

WAITAKERE ORCHID CLUB BULLETIN

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Ray and Lottie Hogan brought in their *Aer lawrenceae* which won the popular vote for the May meeting. Gorgeous spike with lots of flowers-well done Ray!

MESSAGE OF THE MONTH

Here's hoping you all had plenty to think about after reading the articles concerning the officer's positions we wrote in the last two Bulletins. Did you know that some of the existing members have been working hard for you for well over 10 years - some even longer? It would be wonderful to have some 'new blood' to relieve the burden carried by this dedicated group.

The work is not difficult, you do not have to be an orchid Guru and we don't expect you to attempt anything beyond your capability. We are there to help you and ease you into your job. You will find it very rewarding.

So please put your hand up and become an executive member of Waitakere Orchid Club.

ED.

NEXT MEETING
Tuesday June 2nd 2009
7.30pm
Lions Whitehouse

Our AGM will be held and we shall also have a program of interest as well.

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

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

Help will be needed to vacuum the hall after the meeting.



Happy June Birthday to.....

Gary Cooke, Mary Jones, Grahame Leafberg, June Sutton, Beryl Finlay, Peter Elfleet Snr, Margaret Maagdenburgh and Lucinda Dam



Raffle Results...

Winners were Sylvia Shopland and Jill Mickleburgh.

Thanks to the club and Jim and Margaret Shaw for donating raffle prizes. We now have an extra \$77.00 in bank!

BRING YOUR MONEY ALONG.....to the next meeting!

Dennis and Lee are doing a culture lesson on phallies and mini cats.

There will be club plants for sale, \$5.00 each.

FROM THE MAY MEETING

President Roy welcomed 43 members and 2 visitors to our meeting.

Apologies: Peter C Elfleet, Pam and Mike Mason, Beryl Calder.

Roy welcomed back Don Hodge-lovely to see him back in 'orchid mode' again!

Notices: There was a discussion about a proposed bus trip to Tuakau, Labour Weekend. Executive will also look at various options.

NZOS has a mid winter Xmas Dinner and movie at Riders Movie theatre in Avondale July 4th at \$22.00 per person. Phone Leigh Leaity for details 411 9383.

Waitakere Orchid Club Spring Show

August 21st-23rd 2009



Planning is going well for our Spring Show this year. Once again we are using the great facilities at Kelston Community Centre. The club is sponsoring a display to be won on a ballot system, so tell your friends that \$250.00 worth of flowering orchids will go to one lucky person who attends our show.

Last year our sponsored display was won by an elderly lady who took great delight in distributing the plants amongst her family!

Start preparing your show plants **NOW**. Protect buds from slugs and snails and if necessary stake spikes to achieve the best floral display for judging.

Sort plants to sell on the club trading table and use some of this extra cash to buy yourself something new and exciting orchid wise. Show as many plants as possible and get full enjoyment from our great hobby.

Set up day 20th August.

**Judging: Friday 21st am. Open to public
1pm - 4pm**

**Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd
9am - 4pm**

GUEST SPEAKER

Dr Keith Hammett

Keith was first introduced to horticulture in England as a small child. His father had a small garden after WW2 growing vegetables. During this period horticultural shows were becoming popular, growing mainly food as it was scarce and ornamental plants took a 'back seat'. He became interested and was mentored by his father and this led to a life of study and eventually world travel. Keith now has over 50yrs experience growing, hybridizing and judging ornamental plants. These include Sweet Peas, Dahlias, Clivias, Dianthus and many, many more.

He started with Sweet Peas. He had 2 uncles who were professional gardeners and they mentored him as well. One of these uncles was growing Dahlias and he became interested in hybridising. Amateur gardeners became keen on showing these and were now asking for certain characteristics to be bred into new plants. This was where Keith's interest was sparked.

We found out Sweet Peas are quite difficult to pollinate, Dahlia species grow at high altitude and don't really like temperatures getting too high and Clivia species are epiphytes in their native habitat.

Keith's presentation was exhilarating as he including his audience in his talk and we had a wonderful evening discussing all aspects of hybridising and showing of ornamental plants.



CULTURE

Q. I have just acquired a calanthe which is growing well-I believe I have to dry it off over the winter, how do I go about this? It is in a shade house.

A. Ease off the watering as they lose their leaves over winter. It does require a bit of comfort during the colder months. Flower spikes will appear before the leaves in the spring.

The Orchid Council of New Zealand gave Paph *macranthum* 'Ping Pong' owned by Bert and Evelyn Ong the 'Orchid of the Year' award.

Congratulations to you both from the executive and members of Waitakere Orchid Club.

PLANTS ON DISPLAY

AERIDES

Aer lawrenceae

- Ray and Lottie Hogan

ANGRAECUM

Angcm germinyanum #

- William and Man Lo

BRASSOLAELIOCATTLEYA

Blc Desstiny x Helen Morita 'Green' #

- Ross Crabb

Blc Dal's Joy #1 x Sc Lana Coryell

- Wolf Grausch

CATTLEYA

C Unknown Janet Clay plant (very beautiful)

- Jim Shaw

C Unknown Janet Clay Plant

- Joy Intveld

CYMBIDIUM

Cym Golden Elf 'Sundust' x Canterbury 'Coburg'

(Now registered) = Neil Pagano #

- Ross Crabb

DENDROBIUM

Den Kuniko

Den Rosella 'Rusty' x Edda

- William and Man Lo

Den *subclausum* #

- Ron Reeves

EPIDENDRUM

Epi *cilare*

- Linda Alexander

LYCASTE

Lyc Wondo

- Ron Reeves

MASDEVALLIA

Masd *veitchiana* x Falcata (now registered). New name = Solar Flame #

- William and Man Lo

Masd Tasmanian Devil x Southern Sun

- Ross Crabb

Masd *mendozae* x *veitchiana* (now registered). New name = Tangerine Dragon #

Masd Angel Frost

- William and Man Lo

Masd Copper Angel

- Dennis Chuah

ONCIDIUM

Onc (*onustrum* x Catherine Wilson) x Tol Golden Sunset

- Burt and Evelyn Ong

Onc Sugar Babies

- Dennis Chuah

PAPHIOPEDILUM

Paph Lady Isabel x *philippeneuse* (now registered)

PHALAEENOPSIS

Phal Mem Sarah Robertson 'Best Yet' x Glasshouse Mountain 'Gosford Giant'

- William and Man Lo

PLEUROTHALLIS

Pleur *allenii*

- William and Man Lo

SOPHROLAELIA

Sl Ironclad #

- Ray and Lottie Hogan

SOPHROLAELIOCATTLEYA

Slc Susie's Valentine 'Te Puke'

- Burt and Evelyn Ong

UNKNOWN

Unknown Janet Clay Plant

- Dennis Chuah

Those members with a # beside their plant name, please correct your label. Names written in *italics* depicts it is a species.

We had 4 of Janet Clay's donated plants at the meeting - all of them growing and flowering beautifully.

Plants on display for March was won by Pauline Weeks and the April draw was won by Bert and Evelyn Ong. Congratulations!

There are still a lot of subscription renewals outstanding. If you have not paid by the June meeting you are not able to vote at our AGM.

To those unpaid members - this will be your last newsletter.



From behind the shade house....



Someone we know well will soon be able to get 'behind the shade house' as things are starting to happen out the back of the house!

Jim Shaw was so intent on folding the raffle tickets ready for the big draw that he included his own tickets which he had just bought! Not a winner this month Jim!!!

