cym.* Unknown.

### NOVELTY (No entries)

OPEN: 1<sup>st</sup> Mick Hughes (*Cym*), 2<sup>nd</sup> Pam Forde (*Den.*), 3<sup>rd</sup> = Pam (*Oda*), Ken & Chui (*Sarc*).

NOVICE: 1<sup>st</sup> Jenny Richards, 2<sup>nd</sup> Maurice & Audrey, 3<sup>rd</sup> Verna.

The commentary by Alf Day was extra good this time especially as he had such nice things to say about my plants!

Men wake up as good-looking as they went to bed.

Women somehow deteriorate during the night.

**CULTURE:** Rather than bore you with too much of the same I will recap the cultural requirements of the plants we gave away.

**Cattleyas:** Labels will be Blc (Brassolaeliocattleya), Lc (Laeliocattleya), Lctna (Laeliocattletonia), Sc (Sophrocattleya) and maybe others, which you can work out.

These prefer to dry out completely between each watering. They prefer a very well drained mix (which all plants are now in). They need a little more shade than Cymbidiums and Dendrobiums over the summer. Give them plenty of water and a weak fertilizer in spring and summer. They can dry off over the winter but as they are still young they will need some water so the bulbs don't shrivel. Try and keep them a little warmer over the winter and out of the bad weather.

**Nobile Dendrobiums** given to some new members: Plenty of sun, water and fertilizer over the spring and summer. Cut out all Nitrogen (N) going into autumn and give a Potassium (K) boost with potash. Dry off over winter but they still require plenty of sun. Only water enough to stop canes shriveling. Do not remove leafless canes, as these are the ones that will flower and may do so for a number of years until they shrivel and die.

**APOLOGY** Yes I am guilty of repeating a joke that was in a recent newsletter. I was pressed for time with all the shows etc on around that time.

A woman will dress up to go shopping, water the plants, empty the bins, answer the phone, read a book, and get the post.

A man will dress up for weddings and funerals.

## HOWICK ORCHID SOC. 1 DAY SHOW (More)

A couple of key advertising people were Bryce and Len who put out all the street signs early morning a week before the show. Len had the task of picking them up again at the crack of dawn on the Sunday afterwards before any were lost.

Of course **Anton** as Show Marshal was quietly working away organizing everything behind the scenes and John Muddiman must have spent hours polishing the trophies again just to give them that extra sparkle.

We noted the donation of the raffle prizes in the last issue and this certainly made a large difference to our profit this year. Overall profit was approx. same as last year.

See Trophy list last page.

## EDITOR'S COMMENT

I have just done an audit on the mailing and email list for our newsletter. There is always someone that somehow gets omitted so if you are not receiving yours then let me know immediately.

Generally they should be sent out no later than 1 week before the meeting. If you change address please write it down and give to me (or comm. Member) as soon as possible.

Those that receive their letter by email will have got a **bonus** last month with an **extra 2 pages** sent out a couple of days later of some **photos of orchids** exhibited by HOS members taken at recent shows. This month there are 3 pages of photos.

As time and of course suitable photographs permit I will continue to do this in the future.

If you want to receive these please get your newsletter by EMAIL in future, as it is too expensive to print these for postage. Please record your email address with Jackie or Janet at the meeting or email me a note to [gpoffley@clear.net.nz](mailto:gpoffley@clear.net.nz). Presently we email to 29 members and the remaining 48 are posted.

This month's photos are a selection of some of my favourites from some shows this year, Whangarei, Waikato (winter) and NZOS.

## NEW MEMBERS

When repotting in most cases it is easier to smash the pot rather than trying to pull the plant out. This avoids damaging the roots too much. Try not to damage the new roots especially. This is a good time to repot, also be careful of damaging new growths that may not be obvious if hidden down in the bulb sheath. Make sure you use a free draining mix. This applies to most genera. Orchid mix sold at nurseries is **NOT** recommended.

## NEW LIBRARY LISTINGS (All donations from Gordon Pickering and Sandra Moore)

- |      |  |                           |
|------|--|---------------------------|
| 23.  | The Manual of Cultivated Orchid Species    | Blandford Press           |
| 148. | The Macdonald Encyclopaedia of Orchids     | Macdonald Orbis           |
| 150. | Kew Gardening Guides-Orchids               | Joyce Stewart             |
| 151. | Slipper Orchids (Breeding and cultivating) | Koopowitz & Hasegawa      |
| 152. | Orchids (The time-life encyclopaedia of    | Gardening Time Life Books |
| 153. | The Slipper Orchids                        | Catherine Cash            |
| 154. | The Hybrid Story (Growing Orchids)         | J.N.Rentoul               |
| 155. | An Introduction To The Orchids Of Asia     | Mark L. Isaac Williams    |

## REFERENCE (Only to be used on club days)

- |      |                                     |                |
|------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| 156. | Encyclopaedia of Cultivated Orchids | Alex D. Hawkes |
|------|-------------------------------------|----------------|

**Why** do toasters always have a setting so high that it would burn the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat?

