# AUCKLAND ORCHID CLUB BULLETIN

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#### Plant of the month

Blc Toshie Aoki 'Robin' Displayed by Bev Meredith

# IMPORTANT MESSAGE Please take note

We have had a change of date for our Ribbon Show!

The NEW date is Saturday April 23rd,

More information further on in the Bulletin.

#### **MESSAGE OF THE MONTH**

March was another very dry month. Watering our parched orchids and gardens was a battle. Stressed plants and stressed hobbyists trying hard to keep up with it all!

I hope your plants haven't suffered too much!

The dry hot days and warm nights were just the right conditions for spider mites and they chose to attack my dracula's. Out came the miticide and I hope it has done the trick for me, they can make an awful mess of your plants. New growers check the underside of the orchid leaves, if there is a silvery blush on them and your plants are not looking the best you could very well have an infestation. To minimize the damage make sure you water the underside of the foliage as mites hate the damp.

Use Anzac day as a guide for removing the extra shade from the green house to allow more light over the winter months, and reduce watering of those species that like a drying off period, (e.g. hard cane dendrobiums). I don't withhold water completely and certainly don't let the plants shrivel - just reduce the water.

As the days get shorter and cooler make sure your watering is done early to allow plants to dry out before evening.

Finish the autumn clean up of dropped old foliage off the floor so as to deter pests from making themselves comfortable for the winter!

ED

We have had a Plassay 'Rainmaker 2500' |
Electronic water Timer donated to the club. |
It will be auctioned on our plant auction |
night. The price tag on the box reads |
\$99.95. What will you offer for it? |
Bring along your cheque book!

NEXT MEETING
Tuesday April 5th
7.30pm
Lions Whitehouse

April is our auction month. Bring along your quality plants to sell. We don't want rubbish! All money from the plants you sell goes home with you. If you are selling 6 or more plants we would like you to donate at least one plant to the club, the club then makes a little bit of a profit as well! It is a great night — loads of fun!

Supper will be served during the evening so please bring a small plate.

The trading table and produce table will NOT be operating, however plants on display and the library shall be.

Volunteers will needed to vacuum the hall after the meeting.



#### Happy April birthday to.....

Florent Vadam, Ernie Denham. Jim Gilchrist, Pam Hughes, Margaret Shaw, Irene Levet, Pete Meredith, Kim Robilliard and a special one with an 'O' on the end for Margaret Stansfield.



#### Raffle winners.....

Bev Meredith, Mike Leaity, and Ken Morse.

# Raffle donations....

Thanks to Grahame Leafberg, Chris Whitby and our guest speaker Wally Lomas.

The club made \$75 from the raffle.

# **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

We had a great response last month with members paying their subs promptly. There are still quite a number of you that have yet to pay. Please pay Jim Shaw this month or post your cheque to him. The address is on your green form.

#### FROM THE MARCH MEETING

Our president Glenys was away at the World Orchid Conference in France so Vice President Diana was delegated to chair the meeting. Poor Diana got tummy bug so we were pleased to have a past President, Roy Neale to help out!

**Apologies:** Glenys MacRae, Heather and Gary Cooke. Peter C Elfleet, Michele and Mark Strachan, Kim Young (all in France).

Sick: Diana Elfleet.

**Notices:** David Menzies (an ex pat Kiwi) is being brought out from Scotland by the Orchid Council to give an informative talk on orchids. The meeting will be held at the St Johns Hall, Panmure on Wednesday April 27th for further information please phone Roy Neale 416 6737.

NZOS will be holding their one day Autumn Show on May 1st at The Springs, in Western Springs.

#### **CULURE QUESTIONS**



- **Q.** The tips of the old growths of my cattleya have gone black. What has happened?
- A. It could be fertiliser burn or just old age!
- **Q.** I have black tips on my phrags.
- **A.** Repot it into fresh sphagnum moss. It may be a root rot problem. Phrags should always be kept wet.

#### AWARD CERTIFICATES PRESENTED

Grahame Leafberg was presented with his certificates for .....

Sartylis Janine Black 'Tinonee' AM Den Yondi Tina 'Yellow Bird' AM

Lee and Roy Neale of Leroy Orchids received certificates for....

Leroys Beauty'Cora Lillian' AM Leroys Mountain 'Leya' HCC Leroys Puppy 'Red Star' HCC Leroys Envy 'Envious' HCC Leroys Beauty 'Upurua' HCC

Congratulations from us all!



# Stanhopea wardii

Grahame Leafberg brought this sensational stanhopea along last month.

The Orchid Council judges that were present at the meeting granted Stanhopea wardii an Award of Merit. (AM).

