

# AUCKLAND ORCHID CLUB

## BULLETIN

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Grahame Leafberg won the plant of the month for May with his *Laelia perrinii*

### MESSAGE OF THE MONTH

After the long spell of very dry weather and lots more watering than we normally have to do for this time of the year, the rain came! I think we must have had a full months quota in a few days!

I was fortunate not to have had any botritis in the green house but found that some of my ranunculus in the garden got it quite badly, however they should be OK. I must have adequate air circulation in the green house, which pleased me no end as botritis can do a lot of damage to flowers and plants. Keep a wary eye out as some days it is still very humid.

I have noticed some of my orchids are showing signs of flowering a lot earlier this year than ever before. This is going to be a worry, especially at show time when I find that my best plants have already done their 'thing'! I shall just have to wait and see what happens!

ED

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

*Heather Cooke*



Another year has passed and it is my last as President.

The three years that I have served with the support and help of the Executive and Show Committee's has been very rewarding.

Our club has greatly benefited by the standard of speakers at our meetings, combined with our auction meeting good quality plants have been available for purchase.

The Spring Show was a great success giving both our members and the public a lot of pleasure in the quality and wide range of orchid genera.

Our Ribbon Show was once again very successful and enjoyable. A fun evening starting with the presentation of ribbons, followed by a BBQ was well supported.

Members have been very generous with donations for our raffles at meetings, and our funds have benefited substantially.

Unfortunately our annual coach tour to the Te Puke Show didn't happen this year. We will hopefully continue this next year.

My thanks to everyone who helps with odd jobs on club night, these are very important jobs that help keep the club running smoothly.

Members are always kept up to date of our activities through our first-rate monthly newsletter.

I am sure you will continue to support the incoming President as you have supported me.

Remember, this is not my club or your club, it is our club.

I wish you all good orchiding for the future.

**NEXT MEETING**  
**Tuesday June 1st**  
**7.30pm**  
**Lions Whitehouse**

**Auckland Orchid Club AGM**

This is a most important meeting and we hope to have a good attendance.

After the AGM Diana and Roy will give a talk on preparing plants for the show bench. This will include transporting them to and from and care in the green house from now until the show.

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

Please bring a small plate for supper after the meeting.



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

***Happy June birthday to.....***

Gary Cooke, Mary Jones, Grahame Leafberg, June Sutton, Beryl Finlay, Peter Elfleet Snr and Linda English.



***Raffle winners this month were...***  
Wolf Grausch, Leigh and Mike Leaity.

***Prizes donated by....*** Bev Meredith, Ross Tucker and Jim and Margaret Shaw. Thank you very much.  
The raffle made \$103.10. Well done AOC members!

**Plants on display for March was won by Grahame Leafberg and for April, Bev Meredith.**

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

During our last meeting President Heather presented to Leroy Orchids an Award of Merit (AM) from the Orchid Council of NZ for their orchid Cym John Wooden 'Stephanie'. This plant was Grand Champion at our last Spring Show.

**FROM THE MAY MEETING**

President Heather welcomed the 52 members present.

**Apologies:** Miriam and Assid Corban and Peter C Elfleet.

We are pleased to report that no members were ill this month.

**Notices:** Keith Goodwin has sent us a new list of his magnificent paphs.

John Scott has five vacancies for his trip to France for the World Orchid Conference 2005.

There was a Floral Tours brochure available if anyone was interested.

The NZOS is having a mid winter brunch and film.

This will be held on Sunday June 13th at 10.00am at the Westwind theatre (Ryders Museum), Riversdale Road, Avondale. The cost is \$20. Please phone Faith Grausch. 478 9643 for more information.

Yours truly forgot to bring the phally that was donated to the club for auction last month. I did remember to bring it to the meeting this month and ended up buying it!

We are still looking for volunteers for the executive committee.

Our guest speaker for the night was Ross Tucker who showed us some of his 100 awarded plants. Using slides he explained how it was possible by selfing and sibling crossing to make amazing improvements in a family.

Seedlings are a great way to find a good plant and many a prizewinner has been found by patience and good culture, according to Ross. We would like to thank Ross for his evening with us and also for bringing plants for members to purchase.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS**

**Jim Shaw, tells me that about 1/3 of all subscriptions are still outstanding! If you have not paid yours before the next meeting you are not eligible to vote at the AGM or even stand for any of the positions that are vacant.**

**Jim will be waiting for the rush of eager members with money in their hands, or better still post it to him before the next meeting!**



## QUESTION TIME

Please keep your questions rolling in. We cannot assist with solutions if you don't supply the problems!

After you have heard 'the experts' with their answers it is still up to you to choose which is the most appropriate solution for your given circumstances.

Some of last months questions and answers were...

