

AUCKLAND ORCHID CLUB BULLETIN

EDITOR: Mary Jones

8 May Ave. Te Atatu Sth. Ph/Fax (09) 834 6989 Email jonzie@paradise.net.nz

VOLUME 26 No. 01

JANUARY 2008

PRESIDENT: Roy Neale

SECRETARY: Pauline Weeks

174 Brigham Creek Rd, Hobsonville Ph(09) 416 6737

50 Gloria Ave, Te Atatu Pen. Ph (09) 834 3459



Ida *labelloviridis* was awarded a rare CBM (Certificate of Botanical Merit) at the Taranaki Summer Show for a well grown rare species. A species can only be awarded a CBM once in NZ.

MESSAGE OF THE MONTH

A very happy New Year to you all, I hope that this year will be a happy and productive one for you.

Some of us have lifestyle changes and overseas trips ahead so it will be a busy, but exciting time for us.

Our first show will be the Ribbon Show and BBQ which will be held this year on Sunday March 30th. Keep those prizewinners well watered and fed! The humidity in Auckland is very high at present so be very vigilant as botrytis can be a problem in the glass house and shade house.

Didn't we have a great Xmas party? It was a very relaxed and happy occasion for the 40 members attending, and for those who could not attend – you missed a wonderful evening. We had apologies from Merilyne Brown, Gary Cooke, David Forsythe, Betty Major and Peter C Elfleet.

Heather Cooke, Beryl Calder and Patrick Stepanic were unfortunately unwell and could not join us. We heard that Mavis Reidy, a very early club

club and committee member was ill and sadly has since passed away.

We have been invited by the new committee who are forming an alternative show to Ellerslie to take part in their inaugural show.

Whangarei Orchid Society, the President and members of the Bay of Islands Orchid Society and the Orchid Council of NZ all extended their congratulations for our success at the Ellerslie Flower Show and thanked us for promoting orchids and our clubs to the public.

Evelyn Ong has taken up the challenge to grow tomatoes from seed and has to photograph their progress monthly!

😊 Grahame Leafberg won plants on display for November and also won the grand prize for plants on display for the year. He was rewarded with a year's subscription to the Weekend Gardener magazine.

I read out a hilarious email from our Kim who moved to Oz last year – we do miss him!



The yummy hampers were won by Anjo McKernan, June Sutton, Mike Mason and Bernadette Edmiston. We made \$184.00 on the raffle. ED.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday February 5th 7.30pm

Lions Whitehouse

Our guest speaker will be Noel Townsley, who will give us a talk on native orchids in the Waitakere Ranges.

The trading table, plants on display and library will all be operating.

Please bring a small plate for supper which will be held during the evening.



Volunteers will be needed to vacuum the floor after the meeting.

TARANAKI SUMMER SHOW

The Taranaki Summer Orchid Display is usually held on the second weekend of January, at a time when there are no other orchid shows or meetings. It is the perfect opportunity to see plants that do not normally make it to most shows and meetings. For example, there were Thunias, Sobralias and Draculas, plus a few others that I have never seen before. The show also incorporates several society meetings, a Saturday dinner and a car boot sale. New Plymouth is the Disa growing capital of New Zealand, if not the world.

The summer display would not be complete without a big Disa display, and this year was no different. Having been for the last three years, it seems to me that breeders constantly come up with better flowers, and in a wider range colours. This time, the whites and pastel colours were a feature. George Fuller had a couple of displays, one on bark trials, and another on types of bark to grow Disa, Masdevallia and Pleiones. All the bark products (eg. 3FB - the 'waste' from the production of orchid bark, and aged No. 2) showed promising results. There are many advantages of using bark over moss, for example, cheaper, cleaner, comes from a renewable resource, and there is no need for annual re potting.

Eel worms infect a wide variety of plants. George showed what eel worm infection in orchids looked like in Cymbidiums and Pleiones, the symptoms show parallel dark lines along the veins of the leaves.

Eel worms are microscopic worms that tunnel inside the leaf blade. They are only able to eat the soft leaf tissue and work their way towards the tips between tough leaf veins. They spread through soil and along the undersides of wet leaves. At present there is no satisfactory control and plant hygiene is the best prevention.

The car boot display is one thing that is not to be missed when visiting the Taranaki Summer Show. There are lots of bargains to be had and plenty of unusual plants as well. Just ask Pauline Weeks about her "loot"!

The highlight of the weekend had to be the walk in the park. Pukekura Park is lit up at night and the lighting transforms it into something quite different altogether. It is quite hard to put into words the atmosphere of the park at night – best to experience it for yourself.

It was a very enjoyable weekend and if you have never been to this summer display, put aside the time to go next year.

Dennis Chuah

PLANTS ON DISPLAY

DISA

Disa Watsonii
Disa Glasgow Orchid Conference #
- Dennis Chuah

DRACULA

Drac bella
- Dennis Chuah

MASDEVALLIA

Masd coccinea 'L & R Giant'
- Dennis Chuah

Ken Morse brought along 15 stunning examples of his beautifully grown masdevallia's!

ODONTOCIDIUM

Odcdm Finleyanum
- Ken Morse

PAPHIOPEDILUM

Paph Vintner's Treasure x *esquirolei* #
-Ken Morse

PHALAEENOPSIS

Phal Haur Jin Diamond 'Maple Bridge' x Shanlin's Maki Stuart 'La Flora' (Can't verify, not on wildcat)

- Bev Meredith

SARCOCHILUS

Sarco Kathy x Fitzhart
- Ken Morse

SOPHROLAELIOCATTLEYA

Slc Lana Coryell x Lc Bethune. (lovely perfume!)

- Leroy Orchids

Slc Hazel Boyd 'Lizzie'



Happy February birthday to....

Honey Denyer and Sheila Peet.



from behind the shade house.....



Ross and Sue Crabb recently became grandparents for the first time to grandson Casey. Sue has the 'brag book' circulating!

Pauline went to the Taranaki Summer Show for the very first time. She said she was not going to buy plants or collect much driftwood. Guess who used up my basket space and had the huge bag full of driftwood!



Lee had a very touching moment at New Plymouth when she was presented with a birthday cake for her 60th!



Pam has had some wonderful house alterations done-looks very 'up market' !!!!

