

AUCKLAND ORCHID CLUB BULLETIN

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Congratulations to William and Man Lo who came first equal in the popular plant vote competition with *Den engae x bigibbum*.

AOC SPRING SHOW

Friday August 22nd - Sunday 24th

As you are all aware, our Spring Show this year is our club's 25th Anniversary. To celebrate this occasion we are planning a stunning show with a special guest speaker from Australia Murray Shergold.

Each year I have to ask for volunteers to help set up and generally help out at the show and each year I am bitterly disappointed at the response. It seems that the same faces show up and work tirelessly for the duration simply because the rest of our members are just not supporting the club. We desperately need your help.

Set up day is **Thursday Aug 21st** - 9.00am start-let us know if you can spare even an hour of your time, we need it!

Friday Aug 22nd – 8.00am Judging. (I know it is an early start). For the last 2 years we

have been extremely short of runners and other helpers for judging. This is not a hard job, but some of us last year were trying to do 2 or 3 jobs at the same time, not an ideal situation– so come on members-'**give us a hand!**'

We need every plant you have with a flower on it for displaying and also if you have plants to sell see Heather Cooke at the August meeting for tags for your plants.

The Flower Power will need greenery and 'filler flowers' so have a good look around your gardens and bring them along to the show.

Help on the BBQ to cook sausages.

Baking for morning teas etc is another request, date loaves, sausage rolls, for example always go down well.

A tour of duty on the door selling raffle tickets is a great way to meet new people and prospective members. I know that the door people last year had great fun!

Tickets for the Saturday night dinner will be available at the meeting for \$25 per person. This cost entitles you to a lot of other 'goodies' as well.

Let's get together this year at show time and have share the camaraderie we are so proud of.

TROPHIES

Please bring back the trophies you won last year, sparkling clean please, to the August meeting. If your are unable to come to the meeting make sure someone else brings them in for you.

NEXT MEETING
Tuesday August 5th, 7.30pm
Lions Whitehouse

Preparations for the Spring Show. Explaining the show schedule, presentation of plants, naming of plants and many other show tips including displaying your plants.

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

Please bring a small plate for supper after the meeting.

Volunteers will be needed to help vacuume the hall after the meeting.



Happy August birthday to.....

Joy Intveld, Audrey Pople, Ken Morse,
Roy Le Sueur and Leigh Leaity.



The raffle this month was won by our very special associate member Norma Manuel. Congratulations!
The club supplied the raffle prize and we made \$60 for the coffers!

CULTURE QUESTIONS



Q. How do you grow an *Ada aurantiaca* –cool, intermediate or warm?

A. There were a number of replies, mostly our members grow them cool in the summer but with some comfort during the winter.

Q. How do you stop the topmost buds on a cymbidium spike from hanging down when a stake has been put in the pot for support?

A. When the stake is first put in the pot always have it on an angle. When the flowers open, raise the stake so that now the flowers are looking at you. The topmost buds can be gently coaxed by carefully tying elastic around the stem and hanging the special plastic hanger to an overhead wire.

Q. How much water do you give your plants in winter?

A. There are always exceptions to the rules with winter watering. We can only give a few guidelines. Lift your pots regularly and feel their weight. If they are light they need water– so give a little.

Disa and masdevallia's must be kept damp in the winter. Just don't over - water. If in doubt keep them dry or just enough to keep them alive. It is very easy to kill your plants over winter by rotting the roots!

GUEST SPEAKER FOR JULY

Glenys MacRae

During May I traveled to South America to go on a Gap Adventure Tour called Inca & Galapagos Explorer. This consisted of two weeks in Peru to see Inca ruins (sometimes referred to as the Gringo Trail) and six days in Ecuador, four of which were spent on a boat at the Galapagos Islands.

The Inca tour started and finished in Lima, the capital of Peru. I saw many interesting things along the way, the highlights were:

Nazca Lines - one of the world's great archaeological mysteries spread across 500 sq km of arid, rock strewn plains. From a small aircraft I saw a number of lines, geometric figures, animal & plant drawings such as a whale, astronaut, humming bird and condor.

