

# AUCKLAND ORCHID CLUB BULLETIN

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VOLUME 24 No. 03

MARCH 2006

**PRESIDENT: Glenys MacRae**

**SECRETARY: Pauline Weeks**

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**Bev Meredith won the popular plant of the month vote with this gorgeous Blc Daybreak 'Sweet Sunshine' x Lc Dorothy Warne 'Happy times'.**

## MESSAGE OF THE MONTH

### Orchid Council of New Zealand

The Auckland Orchid Club will this year host the AGM of the Orchid Council on Sunday June 4th at 10.00am. This is Queens Birthday weekend and in conjunction with the AGM the Council will be running a National Seminar for judges on the Saturday and Sunday afternoon.

The weekend's activities will be held in the Hobsonville Air Base and registration forms for the weekend will be available on club night or if you wish please contact Lee Neale Ph 416 6737 or leeanroy@ihug.co.nz and she will see that you get one.

Attending these seminars is compulsory for judges and is part of the activities a judge must be involved in to maintain their judging qualifications. The registration cost for a full weekend is \$65.00. Mike Harrison of Port Macquarie will be our guest and will be speaking on Australian Native Orchids.

as well as being the after dinner speaker on Saturday night at Wings Restaurant, Hobsonville Motor Inn.

### **How can you help?**

We the Auckland Club would like to billet judges from the South Island. Please give this some consideration. They would need bed and breakfast for a couple of nights and possibly transport to Hobsonville for the meetings.

This is one way we can help to reduce the cost that the judges incur annually and a great way of making new friends in the orchid world.

### NEXT MEETING

Tuesday April 4th 7.30pm

Lions White House

This is our long awaited auction night. Read further along in the Bulletin for more information.

Plants on display and library will be operating. No trading table plants this month.

Please bring along a small plate for supper during the evening.

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



**Happy April Birthday to....**Pam Hughes, Margaret Shaw, Margaret Stansfield, Irene Levet, Kim Robilliard, Jim Gilchrist, Ernie Denham, Florent Vadam and Bev Belcher.



### **Raffle winners...**



Bert Ong, Honey Denyer (redraw), Grahame Leafberg, Peter Elfleet (redraw) and Evelyn Ong. Thanks to Kim Robilliard, Ken Morse and Wolf Grausch who donated raffle prizes.

The raffle made \$46.

## FROM THE MARCH MEETING

President Glenys welcomed 37 members and friends. We had a new member joining our club. We would like to welcome Margaret Maagdenberg to our group of orchid enthusiasts. We hope you enjoy learning about your orchids and adding many more to your collection in the future.

**Apologies:** Mary Jones, Beryl Finlay, Diana Elfleet, Peter C Elfleet and Irene Levett.

**Sick List:** Betty Major and Chris Whitby.

### **Notices:**

There is a March Paph price list from Keith Goodwin available and also the latest mailing list from Tudor Orchids.

John and Annette Scott are taking an 8 day tour to the 17th Australian Orchid Conference at Port Macquarie in July. There will be a Bus Trip via Sydney. The cost is \$1680.00 per person or continue to Toowoomba for a further 3 days for another \$580.00 per person.

Ken Morse has slug bait available on the trading table.

### **Bus Trip to Te Puke**

The Bus is a 49 seater and the cost will be \$25 for members and \$32 for non members.

The Bus will leave the Falls Car park, corner of Edmonton Rd and Alderman Drive on the 'dot' of 7.30am on April 8. The Bus will also pick up at Royal View Road at 7.35am. Members getting on here can leave their cars at Mary Jones' place.

Another pick up is at Greenlane outside Foodtown at 7.45am.

We will stop at Ngatea at the Copper Kettle for morning tea (your expense). We arrive at Te Puke for the opening of their show at noon. Provide your own lunch — there are a number of places to buy your lunch in Te Puke. A few of our members can recommend the pub!

The bus leaves for home at 2.30pm on the 'dot' and we arrive back in Henderson at approx. 6.00pm.

For those that have not yet paid, please pay Heather at the Ribbon Show or at the Club meeting on April 4th.

At the time of writing this newsletter there were no vacant seats.

## Ribbon Show



Enclosed with your Bulletin is the Show Schedule, please study it carefully.

New members please come along to our 'fun' show. You, the members judge this show and believe me, it is a lot of fun. Check your show schedule for staging and judging times.

Linda would like donations for the Produce Table. pickles, sauces, jams, veges or 'what have you' would be appreciated.

Members attending the lunch time BBQ, the cost is \$5.00 a head. Bev has only a few names of those attending. You all put your hands up for changing it to a lunch BBQ - so where are your names? We cannot cater unless we have definite numbers so get on the phone and call her **NOW** 412 2991.

Those attending the BBQ, please supply either a salad or desert.

Donations for morning and afternoon teas would also be appreciated.



## **CULTURE QUESTIONS**

**Q.** My cymbidium back bulbs are sprouting, what do I do?

**A.** Bury the bulb to a level equal to the base of the growth in your preferred potting medium. Once it is established and growing the growth can be removed from back bulb and potted up.

**Q.** When giving dried blood to cymbidium plants in February, do you give it to small plants?

**A.** Use only for plants you want (or expect) to flower next year.

**Q.** Would you put dried blood on dendrobiums as well?

**A.** In September use on dendrobiums, (4 parts dried blood, 1 part super phosphate, 1 part potash). This is a good growth booster.

**Q.** Gary wanted to know about growing small plants jammed together in pots. Why?

**A.** Plants together don't lose their water through evaporation as quickly as single plants and therefore they utilise their fertiliser more efficiently.

