

NEWSLETTER

Oct. 2009

NEXT MEETING Sunth Nov. 2009 at 1.30 pm

Auction

SPEAKER: Next meeting is our annual auction so please bring a couple of surplus orchids or orchid books so we can make this day a success.

THE SHOW: This is starting to sound a little like the Olympic Games closing address every year: 'These were the best games Ever!' but in all honesty this was certainly a great day for all concerned. With a small increase of people through the door, the raffle making a very good profit and orchid sales well up, our big effort with street sign advertising seems to have worked.

We wish to thank....

WEEKEND GARDENER MAGAZINE for the donation of a year's subscription (1st Prize),

JOHN CAIRNS for the beautiful deep red Cymbidium (2nd Prize) and

MARTEN VAN GEEST for the huge Phalaenopsis (3rd prize).

These donations made our raffle very successful indeed.

Winners of the raffle (drawn at 4pm by Show Marshal and Patron) are: **1st Kelvin Yong** (HOS), **2nd Chui Tse** (HOS), and **3rd Mrs Wilson** (Wellington)

We wish to **thank all the helpers** in every area for their huge effort under pressure for the amazing job they did from set up, judging, opening and final pack up. I was amazed at the amount of beautiful food donated by all our ladies and their dedication to keeping the supply of nourishment going throughout Friday and Saturday. The plant sales staff was run off their feet, and I feel for the security people manning the doors all day long without complaint. Others were involved in talking to the public, writing up certificates, door entry, raffle and many others jobs in the background too numerous to mention. Special thanks again to Anton our Show Marshal for the beautiful layout and meticulous eye for detail including the last minute rearrangement of benched plants to ensure that every orchid flower was exhibited to its best potential. The eye level arrangement of the benches was a great idea. We had nothing but praise from the public and orchid growers about our layout and exhibition.

I was personally very pleased to see our newer members getting stuck in and helping out far beyond expectations.

We have 4 new members already, another renewal and hope to have a few more soon with a lot of interest shown by many people.

There was a very good article in 'The Times' after the show featuring Brian Main and his award winning Grand Champion of the show.

CONGRATULATIONS to all Trophy and Certificate Winners at our show. A list of trophy winners is published later. **Michelle Tung** was awarded a Cultural Certificate for her Dryadella. **Brian Main** (Phalaenopsis) and **Ron Maunder** (Masdevallia) both received Awards of Merit

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NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to **Rhonda** Anderson (Howick), Dr & Mrs **B M** Karunaratne, **Pearl** Tan (Hwk) and **Linda** McCready (Royal Oak). All joined as a result of the show.

EDITOR'S COMMENT I was so run off my feet at the show (along with many others) I never got time to take any photos. But never mind our **competition photos** will be up on the board for judging at the November meeting and this will not be an easy task.

I was particularly **impressed** this year with the quality of plants on our sales table. Despite a few murmurs about some unnamed orchids our primary objective here is to have enough plants for the public to buy. Without question the first place the 'stampede' heads for is the sales area and this year we offered very high quality flowering orchids at extremely competitive prices, which was commented on by many of the buyers. In fact the number sold exceeded all expectations.

The other comment I heard was 'why don't we have a 2 day show?' Even though we are now a good sized, profitable and very active society our main concern is for our members. We are not driven by profits even though we make a substantial one; we don't have access to more sale plants on the 2nd day; there is no reason in our opinion to have a 2nd day as we achieve what we set out to do on one day and more importantly we think our members do **more than enough** over set up and show day as it is.

The 27 who shared dinner at the Chinese restaurant afterwards had a very enjoyable evening. Although service was a little slow (we clashed with a festival), the food was plentiful, great and at \$11 a head approx. who could ask for more. Judicious seating arrangements ensured we had all languages and dialects covered at the 2 tables!

Wanda's dishwasher quit working so she called a repairman. Since she had to go to work the next day, she told the repairman, 'I'll leave the key under the mat. Fix the dishwasher, leave the bill on the counter, and I'll mail you a check.'

'Oh, by the way don't worry about my dog, Spike. He won't bother you. But, whatever you do, do NOT, under ANY circumstances, talk to my parrot!' 'I REPEAT; DO NOT TALK TO MY PARROT!'

