

NEWSLETTER

Sept. 2006

NEXT MEETING Sun 15th Oct. 2006 at 1.30 pm

No library this meeting

SPEAKER: Our Patron **Alf Day** will entertain us in his usual manner on a subject of his choice. This is our annual prize giving for our show held last month and you may also receive a new seedling to add to your collection if you exhibited at the show and meet all the eligibility requirements.

LAST MEETING Roy Neale gave us some very useful tips on fertilising and growing your Cymbidiums with flowering in mind. To summarise his talk remember the following:

- (a) Start fertilising Aug/Sept with quarter strength feed. (Very weak)
 - (b) Gradually increase the strength over the next 8 - 10 weeks.
 - (c) Maintain your fertilising over the summer at full strength and give them a good wash down fortnightly.
 - (d) Encourage autumn growths by giving a watering of dried blood solution at the end of Feb.
- Cymbidiums will **ONLY FLOWER** on new growths initiated in the autumn. The bulbs require 8 months to mature and they will then flower at the correct time of the year. Spring growths are not flowering ones.

Anton will bring his CF meter to our club days for testing your mix. This can be done before the meeting starts or at afternoon tea break.

Don't give a strong dose of fertiliser to plants that have not been built up to accept it. Leaf drop or black leaf tips could be an indication of too strong fertiliser at the wrong time.

Now that you have all the information needed to get the best out of them we expect to see many Cymbidiums in flower for our show next year.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENT - THE HOS ANNUAL ONE DAY SHOW

There is only one word to describe this year's show – FANTASTIC!

It was a superb effort by all and a big thanks to everyone that put in a huge effort in numerous ways to make this one of our best shows for a long time. Everything went like clockwork, the set up, benching, sales area, refreshments, transport, judging and the display itself. With 378 paying public through the door, a massive number of plant sales and very high raffle ticket sales we should all be smiling. I was particularly pleased with the relaxed and friendly atmosphere that was evident for the whole day and I'm sure everyone who visited enjoyed the show.

A more detailed report including **Trophy** and **Class** winners will be published next month.

RAFFLE WINNERS :
1st (Cymbidium) **Mary Love** (Cockle Bay),
2nd (Phal) **Beryl Beauchamp** (Howick), 3rd (Hamper) **D. Green** (Pakuranga).

RAFFLE: Thanks to all those that donated plants last month. We do appreciate your generosity. Top prize of the yellow Cymbidium (purchased from Roy) was won by a visitor so lets hope she brings it back next year in flower to prove she indeed took note of his talk. Roy picked up second prize so had to make do with a club Dendrobium in bud (unsold competition one).

WELCOME to NEW MEMBERS – Jason Young (Sunrae Orchids), Lois & Keith Caldwell.

PLANT COMPETITION UPDATE: 3 more plants in flower were brought to the last meeting and all looked very good. Consultation with our Dendrobium expert Grahame Leafberg has resulted in Pam Forde being awarded a prize for the best flower and the other 2 brought along (John Muddiman and Margaret Phair) will also receive a gift.

No further prizes will be awarded this year for the competition plants.

President/Editor: Glenn Poffley Ph. 534 8689
Treasurer: Jackie Wee 250 4218

Secretary: Janet Wehman Ph. 537 1251
Vice Pres. Anton Wehman Ph. 537 1251

AUCKLAND ORCHID CLUB Show was held over 3 days at Henderson. HOS members erected a large display and with approx. 60+ orchids it was probably the largest ever done. We went for a blaze of colour and certainly were successful in this regard. The layout was kept open for ease of access and judging and also displayed the flowers to their best advantage. The theme 'Orchids for all Seasons' was interpreted by grouping the flowers in 4 main colour sections and we were fortunate having plenty to choose from.

Our display came 2nd in the society section and individual results follow.

Thanks to Julie, Michelle, Paul, Kathy, Manee and Glenn with transport, plants, props and setup. Also thanks to Jim & Chris Bensemman, Anton & Janet Wehman, Pam Forde and Len Cobb for many plants displayed. Len as always provided the very attractive artwork, which helped to set off the display.