## **GUEST SPEAKER**

### ***David Young—Sunrae Orchids***

Dave also owns a winery called Drury Hills Wines, which specializes in wine, liquers and honey meads. The new winery will be opening in approximately July.

Sunrae Orchids have always grown their orchids in bark. They buy their bark from Napier and use No 4 bark for phalaenopsis, cymbidiums and dendrobiums, (No 4 is more like our No 3).

He grows a lot of dendrobiums and exports to Japan and America. These are mainly *speciosum* crosses. Ranger crossed with Anne's Rainbow gives a great range of colours and lovely shaped flowers. Dave had a collection of about 12 photos from this cross, all magnificent flowers from the same seed pod and all very different to each other. Elegant Heart crosses also give a good variety of flowers.

Dave also grows sarcochilus in a variety of colours. These are grown together with dendrobiums with 70% shade on the plastic houses. Sarcochilus flowers can last up to 3 months on a plant. Sarco Cherie produces lovely pink flowers with patterns.

#### **Culture:**

Dendrobiums and sarcochilus grown together are fed with less nitrogen than potash or potassium. This is because it helps thicken the canes and makes them stronger to carry flower spikes.

Sarcs like a little more light than dendrobs. Plants need about 50mm room to grow around the pot and need to have pots that are flexible. Watering is done every second day with feeding at every watering. In April reduce watering in *speciosums* - but never 'dry them off'. A good wind flow is needed through the houses.

'Attack' for any bug control. Spray before flower spikes form as they will be damaged.

Thank you Dave for an informative and interesting talk and filling a gap at such short notice.



**PLANT AUCTION NIGHT**  
**April 4th**  
**Club night**

April is our auction month. Bring along your **quality** plants to sell. We don't want and will **NOT** sell any rubbish.

This night is designed for club members to share around their 'good' plants and at the same time make a bit of money, as the money paid for your plant at auction is what you take home with you. We don't charge a commission.

If you are selling a number of plants we would like you to donate a plant or two (or three) to the club. This money will go to club funds.

This is a real fun night and both buyers and sellers always go home happy!

**DON'T FORGGET ABOUT THE  
RIBBON SHOW!**

**GET THOSE PLANTS AND POTS  
CLEANED UP READY TO GO ON  
DISPLAY.**

**SUPPORT YOUR CLUB.**

#### **SUSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE**



**Please bring along your renewal slip and your money and pay Jim Shaw at the meeting.**

**You will notice this year there is an extra box to tick. Please make sure that you do tick one of these boxes as we need to know exactly how many members consider us their 'parent' club.**



**We have to pay an affiliation fee of \$7.50 per member to the Orchid Council each year and this becomes tricky if you belong to 1 or more orchid societies, as sometimes another club may also pay your fee!**

## PLANTS ON DISPLAY

### BRASSOLVA

*B cuculata* #

- Bev Meredith

### BRASSOLAELIOCATTLEYA

Blc Daybreak 'Sweet Sunshine' x Lc Dorothy Warne 'Happy Times'

- Bev Meredith

### DENDROBIUM

Den Anne's Rainbow Surprise 'No 3'

- Leroy Orchids

Den Tweed

Den Hilda Poxon

- Ken Morse

### GONGORA

Gongora *galeata* #

- Ron Reeves

### LAELIA

L Little Beaut

- Grahame Leafberg

### LAELIOCATTLEYA

Lc Intercepts

- Glenys MacRae

### LOCKHARTIA

Lockhartia *terra* #

- Ron Reeves

### NEOSTYLIS

Neost Lou Sneary

- Grahame Leafberg

### ODONTIODA

Oda Niamay 'Raroa' HCC/NZOS x Oda Oratia Parade

- Wolf Grausch

### ODONTOCIDIUM

Odcdm Gold Bar Mountain

- Leroy Orchids

### ODONTONIA

Odtna Molière 'Dyanosis'

- Leroy Orchids

### ONCIDIUM

Onc *incurvum* #

- Ron Reeves

### PAPHIOPEDILUM

Paph *dianthum* #

- Ron Reeves

### PLEUROTHALLIS

Pleurothallis *sonderana*

- Grahame Leafberg

### SARCOCHILUS

Sarco Barry Collins

- Ken Morse

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

A name written in *italics* depicts it is a *species*.

#### Plant Commentary

Individual people spoke about their own plants on display.

Culture advise and improvements or changes that occurred in flowerings over the years was of interest.

Plants on display for February was won by Leroy Orchids.



from behind the shade house.....

Don't sit next to Grahame Leafberg. When he falls off his chair he takes you with him! Poor Peter Elfleet nearly needed stitches.



Yours truly walked 'Around the Bays' this year for the first time. It was a wonderful experience and I will walk it again next year. There were 87.000 people doing the 8.4 kilometer fun walk/run/hobble and I was pleased with my time of 88 minutes! And not even a twinge the next day!



Bring along your money to the next meeting as Dave Young from Sunrae Orchids kindly donated 3 bottles of wine for the raffle next month.

For your convenience, bark has just arrived from Waitara. Please call Roy if you require any. Ph 416 6737



#### WE HAVE MOVED....

Dennis has had to move our website to a new location. It is now at....

[Http://aoc.intergardens.com](http://aoc.intergardens.com)

Also available for your viewing...

Ribbon Show: <http://ribbonshow.aoc.intergardens.com>

Spring Show: <http://springshow.aoc.intergardens.com>

Orchid Culture Booklet: <http://culture.aoc.intergardens.com>

Thanks to Kim and Warehouse Stationery for the printing of our newsletter each month. Don't forget to shop at Warehouse Stationery for all your stationery requirements.