



NEWSLETTER of the HOWICK ORCHID SOCIETY Inc.

Sept. 2010

NEXT is our show on Sun 09th Oct. 2010

7.45am for stewards.

NEXT MEETING after the SHOW is Prize Giving on 24th Oct.

Our Speaker is Patron Alf Day who will give us his perspective of the International Orchid Extravaganza held in Palmerston North. Photos will be shown of show.

THE HOWICK ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW on Sat. 09 OCT. Open to public from 10am to 4pm, entry \$4. HOS members and exhibitors free. (Set up Frid 08 Oct. from 11am)

HOS SHOW

As usual it is time to remind you all about our **BIG** event of the year.

Don't be shy; bring your orchids even if you don't expect to win any prizes. It is a display and we need your flowers so the public has something to see and interest them.

Remember we have a small **gift** for HOS members who exhibit at our show.

Pick up a **schedule** and check the classes for your plants. If in doubt please ask.

Read the class descriptions and note the changes from previous years.

If you have any surplus orchid plants bring them for the **sales** table. They must have sales tickets attached and a master sheet for the sales table assistants.

Please ensure all **display** plants are **tagged** with your name and an **entry card** filled out with your **name** and **class** number on it. HOS members please write '**HOS**' in top right corner.

We will require help setting up and dismantling the hall so please indicate if you can help.

Other helpers are required on the show day as stewards for the judges, placing prize cards, and many other tasks. Come along and have a fun day.

Please note that during judging only those directly involved with this or helping as required are permitted in the hall.

During the show members are invited to 'mix and mingle' with the public to help encourage people to join our society and discuss the plants on show.

If you have taken a **poster** make sure it is displayed in a prominent public position somewhere in your area, such as a shop window, hall, community centre etc.

BEWARE of the parking wardens near the hall! (Read the signs)

IMPORTANT - please take note

There will be a purchase **limit of 6 plants per person** (any orchid club member only) from the sales table on the Friday before show opens.

The sales table will **NOT** be open for any sales **before 10am** on the Saturday.

There are no sales of orchid plants permitted in other areas of the hall or the carpark.

There will be no plants put aside for purchase during the show unless paid for immediately.

PHOTO COMPETITION: Photos will be displayed at the show. Competition closes Nov.

PLANTS ON DISPLAY (Sept. meeting)

Compiled & printed by **Michelle**

(NOTE * change of label recommended) Incorrect spelling or a new name of a registered hybrid.

OPEN

Grahame Leafberg: *Cym. lowianum* 'concolor', *Den.* Aussie Love x *speciosum*.

Pam Forde: *Cym.* One Tree Hill 'Waikanae Canary', *Sc.* Fire Magic 'Solar Flare',
Den. (Yondi x Lynette Banks) x *gracillimum*, *Den.* Andrew Persson*,
Den. speciosum 'Sunsprite', *Phal.* unknown.

John Muddiman: *Phal.* Golden Peokor, *Phal.* Sogo 'Red Ruby'.

John Sheppard: *Masd.* Falcata 'Golden Talisman', *Masd.* Bocking Hybrid 'L & R'.

William & Man Lo: *Paph.* Zealandia, *Coel. cristata*, *Phal.* ? Anthura New Delhi,
Dtps. Leopard Prince, *Den. goldschmidtianum*, *Cym.* Ruby Eyes 'Cascade',
Z. James Strauss.

Francis Henrich / Ros MacKay: *C.* Undine*(registered grex), *C.* Betty Webb* 'Lacette'

Anton & Janet: *Sarco. aequalis**, *Den.* (Tania's Pride x *kingianum*),

Den. King Wong 'Big Foot'.

Novice

Winsome Webster: One unknown orchid, *Bletilla striata*.

Alan Robinson: *Den.* Tawhai 'Gold', *Den. delicatum* var. *kestevii*, *Phal.* unknown.

Novelty

Man and William Lo: *Ddc. glumaceum*

Lea & Bryce Westlake: *Den. aemulum*

POPULAR VOTE

OPEN: 1st Pam (*Phal*), 2nd John (*Phal.* Sogo), 3rd William & Lo (*Paph*).

NOVICE: 1st Alan (*Den.* Tawhai 'Gold'), 2nd Alan (*Phal*), 3rd Winsome (*Ble.*).

NOVELTY: 1st Lea & Bryce (*Den*), 2nd Man & William (*Ddc*).

A very interesting commentary was given by Grahame.

Plant of the month (picked by Grahame) was Pam's Cattleya.

? Note the Phalaenopsis Anthuras (and others) are only a trade name not a registered name.

Some of the orchids sold in retail shops by commercial nurseries do not have their breeding disclosed for obvious reasons. These are usually selected varieties that are mericloned then mass produced for the pot plant trade and sold world wide.