NOVICE

Kathy Rimmer: 1st Cl. 60 Den. Others (Pukekura), 2nd Cl. 59 Aust. Den. (Colonial Surprise x Cheryl's Glory), 3rd Cl. 59 Aust. Den. (Harold Hirsch x Louise's Rainbow).

OPEN

Glenn & Manee: Chandler Cup Best Odont. Alliance (*Oda*. Sheila Hands '101'), 1st Cl. 38 Odont. or Oda. (Sheila Hands), 1st Cl. 50 Specimen (*Paph*. Hellas x Personella), 2nd Cl. 4 Mini Cym. Other colour (Malpasso Creek 'Cream Caramel').

Manee Poffley: 1st Floral Art Cl. 68 (Autumn Glory), 1st Floral Art Cl. 69 (High Summer).

Julie Duff: 1st Cl. 2 Mini Cym. Red (Fairy Rouge 'Lavender Falls'), 2nd Cl. 1 Mini Cym. White/green (Sarah Jean 'Sprite'), 3rd Cl. 2 Mini Cym. Red (Fairy Rouge 'Lavender Falls').

Pam Forde: 1st Cl. 53 Species (*Coel. cristata* var. alba), 2nd Cl. 5 Int. Cym. White/green (Fair Dancer 'Purity'), 3rd Cl. 38 Odont. or Oda (*Odm.* Golden Filigree x (*Oda*. Shelley x *Odm.* Somelle)).

Jim & Chris Bensemman: 1st Cl. 17 Cat. Under 60mm (*Soph. grandiflora*).

Michelle Tung: 2nd Cl. 51 Hybrid others (*Lyc. skinneri* x Auburn 'Black Knight').

CULTURE: Spring has finally arrived so now is the time to start your watering and fertilising programme. Hopefully you will have remembered all the advice from speakers, relevant chapters from the books in our library, hints from the newsletter or just chatting with other growers. The main thing is to start off weak and gradually increase the strength as the year progresses. (See summary of Roy's talk - applies to most genera) Repotting of orchids is generally undertaken in the spring so you should be underway now with those which have finished flowering. Don't leave flower spikes on longer than needed, especially younger or weak plants, which will be debilitated by expending so much energy maintaining a flower spike.

NZOS SPRING SHOW

A new approach was taken to enhance the display by removing all the class numbers and ribbons immediately after judging. The plants of similar genera were then shifted a little so that they were lumped together making the whole layout look like a selection of displays. This suited not only the judging where it is preferable to have plants of the same class together but also from the public's viewpoint who prefer to see displays rather than formalized benching. Overall the layout was very pleasing and suited everyone.

The 3 Howick members who exhibited did very well especially Pam and Julie who came away with 2 trophies each!

Pam Forde: **NZOS Cup** for best Dendrobium (Cheryl's Glory), **Taylor Trophy** for best species (*Soph. grandiflora*).

1st Cl. 40 Aust. Den. red/pink (Cheryl's Glory), 1st Cl. 73 Species over 150mm (*Coel. cristata* 'alba'), 1st Cl. 72 Species under 150 (*Soph. grandiflora*), 2nd Cl. 72 (*Onc. cheiroporum*).

Julie Duff: **Frank Brjjevich Trophy** for best Miniature Cym. (Fairy Rouge 'Lavender Falls'), **Molly Clark Trophy** for Best Int. Cym. (Bulbarrow 'Friar Tuck'), 1st Cl. 28 Mini Cym. brown/red/pink Fairy Rouge 'Lavender Falls'), 1st Cl. 24 Int. Cym. other colours (Bulbarrow 'Friar Tuck'), 1st Cl. 37 Den.

kingianum type white (Kingstar x(Penny Rose x Blushing Rose)) , 3rd Cl. 63 Pleurothallid Alliance over 100mm (Masd. Annemarie).

Glenn & Manee: 1st Cl. 68 Specimen (*Den.* Hewitt Glow), 1st Cl. 48 *Sarcochilus* species (*hartmanii* 'Red Heart' x 'The Globe'), 2nd Cl. 57 *Phalaenopsis* white with spots/stripes (Stone Pinto), 3rd Cl. 68 Specimen (*Den. speciosum*), 3rd Cl. 43 Aust. *Den. speciosum* type (*Den. speciosum*).