When the repairman arrived at Wanda's apartment the following day, he discovered the biggest, meanest looking dog he had ever seen. But, just as she had said, the dog just lay there on the carpet watching the repairman go about his work.

The parrot, however, drove him nuts the whole time with his incessant yelling, cursing and name calling.

Finally the repairman couldn't contain himself any longer and yelled, 'Shut up, you stupid, ugly bird!'

To which the parrot replied, 'Get him, Spike!'

CULTURE: Goodness, just when we thought it was spring the central NI gets the biggest snowfall in 20years with temperatures plummeting in Auckland too, even Michelle was cold. This is where your orchids can suffer if you have recently watered, as the roots will be wet and cold. You can also run into problems with newly purchased plants which may have come from warmer growing conditions. Introduce them to your conditions gradually.

As usual I along with others were 'grilled' by the public about culture at the show but rather than giving free lessons to them and going home hoarse I now tell them that the price of one decent plant can be more than our membership fee where you can learn how **not to kill** your investment. Orchid growing is not learnt over night and if you are growing a few different genera all requiring different treatment then it can be a life long task. But going by the number and very good plants displayed by our novice growers this year we must be doing something right.

PLANTS ON DISPLAY (Oct meeting)

Unfortunately I wasn't given able to track the cards down in time for the newsletter.

CLASS WINNERS AT SHOW

- Class 2. 1st W & M Lo (Cym. Sarah Jean 'Ena Langdale'); 2nd Tris Wakelin (Cym. Sarah Jean 'sprite'); 3rd Tris Wakelin (Sarah Jean 'Crystal Falls).
- Class 4. 1st G. Leafberg (Cym. Khaipour Gosford x Last Tango); 2nd K & C Tse (Cym. Night Passage); 3rd J. Cairns (Cym. Redsox x Last Tango).
- Class 6. 1st J. Duff (Cym. Bulbarrow 'Friar Tuck'); 2nd M. Hughes (Cym. Square Dancer).
- Class 7. 1st D. Chuah (Cym. Kiri Te Kanawa); 2nd C & J Bensemman (Cym. Unknown).
- Class 8. 1st J. Cairns (Cym. Mighty May); 2nd C & J Bensemman (unknown); 3rd M. Hughes (Anna Szarbo).
- Class 10. 1st J. Cairns (Cym. Sunshine Falls 'Green Fantasy').
- Class 12. J. Duff (Cym. Miss Muffet)
- Class 13. 1st B. Calder (Blc. Mildred Hollingsworth); 2nd B. Meredith (C. Picasso x Lynn Spencer); 3rd B. Calder (Lc. Desert Jewel).
- Class 14. 1st L. Cobb (Slc. Hazel Boyd 'Elizabeth'); 2nd P. Forde (Slc. Jillian Lee x Pot. Free Spirit); 3rd B. Calder (Sc. Cherry Sundae).
- Class 15. 1st F. Winter (Lc. Trick or Treat); 2nd G. MacCrae (Sl. Isabelle Stone); 3rd B. Calder (Lc. Trick or Treat).
- Class 16. 1st B. Main (Phal. Etherege Firefly xx Shirley Vance x Verlaine); 2nd B. Main (Phal Callum's Carnival x Brecico Snow Puff); 3rd B. Main (Phal. Mushine Moon)
- Class 17. 1st B Main (Phal. Etherege Princess); 2nd B. Main (Etherege Princess); 3rd B. Everson (Unknown)
- Class 18. 1st A & J Wehman (Phal Dou-dii Rose x Ching Ruey Sika Deer); 2nd B. Main (Chain Xen Pearl x Fusheng Beauty); 3rd B. Main (Living Gold x Maki Watanabe).
- Class 19. 1st A & J Wehman (Phal. Etherege Pink x equestris); 2nd G. MacCrae (Ho's Dream Jade x Sogo Circus).
- Class 20. 1st A. Day (Odcdm. Tiger Butter); 2nd A. Day (Oda Aloette x Shelley Anne); 3rd A. Day (Odm. Anna Claire).
- Class 21. 1st M. Tung (Oda. Sale x Odm. Nobile); 2nd E. Kitcher (Odm. Summit).
- Class 22. 1st A. Day (Odcdm. Golden Grower); 2nd A Day (Oda. Ryoko Miyamoto); 3rd E. Kitcher (Odcdm. Tiger Glow).
- Class 23. 1st A. Day (Odm. Midnight Miracles); 2nd R. Maunder (Odm. bictoniense x ramosissiman); 3rd G & M. Poffley (Onc. Sum Lai Woh).
- Class 24. 1st W & M Lo (Paph. Island Way); 2nd House of Orchids (Paph. Venus Hold x Alma Gevaet); 3rd W & M Lo (Zealandia).
- Class 26. 1st R. Maunder (Masd. Eloise Harper); 2nd G. Leafberg (Masd. falcata); 3rd R. Maunder (Masd. coccinea 'Geyserland').
- Class 27. K. Morse (Masd Tuakau Candy); 2nd M. Tung (Rubicon); 3rd K. Morse (Fraseri).
- Class 28. 1st G. Leafberg (Den Tees); 2nd P. Forde (Cheryl's Glory); 3rd A & J Wehman (Harold Hirsch x Louises Rainbow).
- Class 29. 1st K. Morse (Den Penny Ann); 2nd House of Orchids (Sarah Jane); 3rd A & J Wehman (Yodi x kingianum).
- Class 30. 1st F. Winter (Den. Naomi's Pride); 2nd G & M Poffley (You Beaut x kingianum); 3rd W & M Lo (Starbright Corona)
- Class 31. 1st P. Forde (Den. Golden Arch)
- Class 32. 1st B & L Westlake (Den. Malones); 2nd A & J. Wehman (unknown); 3rd A & J Wehman (moniliforme x virginalis).