NORITO HASEGAWA was the guest speaker at the **CSA evening seminar** held recently which was very well attended including 10 from HOS, a great response. What an interesting and entertaining person, even if you didn't know the first thing about Paphs I'm sure everyone was pleased they went just to hear his humorous stories and see his beautiful slides. CSA put on a lovely supper and the auction of plants and flasks afterwards was the usual fun event with people going away with some excellent purchases (even if they really didn't need any more). Possibly sitting next to Norito during the auction and getting the 'inside running' on the breeding was enough to sway my mind enough to buy yet another flask to adorn the kitchen bench waiting for that elusive spring weather. John Muddiman is also now a convert to Paphs having won one in the raffle. Michelle stuck to Cymbidiums and with some clever bidding obtained probably the best plant on offer for possibly the lowest price paid on the night. CSA is deserved a big thanks for organizing such a great night out.

OBITUARY - MABEL TEAL

Last month our most senior and one of our longest active members Mabel Teal passed away having reached the age of 101. Mabel was a most gracious and humble lady who cherished her orchids right up until her last days. After over 50 years of growing orchids she still had a selection displayed at the Baptist Rest home where she was in residence for only about 6 months having lived in her own home up until then. Mabel was a generous person always willing to let us have her flowering plants to display at shows where they often won certificates. As she reduced her collection many good plants were donated as raffle prizes or to our annual auction where they commanded good prices. Mabel particularly liked Paphs and was still buying them only last year at the Orchid Fair.

We learnt a lot more about Mabel at the funeral where her large family celebrated her long and fruitful life with a photo-montage showing us just how interesting it had been.

We will all miss her, her sense of humour, the twinkle in her eye and of course her love of gardening and orchids. Mabel was an inspiration to all, never one to give up, always making the most of what she had and a never-ending zest for life and all things beautiful.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Gary Cooke** on winning the John Easton Award for services to the Orchid community. Gary has done a lot of work over many years for NZOS and Waitakere OS.

Before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them, you're a mile away and you have their shoes.

NZOS SHOW was also held this month, in fact 2 days after we got home from Palmerston North it was off to the club meeting Wednesday night, benching Thursday, judging Friday, the CSA seminar Saturday and pack up Sunday! And some say it is just a hobby.

On Thursday I was quite amazed to see no other than our world famous guest speaker busily carrying heavy planks of wood around helping to set up the show. He was in attendance most days where no doubt he was grilled about Paphs or orchids in general but even this wasn't enough to deter his enthusiasm as at closing time he was seen sweeping the hall. Norito has certainly left a lasting impression with all who met him and enjoyed his company.

I don't usually publish results from other shows where we haven't put on a display but it is worth noting **Pam Forde** won 2 Cattleya Trophies (Best Cattleya and best miniature Cattleya) and **John Muddiman** won the Best Phalaenopsis Trophy. Pam's plant was also awarded an HCC/NZOS. A great effort from our members.

NEW MEMBERS: Welcome to **Lea Jooste** (Beachlands).

Odd that when a house burns down, the only things left standing are the chimney and the fireplace.

LAST MEETING: Anton and Len gave a very interesting talk and slides of simple but effective home growing areas and techniques employed by some of our members. It needn't be too expensive or elaborate to keep your orchids here in Auckland, the main requirement is shelter from the winter rain.

LIBRARY: This will be back in action next meeting. Please ensure you have the books out for only 1 month at a time. Check out 3 new books, Classic Cattleyas, Moth Orchids, Flora's orchids.

EDITOR'S COMMENT

The Orchid Extravaganza in Palmerston North is still the hot topic for discussion amongst all orchid enthusiasts NZ wide. It was certainly a wonderful event having huge support from orchid societies from as far south as Otago to the Bay of Islands in the north. Even after spending all of the opening day at the show I still missed a lot as there was literally too much to take in all at once. I was impressed by the sheer effort put into the displays by members and commercial growers alike. Some were huge, transport of the props and plants must have been a logistic nightmare. There was every imaginable orchid there if you looked hard enough. The sales area was another source of interest with some overseas vendors selling flasks plus many local growers selling a variety of orchids and a few other products including daffodils. The venue was easily accessible near the centre of the city and there was ample free parking.

There were some magnificent quilts displayed and the national Daffodil competition was displayed over the weekend so there was something for everyone.

Our own display was successful in terms of what we were trying to achieve although we could possibly have done with a few more plants of specific colours. The only problem would have been getting them there. The theme for our display was 'Islands of the Gulf' with the tall feature of Rangitoto in the centre. We learnt a lot from this show and all our team are keen to try something new and exciting at the next big show.

Out of the 59 plants entered for judging on our display we did very well with most receiving a certificate. There were other plants on our display not entered for judging.

Grahame Leafberg: 1st *Den. tetragonum* var. *cacatua* (Austr. Den species), 1st *Masdevallia caloptera* (Masdevallia multi flowered species), 1st *Den. teretifolium* (Austr. Species specimen), 2nd *S. acuensis* (Sophronitis species or hybrid), 2nd *Zygo. mackayi* x Alan Greatwood (Zygo hybrid), 2nd *Cym. Sarah Jean* x (Rod Stewart x Baltic Snow) (Int. Cymbidium white).