PLANTS ON DISPLAY (Sept. meeting)

Another amazing display with the Novice section being particularly impressive.

OPEN SECTION

Lea & Bryce Westlake: *Den. aemulum*, *Den. speciosum*, *Den.* Hewitt Glow.

Pam Forde: *Den.* Starbright Corona, *Den.* Harold Hirsch x Louise's Rainbow, *Coelogyne cristata* var. alba, *Odm.* Golden Filigree x (*Oda.* Shelley x *Odm.* Somelle), *Odm.* Holiday Gold, *Soph. grandiflora*, *Onc. cheirophorum*.

Len Cobb: *L. purpurata* x *C. labiata*, *Masd. veitchiana*, *C.* Dark Eyes x *Blc.* Bryce Canyon, *Cym.* unknown.

Michelle Tung: *Dryadella zebrina*, *Pleione formosana* 'Cutie', *C. intermedia* x *Lc.* Trick or Treat, *Lc.* Mabarina x Katytrue 'Coburg Sunset'.

Glenn & Manee: *Cym. tracyanum* 'Robin Freckles', *Den. speciosum*, *Den.* Mae Klong River x Dal's Dazzler, *Coel. cristata*.

Anton & Janet Wehman: *Cym.* Dolly 'Armstrong'*, *Den.* Harold Hirsch x Louise's Rainbow, *Phal.* Bedford Pixie*.

Grahame Leafberg: *Calanthe Doge* 'Theadora', *Soph. coccinea*, *Den.* Glen Star x Star of Gold, *Den.* Colonial Maid, *Soph. rosea*, *Slc.* Angel's Fantasy, *Den.* Burgandy Bride 'Dell' x Hilda Poxon 'Red Star'.

Ron Reeves: *Den. aemulum*, *Hapalochilus nitidum*, *Coel.* (*species*).

Margaret Phair: *Den.* Harold Hirsch x Louise's Rainbow.

Terry Thompson: *Slc.* Hazel Boyd 'Apricot Glow'

NOVICE SECTION

Margaret Johnson: *Cym.* unknown.

Verna Latif: *Den. speciosum*

Christina Chi: *Cym.* Bagdemagus 'Paul Miller', *Cym.* Atlantic Crossing 'The Globe' x Red Panther 'Rajah's Glory'.

Dieu Tran: *L.* Santa Barbara Sunset 'Tuakau'.

John Muddiman: *Den.* Myaki, *Cym.* Coraki *, *Den.* Harold Hirsch x Louise's Rainbow, *Paph.* unknown.

Josc. Jamieson: *Den.* Bardo Rose.

John Sheppard: *Cym.* Minnikin x Pink Tower.

Paul Yap: *Den.* Gillean Leaney x Black Mountain*.

RESULTS of POPULAR VOTE

(NB * update name please)

OPEN: 1st **Pam** (*Soph.*), 2nd **Michelle** (*Cat.*), 3rd **Len** (*Cat.*).

NOVICE: 1st **Margaret** (*Cym.*), 2nd = **Josc.** (*Den.*) & **John Muddiman** (*Cym.*), 3rd **Christina** (*Cym.*).

With so many plants the Commentary was shared between Roy Neale (*Cyms.*), Grahame Leafberg (*Dens.*), Len Cobb (*Cattleyas* and others).

With so many members present it was disappointing to see that only half voted in the popular vote.

When the voting is so close (4 for second and 3 votes for third) your vote can make a big difference.

LOST PLANT! At the last meeting someone inadvertently picked up and took home a *Cymbidium* (no flower and near the piano) that Pam purchased from Glenn at the meeting. It has a plastic knife label and it would be appreciated if this could be returned.

COMING EVENTS

(For other shows around the country check out OCNZ web site)

HOS Club days: 12TH NOV. (Peter Elfleet on Masdevallias) 10TH DEC. (**Xmas** get together)