Lake Titicaca – the highest navigable lake in the world at an altitude of 3810m. We visited the floating reed islands of the Uros people. The islands are made up of layers of Totora reeds; as the layers closest to the water start to rot, they are replaced with fresh reeds on top. The reeds are also used to make their boats which will last up to six months

Machu Picchu - 'Lost City of the Incas' discovered in 1911 by Hiram Bingham. A spectacular sight to see first thing in the morning. They say there are 4000 steps at Machu Picchu, I am sure I walked 2000 of them! Around Machu Picchu Sobralias and Epidendrums were in flower.

The Galapagos Tour - Started and finished in Ecuador's capital, Quito. The Galapagos Islands are 950km off the coast of Ecuador. I visited Seymour, Espanola, Floreanna and Santa Cruz Islands. It was the right time of the year to see the Blue Footed Boobys do their wonderful courtship ritual and the male Frigate birds display their gular pouch. Marine Iguana and Sally Lightfoot crabs were everywhere. Snorkeling with Sea Lions was an amazing experience. We had an interesting visit to the Charles Darwin Research Station and were lucky enough to see. 'Lonesome George', the last Pinta Island tortoise.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO MEMBERS

We ask that you purchase your Show Dinner ticket at the **August club meeting**. If you are unable to attend please post you cheque to Lee before the meeting as we would not like any of our members to be disappointed because they were too slow to purchase.

Other clubs and friends are very keen to join us but we only have a certain number of seats available so you better get in quick!

PLANTS ON DISPLAY

CATASETUM

Ctsm Davie Ranches AM/AOS

- Mary Jones

CYMBIDIUM

Cym Markessa 'Sunrae'

- Ken Morse

Cym High Plateau 'Pink Chiffon'

- Dennis Chuah

DENDROBIUM

Den Cassiope

- Ken Morse

Den *engae* x *bigibbum*

- William and Man Lo

Den Sailor Boy 'Pinky'

Den My Noble Lady 'Purple Tips'

- David Lam

Den Aussie's Hi-Lo #

- Burt and Evelyn Ong

Den Cassiope

- Dennis Chuah

Den Vivid x Bellinger River (Reg 1996)

- Wolf Grausch

DENDROCHILUM

Dend *uncatum*

Dend *anfractum*

- Leroy Orchids

Dend *acoriidum*

- Dennis Chuah

MASDEVALLIA

Masd *bicolor*

Masd *macrura* #

- Ken Morse

ONCIDIUM

Onc *ornithorhynchum* #

- Ken Morse

Onc *ornithorhynchum*

Onc Twinkle 'Fragrance Fantasy'

Onc Twinkle 'Red Fantasy'

Onc *cheirophorum*

- Leroy Orchids

PAPHIOPEDILUM

Paph Magic Szabo '#7'

Paph *helenae*

Paph *insigne* var *sanderiae*

- William and Man Lo

Paph (Anna Szabo x Keyeshill) # now registered as

Paph Red Intensity Reg 2006

- Ken Morse

Paph Holdenii 'Coro' x Bill Pannill 'Papa Aroha'

- William and Man Lo

RESTREPIA

Restrepia *striata*

- William and Man Lo

ZYGOPETALUM

Z M10 (bought it at Mitre 10!)

- Ken Morse

Those members with a # beside your plant name, please correct your label.

Names written in *italics* depicts it is a *species*.

The plant commentary this month was conducted by Roy Neale and Burt Ong.



Congratulations to Ken Morse who came first equal in the popular vote competition with a Zygo he bought at Mitre 10! No name supplied with the plant!



from behind the shade house.....



Sorry to hear that Bev has had a trip to hospital. Hope you are getting all that energy back again. We all send our best wishes.

Heather had been out for a meal and couldn't resist the plastic knives for her orchid pots – trouble is - she went to the Dr who looked askance when all the knives fell out of her pocket. Took a bit of explaining!



From Lee: Amazing that Mary has kept the Bulletin going while moving house. Thanks a heap to our Editor.

From the Editor: I have now moved to my lovely new home with a lot less plants and gardens to tend. Thank you to all my wonderful orchid friends who have supported me through the last few months of sleepless nights and unbelievable stress.