Michelle Tung: 2nd *C. Daniela* (Large Std. Cattleya Hybrid), 2nd *C. (Marriottiana x California Apricot)*, 2nd *Ddc. tenellum* 'Caribou Whiskers' (Dendrochilum species or Hybrid), 3rd *Ctt.* Pure Yellow (Cluster type Cattleya).

Glenn & Manee: 2nd *Zygo mackayi* (Zygo species), 3rd *Den. Pukekura* (Other Dendrobium Hybrids), 3rd *Den. speciosum* (Den. species speciosum), 3rd *Den. unknown* (Austr. Den. specimen plant), 3rd *Den. Berry* (Austr. Hybrid pink under 50), 3rd *Coel. Unchained Melody* (Coel. species/hybrid), 3rd *Phal. unknown* (Yellow Phal. 60-90).

Ken & Chui Tse: 3rd *Den. speciosum* (Den. speciosum specimen plant).

Lee Stone: 3rd *Wils. Hilda Plumtree* (Wilsonara any colour).

Lea & Bryce Westlake: 3rd *Onc. Sum Lai Woh* (Oncidium hybrid varicosum type).

Kathy Rimmer: 3rd *Den. kingianum* (Den. species kingianum any colour).

Martin Van Geest: 3rd *Phal. unnamed* (Phal. under 60).

Although **John Cairns'** 6 plants on our display did not receive any certificates some of his did very well on the Waikato display.

Glenn also received a 3rd place in the OCNZ photo competition.

We had a very enjoyable week away with everyone taking the opportunity to do some traveling around taking in the sights and atmosphere of the lower north island. In our case we spent 3 days in the sunny Wairarapa going way out east to Castle Point, south to Lake Wairarapa, the rugged and unique Cape Palliser at the southern most point of the north island and finally the daffodil festival in Carterton before returning to pack up.

With Auckland potentially hosting the BIG show in 2015 I really think a lot more of our members need to be growing more orchids as it is falling onto too few to provide plants for displays and shows always. When we saw what some of the smaller societies could manage it was very impressive. The number of plants on the Hawkes Bay display for instance was just amazing.

Have you ever wondered why psychics have to ask you your name?

CULTURE

With spring still just around the corner (I seem to be repeating myself each month) start fertilising with high Nitrogen fertilizer now. Start weak as you may burn tender new roots then gradually increase the strength as we go into summer, that way the plant will be able to take up the nutrients. If nights stay cool hold back on the water, if in doubt wait until new growth begins. Remember; your orchids need reasonable light to flower, they are not shade plants. But do not let them scorch during the hottest months or mid day sun. I have already repotted most of my Cymbidiums to give them a good start, now is a good time for repotting. These are very hardy plants and great ones for beginners.

The definition of a Beauty Parlour - A place where women curl up and dye.

RESEARCH

Sarcochilus orchids are now starting to make their presence felt as the warmer weather approaches. Usually they start flowering from spring reaching their peak in summer. One of the best shows to see these is at the North Shore Sarco. show held in November. Last year the hall was a sea of colour with some beautiful examples just covered in flowers. These Australians are easy to grow in Auckland with a little shade and a cool airy position. Some of the new hybrids come in many colours and combinations of colours. They make great specimen plants when they get larger, flowering freely on long arching spikes. They can be grown in pots or on slabs, even on rocks where they will climb over them very quickly.

I recommend these to new growers as long as you can keep them watered over summer. Always look for a well established plant as it should respond a lot quicker than a very small one. As usual do your research if you want the more desirable colours.

Wrinkles are something other people have, you have character lines.

FOOD glorious FOOD! Members are asked to bring a small plate of finger food on the Saturday morning to the Show for judges and helpers **before 9.30am** as it is a long day after an early start. We always endeavour to provide the Judges with a hearty morning tea.

COMING EVENTS

NOTE the **next newsletter** will not be until AFTER the October meeting on 24 Oct. so take note of all the events listed below or check your OCNZ year book.

Remember you must be in attendance at the Prize Giving to receive your gift if you benched at our show and are a current HOS member. There are no rain checks or pick-ups by others.

WOC club night on Tues 5th Oct will feature another Orchid Extravaganza speaker David Menzies from Scotland.

Orchid Fair again at K & R nursery Tuakau over Labour weekend.

North Shore Sarcochilus and other genera Show 6th & 7th Nov. St Annes Hall, corner Beach and Glencoe Rds Browns Bay.

HOS CLUB DAYS for 2010

24 Oct (4th Sun, Prize giving), 14 Nov (Auction), 12 Dec (Social).

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

Did you know that TOMORROW is one of the greatest labour saving devices of TODAY?