

WAITAKERE ORCHID CLUB BULLETIN

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Popular vote this month was won by Leroy Orchids with Epi Pacific Glow 'Marie'.
Congratulations!

MESSAGE FROM THE SHOW MARSHAL

Show Committee elections will be held during the October club meeting. Please consider coming on the committee - it would be great to see some new faces as the same gang has been doing it for years and it is hard to come up with some new ideas. The Show Marshal's job is always open, so if you'd like to take it on I'd be only too pleased to hand it over.

Ken, Pauline and I will be putting on a display at the Howick Show on 5th October. If you have plants please let us know on club night.

Next year's Ribbon Show will be held at the Whenuapai Hall on Saturday 23rd February. Please take note of this date. We'll give you more details later in the year.

Thank you,
Glenys.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday

October 2nd 7.30pm, Lions Whitehouse

Prize Giving, Show Committee elections and talks on oncidium and masdevallia culture.

Please bring a small plate for supper which will be held during the evening. Plants on display, trading table and library will be operating this month. Help will be needed to vacuum the floor

BUS TRIP TO TARANAKI SUMMER SHOW

January 11th, 12th & 13th, 2013

We will be taking a 37 seater bus so we do have a couple of spare seats.

Please pay \$50 deposit at the October meeting, balance in December.

Raffle results.....

Winners were Bev Meredith and Hugh Fraser.

Thanks to those who donated raffle prizes.

The raffle made \$58 which will go towards club costs.

FROM THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

We started the meeting with a period of silence to reflect on the life of Reg Watson.

President Lee welcomed members to the September meeting. No visitors were present for our New Members night.

Apologies: Mary Jones, Irene Levet, Norma Manuel, Diana Elfleet, Aylis Logan, Assid and Miriam Corban.

Sick: Grahamae Leafberg.

Notices: Left at our Spring Show - One Oncidium and a pottle of slow release fertiliser.

Orchid Council National Raffle - the club still has some books to sell.

Orchid Expo in Taranaki 2013: The club needs some design ideas for their display, please make suggestions to Glenys or Dennis.

The club has been approached by a man in Titirangi who has orchids to give away. Please phone Laurie on 817 4698 if you would like them.

The club has been donated a copy of OrchidWiz Express, it will be auctioned at a silent auction at the November meeting.

The Auckland Horticultural Council is holding its sweet Pea Show on the 24th November 10.00am - 3pm. Free entry.

Dates of orchid shows in the area for this month were advised. The WOC is putting on a display at the South Auckland Orchid Show, Ken needs plants for this display by the morning of

Cymbidiums

Ross Crabb told us his growing secrets. His plants are housed in a shade house with a plastic floor, he does not add extra protection around the sides during winter. Ross grows his plants in No 3 bark. He feeds with *Bio Plus* and uses slow release fertiliser on plants he has not recently repotted. Ross likes to grow seedlings as there is always an element of surprise when flowering them. (This was the first time Ross has done a 'talk' at the club and it was great to hear his way of growing).

Melvin Alexander also gave us information on his growing conditions and hints on culture. His plants are housed in in his carport raised off the floor on a bench. The bench faces east. The sides are covered in shade cloth and the south end has plastic covering during the winter for a bit of protection from the cold. Melvin repots every 2 years and adds *Osmocote* to his plants in spring and also uses *Bio Plus* fertiliser. He ensures all his pots have free drainage. (Another first 'talk' and once again good to hear how other people grow).

Dendrobiums

Glenys MacRae had really done her homework for her talk. She had 1 1/2 pages of typed notes which we have edited to fit the newsletter. Her plants grow on her patio and in summer she makes her rotary clothes line into a shadehouse. (A novel idea but we didn't hear what she does with her laundry!)

The genus *Dendrobium* has about 1400 species and can be found in many parts of the world. They flower from spring to early summer and some have a rest

One of the easiest groups of dendrobiums to grow are the Australian natives and they are great plants for beginners. They like to grow in a free draining medium. No2 bark for small plants, No3 for bigger plants. They do not like 'wet feet' but they do like plenty of light, fresh air and humidity.

They can be grown successfully in shallow pots and rafted onto slabs.

Repot in October after flowering. The pot should be just big enough to contain the root system. Some people like to leave their plant in the same pot until the pot is about to split.

Watering: Generally a thorough watering is more effective than frequent light watering. It is preferable to water in the morning so that leaves are dry by nightfall. Increase watering in summer and cut back in cooler months.

