

AUCKLAND ORCHID CLUB BULLETIN

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There was a 3 way tie for the popular plant this month. Plant No 1, Grahame Leafberg's *Baptistonia echinata*.

MESSAGE OF THE MONTH



This is the final newsletter for 2006. I would like to thank Lee and Roy for their help, especially Lee who can spot an error better than anyone I know - and if an error does slip through, we do apologize!

Thanks also to Dennis who has been our photographer and has supplied most of the pictures you see in the newsletter.

Our team would like to wish you all a safe and happy festive season and we will be looking forward to seeing you all at our Xmas meeting on Tuesday December 5th.

In all the hustle and bustle of the season, please remember your plants, especially if you are going away. Find a neighbour or friend to keep an eye on everything and water your plants when needed. Merry Xmas. ED.

NEXT MEETING
Tuesday December 5th
7.00pm
Lions Whitehouse

PLEASE NOTE THE STARTING TIME!

This is our Xmas meeting. Look further on in the Bulletin for details and please take notice of those details!

There will be **NO** trading table this month. Plants on display and the library will be operating.

Note: This is your last newsletter for 2006. There is **NO** meeting in January.

Our first meeting for 2007 will be Tuesday February 6th. You will receive a newsletter late January.

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



Happy December Birthday to...

Faith and Wolf Grausch, Talia Brown, Don Hodge, Graham Marshall and Antal Kolacsai.



Happy January Birthday to....

Roy and Lee Neale, Diana and Peter C Elfleet, Betty Major, Patrick Stepanic, Jean Treadwell, Kim Young and Dennis Chuah



Raffle Results.....

Winners tonight were: Ross Crabb, Honey Denyer, Roy Neale and Mary Jones



The raffle boosted club funds by \$68.00.

Thanks go to Wolf and Faith Grausch, Ron Maunder, Heather Cooke and Grahame Leafberg for donating raffle prizes.

FROM THE NOVEMBER MEETING

President Glenys welcomed 41 members and friends to our meeting. Margaret Graham was visiting from the UK.

Apologies: Pam Hughes, Bernadette Edmiston, Betty Ashby, Joan Wood, Patrick Stepancic, Peter C Elfleet, and Jean Treadwell.

Notices: The club has taken out a subscription for the Australian Orchid Review. This is now available in the library.

Don't forget the Taranaki Show in January.

Congratulations to Grahame Leafberg who received two awards at the Sarcophilus show.

The Ribbon Show will be held on April 14th 2007.

Glenys asked for a show of hands if anyone was interested in a bus trip to the Te Puke show on March 31st-looks like we will be having a trip. More details later

Reminder about the Xmas meeting.

Three members were presented with Award Certificates.

Ross Crabb was presented with an HCC/NZOS for Cym Kiwi Connection 'Joanne' and an AM/NZOS for Cym Del's Delight 'Lionel'

Heather Cooke was presented with an HCC/NZOS for Cym Gentle Touch 'Bon Bon'.

Chris Whitby was presented with an AM/OCNZ for Paph Grand Ruby 'Shellnick Sneazy'. The same plant was also awarded an AM/NZOS at our August Spring Show.

Congratulations to all three members for their successes.



**Plant No 3. Masd Copper Angel.
This plant is owned by Honey Denyer.**

AOC XMAS MEETING

December 5th 2006

7.00pm

Our Xmas meeting is open to members and their friends and family.

Please bring a plate of 'finger food' to share.

Each year we make the same request and you can bet someone will come along with a casserole!!!! This is very difficult to eat with your fingers! So please, please, please, no casseroles!

The club will supply desert and liquid refreshments.

Each member is asked to bring a small parcel to donate to the progressive raffle. Again please bring something that you think you might like to win. Last year we had a few very disappointed members that had won 'dubious and unsuitable' prizes.

Our main raffle prizes are this year specially made up gourmet baskets, so bring lots of money to purchase lots of tickets!

This is a 'fun' night so come along and enjoy yourselves.



Plant No 2, also belonging to Grahame Leafberg. Sarco Melba 'Grahame' CCC/OCNZ

PLANTS ON DISPLAY

BAPTISTONIA

Baptistonia *enclinata*

- Grahame Leafberg

CATTLEYA

C intermedia Bicolor #

C loddigesii

C intermedia x amethystoglossa #

- Ron Reeves

COELOGYNE

Coel *ochracea* #

- Ron Reeves

CYMBIDIUM

Cym Cricket 'Cascade'

- Leroy Orchids

Cym Phar Lap 'Apricot Dew'

- Ross Crabb

Cym Unknown

- June Sutton

Cym Pied Piper 'Eclipse' AM/OCNZ

Cym Pee Wee x *devonianum*

- Grahame Leafberg

DENDROBIUM

Den *hainanensis*

- Grahame Leafberg

Den Kuniko

- Dennis Chuah

Den *cucullatum*

- Ron Reeves

LAELIOCATTLEYA

Lc Mari's Song

- Heather and Gary Cooke

MASDEVALLIA

Masd Lyn Sherlock 'Otaki'

- Dennis Chuah

Masd *coccinea*

Masd Copper Angel

- Honey Denyer

Masd *caesia*

Masd Kimballiana 'Cosmo Canary'

- Mary Jones

Masd Tuakau Goldstrike

Masd Faleata 'Gold Iris'

Masd Heathii

Masd *coccinea*

Masd Copper Frost #

Masd Fraseri

Masd Ann Jessup#

Masd *coccinea* Alba x Carousal 'Lolita'

Masd Bella Donna 'Mauve'

- Ken Morse

MACLELLANARA

Mclna Pagan Love Song 'Ruby Charles'