- Class 33. W & M Lo (Den. Paradise Gerli); 2nd A McKernan (Kuniko); 3rd T. Wakelin (Pukekura).
- Class 34. 1st J. Duff (Den linguiforme); 2nd P. Forde (kingianum cross); S. Moore (primulinum).
- Class 35. 1st g. Leafberg (Den Bingo); 2nd Name not recorded (Bardo Rose).
- Class 36. 1st K. Rimmer (Sarco. Dove x Heidi); 2nd House of Orchids (Velvet x hartmannii); 3rd S. Moore (Carnival).
- Class 37. 1st G. Leafberg (Sarco. falcatus); 2nd A & J Wehman (ceciliae); 3rd G. Leafberg (weinthalii).
- Class 38. B. Calder (Lyc. Rakuoku Omega); 2nd B. Calder (Lyc. Lassioglossa x Vulcan); 3rd S. Moore (Summer Sangria).
- Class 39. 1st Leroy Orchids (Coel. mooreana); 2nd K & C Tse (Angm. Sesquipedale); 3rd D. Church (Ada keiliana).
- Class 40. 1st M. Tung (Dryadella zebrina); 2nd A McKernan (Arppy giganteum); 3rd Dend. glumaceum).
- Class 41. 1st J. Duff (Coel. cristata var. alba); 2nd M. Tung (Gsl. Pure Yellow); 3rd B & L Westlake (Coel. cristata var. alba).
- Class 42. 1st B. Main (Pha. Hsinying Earthquake x equestris); 2nd M. Hughes (Cym. May Hopcraft x Miss Muffet); 3rd M. Hughes (Cym. Valley Rajah x Claudona xx Miss Muffet).
- Class 43. M & A Roffey (Cym. unknown); 2nd Lee Stone (unknown); 3rd M & A Roffey (Loch Birnie).
- Class 45. 1st L. Stone (Wils. Hida Plumtree).
- Class 46. 1st J. Jamieson (Den Cheryl's Glory); 2nd K & L Caldwell (Den unknown).
- Class 47. 1st K & L Caldwell (Phal. Etherege Princess); 2nd N. Streater (unknown); 3rd N. Streater (unknown).
- Class 48. 1st L. Stone (Coel. cristata var. alba); 2nd L. Stone (Coel. flaccida).
- Class 49. 1st L. Stone (Masd. Misfit); 2nd J. Jamieson (Zygo unknown).