Feeding: A variety of fertilisers can be used particularly during the warmer months (spring to autumn). A good one to start on is *Bio Plus* at least once a week. This fertiliser can be used on other genera so is good if you have a small mixed collection.

Air movement: Very important for all orchids and is helpful in preventing fungal and bacterial diseases.

Dendrobiums produce aerial plants (keikei's) which can be potted up and grown into new plants.

Pests: Watch for scale and aphids.

A non toxic spray can be used against these.

2 tablespoons Surf washing powder.

1 tablespoon methylated spirits

1 tablespoon all seasons oil

Mix into 4 litres of water for spraying.

Don't spray on flowers as the oil will mark them.

Nobile type dendrobiums are an Indian species. They are easy to bloom and come in a multitude of colours. They produce elongated pseudobulbs known as canes, and the flowers are produced in two's and three's along the cane between the leaves. They flower in spring after winter resting.

Grow in cool to intermediate conditions. Good light is essential for flowering. Water well in summer but keep plants

Epidendrums

Lee Neale.

The most common form grown is the 'crucifix' orchid which grows easily in the garden. Breeding today is changing their form to more compact plants with bigger heads of flowers. They belong to the same family as cattleya's so can be cross bred with them.

Potting medium is No2 bark (fine roots so fine bark), with addition of crushed shells and pumice.

Liquid feeding at every watering is advocated using a variety of fertilisers to ensure a coverage of trace elements and a calcium feed about once per month which helps prevent die back of leaf tips.

Pick the tip out of your small growing plants to encourage new growths for a compact plant.

A message from Roy re granular fertiliser.

There are two main types.

a. Glass coated prills which expand and contract with temperature changes but do not dissolve, eg **Osmocote**, which needs to be spread on top of the pot where it will heat up, expand, and release small amounts of fertiliser over a long period of time.

b. Granule types which dissolve rapidly when water is added. There is a risk of

Happy October Birthday to....

Glenys MacRae, Melvin Alexander, Ross Crabb, Bruce Hughes, and Michael Sue.

We would like to extend our love and condolences to Jill Mickleburg and her family on the recent passing of her husband Terry.

PLANTS ON DISPLAY

AERANGIS

Aeris citrata
- Don Hodge

CALANTHE

Cal vestita
- Dennis Chuah

CATTLEYA

C Dream Catcher
- Dennis Chuah

COELOGYNE

Coel cristata
- Willian and Man Lo

CYMBIDIUM

Cym Little Kiwi 'E'
Cym Del's Delight 'Lionel' AM/OCNZ;
BM/CSA
Cym Claude Pepper x *tracyanum*
Cym Dr Baker x Fascination
Cym Kiwi Connection 'Joanne'
HCC/OCNZ; HCC/NZOS
Cym Vieux Rose x Panama Rose
Cym Mighty Mouse x Mouchette
- Ross Crabb
Cym Pure Love 'Pure Chance'
- Melvin Alexander
Cym Mary Green
- William and Man Lo

DENDROBIUM

Den *falcorostrum* (could be incorrectly
labelled, possibly *Delicatum*)
- Ron Reeves
Den 2 plants phalaenopsis type with no
name
- Kim Young
Den Rutherford Sunspot x Aussie
Quest (x2)
Bicentennial Rose x Ellen =
Rutherford Sunspot. (Please re-label th
2nd plant)
Den *kingianum*
- Wolf and Faith Grausch
Den Berry x (Ranger x Fiestafal*)
- William and Man Lo

DENDROCHILUM

Ddc arachnites

DOCKRILLIA

Doc teretifolia
- ??????????

EPIDENDRUM

Epi Pacific Glow 'Marie'
- Leroy Orchids

MASDEVALLIA

Masd Don's Dream
- William and Man Lo

ONCIDOPSIS (was a Burrageara)

Oip Nelly Isler
- ??????????

PAPHIOPEDILUM

Paph Rosy Dawn
- Ken Morse

PHALAENOPSIS

Phal Barbara King x Zuma's Pixie*
- Linda Alexander

RESTREPIA

Rstp elegans
- Dennis Chuah

SARCOCHILUS

Sarco aequalis
- Wolf and Faith Grausch

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

Plant names written in *italics* depicts it is
a *species*.

The plant commentary was conducted
by Dennis Chuah.

Lost and
Found in KL.
One cow and
matching
kitten. Is this
yours Beryl?

**DON'T FORGET TO
BRING YOUR \$50
DEPOSIT FOR THE
TARANAKI BUS TRIP TO
THE MEETING!**