**Q.** What is the watering regime for *Den speciosum* at this time of the year?

**A.** If under cover, once a week.

**Q.** Why have I been told that banana skins are good for my orchids.

**A.** It is because they contain potassium (k) - feed them to your staghorn fern instead!

**Q.** I need a de - bugging chemical that is safe to use.

**A.** No chemical is safe. Try meths or pyretherum spray.

**Q.** What fertiliser can I use on my *nobile* den that is low in nitrogen?

**A.** *Fertigrow* available at Veg Grow or winter strength *Bio Plus*.

**Q.** Why do you use mothballs that don't smell in the green house?

**A.** It's supposed to be a bug deterrent. Napthelene also works.

**Q.** How do I grow *promenaea*.

**A.** It likes sphagmun moss and to be kept damp and fed regularly, grow cool with some comfort during the winter.



**Pam Hughes, Bev Meredith and Glenys MacRae in Pukekura Park glasshouse, Taranaki , in January. Can you see the lovely Disa's behind them?**

## SHOW DATES TO REMEMBER

NZOS Mt Albert War Memorial Hall  
July 9th -11th (set up on Thursday 8th)

**Auckland Orchid Club**

**21st Birthday Show**

**West Wave Centre (formerly Big Top)**  
August 27th -29th (set up Thursday 26th)

NZOS Mt Albert War Memorial Hall  
September 10th -12th (set up Thursday 9th)

ANOS Eden Gardens  
September 25th-26th (set up Friday 24th)

Sarcochilus Show Eden Gardens  
November 7th (set up Saturday 6th)

## SPRING SHOW NEWS FORM YOUR SHOW MARSHAL

*Bev Meredith*



Hi there, it's me again with news!

It is only 14 weeks until our Spring Show. This year it is our 21st Birthday and we want to celebrate it in style.

We will need help putting up decorations, blowing up balloons and all the jobs that come with putting on a 'top notch' orchid show.

We have a brilliant show every year that is not only successful - but eagerly looked forward to by many seasoned orchid enthusiasts and gardeners alike.

We need help both ends of the show - putting up and dismantling, both big jobs and made easier if the club gets behind the show committee and lends a hand. We are all getting older but the jobs are not getting any smaller.

Let me know if you have any special talents to make this show one in a million!

Start grooming your plants and keep the pests away. Stake the spikes carefully and lets hope they all open up at the right time - show time!



## PLANTS ON DISPLAY

### CYMBIDIUM

Cym Unknown  
- Joy Intveld  
Cym *erythrostylum*  
- R & C Hogan

### DENDROBIUM

Den Paradise Elisabeth  
- R & C Hogan  
Den Ellen Surprise#  
Den Colonial Campio#  
- Audrey Pople  
Den Jesmond Dazzler  
- Ken Morse  
Den Lorikeet 'Mel' x Red River 'Orange'  
- L & M Denyer  
Den Vivid x Bellinger River # (2 plants)  
Den *lawessii*  
- Faith and Wolf Grausch  
Den *teretifolium* 'Black Pam' x (*linguiforme* x *speciosum* 'Gold')  
- Audrey Pople

### DORITIS

Dor *pulcherrima*  
- R & C Hogan

### LAELIA

L *perrinii*  
- Grahame Leafberg

### MASDEVALLIA

Masd Gilberton (can't confirm name)  
- Ken Morse  
Masd *civilis* #  
- H & G Cooke

### MAXILLARIA

Max *picta*  
- Kim Robilliard

### MILTONIA

Milt Xenia #  
- R & C Hogan

### ODONTOGLOSSUM

Odm Opheon 'Majestic' x Odm Quistrum  
Odm Unknown  
- Leroy Orchids

### ODONTIODA

Oda Annwood #  
Oda Unknown  
- Leroy Orchids

### ODONTOBRASSIA

Odbrs Peggy Mobley  
- Pauline Weeks

### PAPHIOPEDILUM

Gowerianum x Alwine  
- Kim Robilliard

### SARCOCHILUS

Sarco Riverdene 'Holly' x Nicky 'Best'  
Sarco Riverdene 'Holly' x Self  
- Faith and Wolf Grausch

### SARTYLIS

Sarco Hartmanni 'Blue Knob' x *rhyncostylis retusa*  
- Audrey Pople

### SOPHROLAELIOCATTLEYA

Slc Bright Angel 'Patsy' 4N  
- Grahame Leafberg  
Slc Pumpkin Festival 'Fong Yuen'  
- Bev Meredith  
Slc Shona  
- Diana and Peter Elfleet

### STENOGLOTTIS

Stenoglottis *longifolia*  
- R & C Hogan

There were also two unknown genera displayed. Those members with a # beside their plant name, please correct your label. The plant commentary was conducted by Ross Tucker.



*from behind the shadehouse.....*

A member recently had to have a number of tests done regarding her health. She told another AOC member that 'they even gave me a brain scan and couldn't find anything there!'



I am pleased to say that she is doing great, brains or no brains! ED



Jim and Margaret Shaw are moving to Green View Park Village in the next week or so. I offered Margaret my burmese kitten to help her to take the curtains down as Zena is very good at this at present!

Honey Received her first ever speeding ticket! The camera caught her at a local favourite spot - Waikumete Hill!



I believe Kim has departed to Rarotonga for a break. Hope no other AOC members have followed you this time Kim!

Have you ever noticed that if you mention to any non orchid enthusiast that you grow orchids, they kindly offer you all of old Uncle Charlies rejects?



Congratulations to Lucille. She has managed to rear over 30 Monarch butterflies this season. Not an easy task when you are living in the Painted Apple moth spray zone!