# PLANTS ON DISPLAY

# **BRASSOLAELIOCATTLEYA**

Blc Toshie Aoki 'Robin' #

- Bev Meredith

#### **CATTLEYA**

C Little Angel x Mary Turner

- Ken Morse

#### **CATYCLIA**

Catyclia Meadow Frost #(Registered 1988 F Fordyce)

Was Enc mariae x C Angel Walker

- Bev Meredith

#### **DENDROBIUM**

Den Val Peck x Aussie Merit

- Wolf & Faith Grausch

#### **ENCYCLIA**

Enc cochleata

- Leroy Orchids

Unknown hybrid

- Ken Morse

#### **EPIDENDRUM**

Epi dalstromii x Nanodes medusae

- Mary Jones

# **GOMESA**

Gomesa crispa

- Wolf & Faith Grausch

#### **MILTONIA**

Milt Mary Moir

- Lucille Rowe

# **MASDEVALLIA**

Masd Red Wings

- Leroy Orchids

Masd Copper Angel

- Ken Morse

### <u>NEOLEHM</u>ANNIA

Neolehmannia Porpax 'St. Nacy'

- C & R Hogan

Neolehmannia Porpax 'St. Nacy' # (sp)

- Linda Alexander

#### **ONCIDIUM**

Onc longipes

- Pauline Weeks

#### **ONCIDESA**

Gomesa *crispa x*Onc *flexuosum* # (sp)

- Kim Robilliard

Gomesa *crispa* x Onc *flexuosum* # (sp)

- Wolf & faith Grausch

#### **ORNITHOPHORA**

Ornithophora *radicans* # (sp)

- Grahame Leafberg

#### **PARACHILUS**

Parachilus Velvet

- Kim Robilliard

#### **PHALAENOPSIS**

Phal Taisuco Kaaladian (first flowering seedling)

- Mavis Doyle

Phal Unknown

- Linda Alexander

#### **SOPHROLAELIA**

Sl Polestar 'April Jewel'

- Mary Jones

Sl Polestar 'April Jewel'

- Ken Morse

#### **STANHOPEA**

Stan *wardii* (see picture above)

- Grahame Leafberg

### **VUYLSTEKEARA**

Vuyl Cambria Plush

- Bev Meredith

The plant commentary was conducted by Chris Whitby and Leigh Leaity.

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

We are now going to explain when we have a name change (eg) See Catyclia on the list.

Those that just have a # means that the spelling of your plant name is incorrect.

Names written in *italics* and lower case depicts it is a

#### Thanks..

Sheila Peet would like to thank the club for their kind thoughts. Sheila lost a very much loved brother recently.



# RIBBON SHOW UPDATE Saturday April 23rd 2005

The show will be held in the Hobsonville Hall.

Staging of Plants 8.30am –9.45am

Judging 10.00am

Open to the Public 12.00pm-4.00pm

Bring along any orchid plant you have with a flower on it. We need all the plants we can get.

Judges will also be needed. I emphasized in the last Bulletin as to the fun we all have judging this show, so come on new members and have a go!

Heather has sales tickets for anyone needing them for trading table sales. Phone her on 834 6110 or get some from her at the next club meeting.

We will be having a produce and bric-a brac table and will sell anything except your grandmother, so bring along some goodies, (jams, cakes etc) it all goes towards club funds!

We sell teas during the day and would appreciate scones, cakes etc to help out.

A BBQ will be held after the show. The club supplies the meat and refreshments, but we would like you to bring either a salad or desert to share with everybody. Bev needs to know **NOW** who is coming so that she can order the meat. Please phone her as soon as possible to let her know how many of your family and friends are attending. **PH 412 2991** 

Prize giving is held during the BBQ.

The cost for the Show entry and BBQ is \$5.00 ea.

THANKS TO KIM AND WAREHOUSE STATIONERY ST. LUKES FOR THE PRINTING OF THIS NEWSLETTER.

MAKE SURE YOU GET YOUR SUPPLIES FROM ANY BRANCH OF WAREHOUSE STATIONERY

#### **GUEST SPEAKER**

Our guest speaker for the night was Wally Lomas from the Whangarei Orchid Society. Wally gave us a very interesting talk on how he grows his phalaenopsis orchids. He also had a great power point slide show to accompany his talk.

Multi flora (or branching) phallies are his favorites at the present time. He grows them in a glasshouse that is heated for 3 months over the colder days of winter. with propane gas.

He liquid feeds at every watering as phalaenopsis never stop growing and so can be fed all year round.

An open mix is used to grow them in as spaghnum moss 'did not work' for him because of his watering regime. The plants are grown on warm benches that are heated with a cable under sand. Minimum temperature is 15°C and goes up very high in summer.. Humidity must be kept up when this happens. Growing is done with low light at between 750-1000 foot candles.

Mealy bugs are a pest when they appear. Wally spot treats them with meths or sprays with *Rogor* or *Attack*. Care must be taken when spraying so full safety gear is used.

Wally also encouraged us to attend the big show in Hamilton in September.



from behind the shade house....



Joan Wood has once again become the great grandmother of twins – boys this time. Must be something in the water!

What were Grahame and five judges doing in the ladies toilets at the last meeting?





Marie, our treasurer has been in hospital and is now at home recovering. Quality time with the orchids Marie?