## TROPHY LIST HOS Show Sept 08

Lady Stevenson Cup:	<b>John Cairns</b>	GRAND CHAMPION OF SHOW
Val Bayliss Cup:	<b>John Cairns</b>	CHAMPION CYMBIDIUM
Alice Shirley Memorial Trophy:	<b>J&amp;B Orchids</b>	CHAMPION STD CYMBIDIUM
Howickville Rosebowl:	<b>John Cairns</b>	CHAMPION INT. CYM.
Frost Trophy:	<b>John Cairns</b>	CHAMPION MINI CYM.
Moya Younghusband Tray:	<b>B &amp; L Westlake</b>	MOST DECORATIVE PLANT
Arnold Jolly Memorial Trophy:	<b>B &amp; L Westlake</b>	BEST NOBILE TYPE DENDROBIUM
Scholes Cup:	<b>Mick Hughes</b>	FIRST FLOWERING SEEDLING
Iris & George Jones Trophy:	<b>Ken Morse</b>	CHAMPION CATTLEYA
O'Connor Trophy:	<b>Brian Main</b>	BEST PHALAENOPSIS
Anne Marie Orchids Cup:	<b>Alf Day</b>	BEST ODONTOGLOSSUM ALLIANCE
Howickville Cup:	<b>J &amp; B Orchids</b>	BEST PAPHIOPEDILUM
Walker Cup:	<b>Ken Morse</b>	BEST MASDEVALLIA
Ratcliffe Cup:	<b>Michelle Tung</b>	BEST AUSTRALIAN SPECIES/HYBRID
Betty & Harry Tomlin Cup:	<b>Brian Main</b>	BEST SPECIES
Concord Trophy:	<b>Grahame Leafberg</b>	CULTURAL EXCELLENCE not Cym
Borough of Howick Trophy:	<b>Not presented</b>	BEST STD CYM. - NOVICE
Howick Orchid Soc. Trophy:	<b>Not presented</b>	BEST INT. CYM. - NOVICE
Norm Gibbs Trophy:	<b>Not presented</b>	BEST MINI CYM. - NOVICE
Solona Cup:	<b>K &amp; L Cauldwell</b>	BEST OTHER GENERA - NOVICE
Larsen Cup:	<b>Not presented</b>	BEST CULTURE - BEGINNERS
Cooper Cup:	<b>Manee Poffley</b>	BEST FLORAL ART ENTRY - OPEN
Margaret Earnest Trophy:	<b>K &amp; L Cauldwell</b>	BEST FLORAL ART - NOVICE

HOS members are J. Cairns, B & L Westlake, M. Hughes, B. Main, M. Tung, G. Leafberg, K & L Cauldwell, M. Poffley.

J & B Orchids (NZOS), Ken Morse (WOC)

**NEXT MONTH** a full list of Class Results will be published.

### ORCHID FAIR (K & R Orchids Labour weekend)

I thought we were early at 5 to 10 on Saturday but there were so many there already we could barely get in the door. Everyone was carrying bags of orchids so I knew it was going to be an uphill battle in the sales area. Some of the more desirable choices were already sold out and the public and orchid growers alike were even carrying arms full of display plants much to our amusement but not so amusing to the sellers who were desperately trying to keep track of everything. I actually thought Russell had a new helper working for him when I saw a young woman come climbing out of the display area like a long lost explorer, with a tray of plants and then proceeded to hand them out to willing purchasers! Unfortunately they all had to be returned. The best description of that morning was probably chaos with orchid nuts from Hawkes Bay (a bus load), Bay of Plenty, Waikato and of course all the Auckland clubs well represented. It was good to see a new grower on the scene, Sunvale Orchids of Gisborne with a great range of Sarcas that were in big demand, so big in fact all my choices were sold so had to settle for a couple of Dendrobiums, nevertheless they were ones not commonly for sale.

There were some interesting demos throughout the day by various growers with tea coffee and food available as well.

If the fervour of Saturday morning was anything to go by then orchids are on the up and up again.

**When** hospital Administrators asked a panel of doctors to review their proposal to add a new wing to their hospital,

The Allergists wanted to scratch it and the Dermatologists advised not to make any rash moves.

The Gastroenterologists had a gut feeling it would turn out fine, but the Neurologists thought the Administrators had a lot of nerve.

The Otorhinolarygologists wouldn't hear of it and the Rhinologists were very sniffy about it.

The Gynaecologists thought it was a bit irregular and the Obstetricians felt they were all labouring under a misconception.

The Ophthalmologists considered the idea shortsighted; the Pathologists yelled 'Over my dead body' while the Paediatricians said 'Oh, Grow up!'

The Psychiatrists thought the whole idea was madness, the Radiologists could see right through it, and the Surgeons decided to wash their hands of the whole thing.

The Interns thought it was a bitter pill to swallow and the Plastic Surgeons said 'This puts a whole new face on the matter.'

The Podiatrists thought it was a step forward, but the Urologists were convinced the scheme wouldn't hold water.

The Anaesthetists thought the whole idea was a gas and the Cardiologists didn't have the heart to say no.

The Proctologists had the final word, and they left the decision up to some \*\* in Administration. (If you don't know what a Proctologist is then look in the dictionary)

**BARK** is always difficult to source, especially the good clean well-graded product we require for orchids. Bark Products Taranaki has been supplying this through Roy Neale (WOC) but Roy will no longer be on selling this. In the future their products will be available through Pacific Growers Supplies (Penrose).

#### WORK Vs PRISON

Prison: You spend the majority of your time in a 10 x 10 cell.

Work: You spend the majority of your time in a 6 x 6 office/cubicle.

Prison: You get 3 meals a day fully paid for.

Work: You get a break for one meal and you have to pay for it.

#### COMING EVENTS

**Final HOS:** 14<sup>th</sup> Dec. (Xmas Social), come and enjoy a relaxing afternoon.

Club days for 2008 will be published next newsletter

Meetings are held 1.30pm sharp in the Fencible Lounge every month except January.

**BREAKING NEWS:** We are currently negotiating for a special guest to be our speaker at the Xmas social. Hopefully this will be finalized soon.

#### **And to make you think.....**

Why does Goofy stand erect while Pluto remains on all fours? They're both dogs!

If quizzes are quizzical, what are tests?

Did you ever notice that when you blow in a dog's face, he gets mad at you, but when you take him on a car ride, he sticks his head out the window?