- Wolf and Faith Grausch

PHALAENOPSIS

Phal Brother Lawrence x Brother Budda

- June Sutton

Phal Mini Mark 'Taipei Girl'

- Leroy Orchids

SARCOCHILUS

Sarco Melba

- Honey Denyer

Sarco *hartmannii*

- Heather and Gary Cooke

Sarco Melba 'Grahame' CCC/OCNZ

- Grahame Leafberg

Sarco *hartmannii* ('Corella' x 'Red Snow')

Sarco George Colthup

- Ken Morse

SOPHROLAELIOCATTLEYA

Sc Psyche x Lc Muriel Turner

Slc Hazel Boyd 'Tropical Fantasy'

- Honey Denyer

TRICHOPILIA

Trpla *tortilis* ('L & R' x 'Tuakau')

- Mary Jones

VUYLSTEKEARA

Vuyl Edna 'Stamperlands'

- Bert and Evelyn Ong

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

The plant commentary was conducted by Lee Neale and helped by all of the plant exhibitors.

A special thanks to the members that brought in several boxes of plants to display.

Did you know...

Growing old is mandatory; growing up is optional!

You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster!

TUCKERS ORCHID NURSERY

From Ross and Susan Tucker

As many people have been requesting a look through the new houses (home and greenhouses), we have decided to have an open weekend and invite you to visit. The dates are Saturday December 16th and Sunday December 17th from 10am - 3pm.

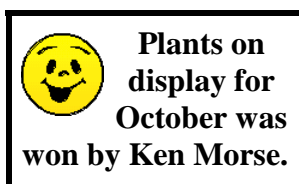
We will have a free sausage sizzle for lunch.

Come along and enjoy a sociable weekend browsing through the orchids.

The address is: 1370 East Coast Road, Redvale.

Phone 09 473 8629 or 027 497 1820

www.tuckersorchidnursery.co.nz





DOUBLE CHOCOLATE MUFFINS



(Glenys made these for afternoon tea while 'on duty' at 'Just Gardening at Kumeu' Show. The recipe was requested by those who were lucky enough to taste them)

1¼ Cups flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
¼ cup cocoa
½ cup brown sugar
100g butter
2 eggs
½ cup milk
1 cup chocolate chips

Sift flour, cocoa and baking powder into a bowl. Stir in brown sugar. Melt butter. Beat eggs and milk until well combined. Make a well in the centre of the dry ingredients. Add butter, egg mixture and chocolate chips. Mix just to moisten. ¾ fill greased, deep muffin tins. Bake at 190°C for 20 minutes or until cooked. Makes 12.

Comment: I made some and they are yummy! ED

GUEST SPEAKER ***Chris Whitby***

Chris gave us a most interesting and informative talk on potting mediums. He explained that while living in South Africa there was not the variety of mediums available so he had to experiment with anything he could get hold of. Mostly charcoal.

He explained that every glass house has its own feel or micro climate so you must decide what is going to suit your conditions and the way you water your plants and of course what orchids you are growing.

Paphs like a smaller bark that can be well watered, but kept drier over winter.

If using bark give it a good soaking prior to use and only use the bark that remains floating.

Sphagnum moss is very good but be careful over winter when you water as it can remain too damp for some species. Pack the moss loosely in the pot.

Rock wool and pumice and perlite are being used quite a bit now. Be careful while using the rock wool while dry as it can cause itching. Use gloves and work with it damp.

Palm fibre is good for phallies but not paphs.

Tip: Paphs like to be in small pots. Check the top leaf, if it is not at 45° it is lacking water.

Thanks Chris for sharing your knowledge with us.



From behind the shade house.....



Pam went away for a few days and left Bruce and her son's in law to re-paper and paint a couple of rooms. Roy, during the same period of time had some house guests, all being women. He offered Bruce a woman as he had spare, (meaning that she cook for Bruce). Now Bruce thought this over for a bit and then said 'OK, she can help me to strip!' (I think he meant the wallpaper)! Better keep an eye on that son Pam!



Opened the Herald and there was Irene's son Alan looking at me. Alan was on a sand yacht having won his race. This is a very gutsy guy as he is a paraplegic who has a go at any sport he can. He is also our club auditor. Go Alan!

AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS

There are changes coming into place on the 1st January 2007 which effect the way we handle and manage our sprays. The aim of this legislation is to ensure safe, responsible and effective use of agrichemicals, (herbicides, insecticides and fungicides). Many of these chemicals will be limited for use by persons who have attended a certified course and been granted an 'Approved Handler' certificate. You will not be able to buy chemicals in quantities greater than 200ml from the garden centres and this will be limited to chemicals which are not of such a hazardous nature as to require an 'Approved Handler certificate'. Some chemicals currently in use are very toxic both to ourselves and the environment and their use is going to be tracked.

All chemicals should always be kept in a locked cupboard which is made of wood. If you have toxic chemicals lurking in your garden shed or glasshouse which you are unlikely to use, please consider disposing of it in a safe manner so as the environment is not contaminated. There is a collection being held on **Sat. Dec 9th 2006** at Albany. The HazMobile will be at the Hooten Car Park in Otira Valley Road, off Mills Lane between 9.30-2pm (usually very busy from 10-11.30) Please pack your chemicals in a cardboard box plastic lined if any risk of leakage, and place in the boot of your car. At the collection site you will be asked to open the boot, and the box will be removed without you getting out of your car.

If you want more information contact or other collection times/dates please review the HazMobile website at www.hazmobile.govt.nz

For information on courses to achieve your 'Approved Handler' certificate please email info@growsafe.co.nz

Remember when spraying to wear appropriate protective clothing. Lee Neale