LAST MEETING was the prize giving. After Tea Anton gave a report on the show followed by the presentation of Trophies by our Patron Alf Day. At the start of the meeting Alf was in his element taking us through the steps of deciding which orchid to grow, where to grow it and how to grow it. Maps of the cooler orchid growing areas backed this up. A most interesting and informative talk from Alf.

The final part of the prize giving was the awarding of a seedling plant (good size Phalaenopsis) to all HOS members who exhibited at the show. (Last day for pick up next meeting)

What happens if you get scared half to death, twice?

RESEARCH

Dryadella zebrina was exhibited by Michelle at our show and was awarded a Cultural Award. For those who do not know about these awards, the judges agree them during the judging. For this one the plant must exhibit excellent culture in both flowering and plant growth. The plant must be generally free from blemishes, damage, insects, and disease and not be overly groomed. With small plants, in this case very dark foliage and small flowers on short stems it could have been easily overlooked. But with excellent lighting and the plant benched at eye level it was a deserved winner. With approx. 80 flowers on such a small plant this was exceptional.

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.

RAFFLE: Another good number of draws thanks to the generosity of our members. 1st prize went to a new member this month.

Change is inevitable, except from vending machines.

NEW MEMBERS CULTURE:

As mentioned previously the important tasks now are to research any new plants you have acquired this year to learn what conditions they prefer. I **always** as a matter of course **repot** EVERY new orchid purchase, as it may not be in a mix that suits your watering regime. It may be in a mix that has broken down, possibly 'over potted' or need potting into a larger pot.

As mentioned at the meeting those that have a Phally in **sphagnum** should be especially **careful** over winter or cooler periods if you do not have a heated house and this means not below 20 deg. most days and nights except for short periods.

Watering should be more frequent now that the days are warmer and new growths are starting. High Nitrogen fertilizer is preferable at this time of the year.

NEW LIBRARY LISTINGS

A new book on Lycastes has been added to the collection. See Michelle for details.

And don't forget to catch up with our cousins across the ditch by reading the Australian Orchid Review, which is now subscribed to by the society.

TROPHY LIST HOS Show Oct 09

Lady Stevenson Cup: Brian Main	GRAND CHAMPION OF SHOW
Val Bayliss Cup: John Cairns	CHAMPION CYMBIDIUM
Alice Shirley Memorial Trophy: John Cairns	CHAMPION STD CYMBIDIUM
Howickville Rosebowl: Julie Duff	CHAMPION INT. CYM.
Frost Trophy: William & Man Lo	CHAMPION MINI CYM.
Moya Younghusband Tray: Ken Morse	MOST DECORATIVE PLANT
Scholes Cup: Brian Main	FIRST FLOWERING SEEDLING
Iris & George Jones Trophy: Frank Winter	CHAMPION CATTLEYA
O'Connor Trophy: Brian Main	BEST PHALAENOPSIS
Anne Marie Orchids Cup: Alf Day	BEST ODONTOGLOSSUM ALLIANCE
Howickville Cup: William & Man Lo	BEST PAPHIOPEDILUM
Walker Cup: Ron Maunder	BEST MASDEVALLIA
Ratcliffe Cup: Frank Winter	BEST AUSTRALIAN SPECIES/HYBRID
Arnold Jolly Memorial Trophy: B & L Westlake	BEST NOBILE TYPE DENDROBIUM
Betty & Harry Tomlin Cup: Michelle Tung	BEST SPECIES
Concord Trophy: Michelle Tung	CULTURAL EXCELLENCE not Cym
Borough of Howick Trophy: Maurice Roffey	BEST STD CYM. - NOVICE
Howick Orchid Soc. Trophy: Lee Stone	BEST INT. CYM. - NOVICE
Norm Gibbs Trophy: Not presented	BEST MINI CYM. - NOVICE
Solona Cup: K & L Caldwell	BEST OTHER GENERA - NOVICE
Larsen Cup: Not presented	BEST CULTURE - BEGINNERS
Cooper Cup: Not presented	BEST FLORAL ART ENTRY - OPEN
Margaret Earnest Trophy: Not presented	BEST FLORAL ART - NOVICE

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