



# Newsletter

February 2008

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## ***From the Editor.***

### **Happy Orchid Growing**

It is hard to believe that Christmas has been and gone and we are just about into March.

To all that have had health hiccups over the Christmas – New Year period speedy recovery hope to see you at the next meeting.

Our Christmas Meeting at the Taradale Club was great, I don't think anyone left with any complaints. The food was great, now one could say that they didn't have enough.

There was a good but small display of orchids, (mostly small species) and then the raffle of plants that the society had purchased from L & K Orchids.

This has been a feature of our Christmas Meetings for years now and it is amazing the numbers of these plants that are coming through at our shows and meetings, there were even a couple on display.

In late January we had a barbeque at Ross & Barbara Strachan's, this was a great success even after the date being changed at the last minute to accommodate Barb & Ross's late minute dash to Wellington so Ross could go under the knife, also there as virtually as bed mates was Alf Jane, get well both of you.

## ***Bus Trip.***

The Society is looking at arranging a bus trip over Labour weekend to L&K Orchids at Tuakau, this will include a few side trips, if interested please contact Barbara.

## ***Vale.***

Kit Ching Lam Lo, known to us all as Ching. Ching past away on January the 1<sup>st</sup>. a loved wife of Andrew and mother of Kwan.

Ching was a very good grower of orchids, when ever she brought plants to meetings or shows they were always well presented and always of the highest quality. Her love of orchids was great even with her illness Andrew and Kwan would get her to shows all over the place so she could have a look at the orchids. She was always covered her illness behind a façade that if you didn't know that she was sick you would never of known it, even to the extent that she fronted up to help on the sales table at the Sarc. Show in November.

Ching will be missed by members and nonmembers for her cheery help on the sales table and her obvious love of food and cooking by the treats she would bring along to show's etc.

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### *Judging.*

The final judging meeting of the year was held at Bernie Killington's home, there after Bernie had stood down as our leader, Bev Lowe was elected to take his place, congratulations Bev, and thanks Bernie for your effort over the years.

A judging meeting was held at Dave Turners home on the 10<sup>th</sup>. of February, and very successful it was.

The Next Meeting for judges is a regional meeting at Palmerston North on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March.

If any one's got great plant that we can take down to skite about, contact Bev on 843 9467

### *Next Meeting.*

The next meeting will be at Taradale Town Hall on 3<sup>d</sup>. of March starting at 7-45 pm. Learners at 7-15pm in the kitchen.

The subject of this meeting will be **Disa's** Carl will be giving a talk and demonstration on repotting along with a few slides that he has taken of his own plants and some taken in Taranaki at the last summer show there.

### *Cutural Notes.*

Here is some cultural notes prepared by Ross, I hope we can persuade him to give us a few more, as a regular feature.

We are at present enjoying wonderful warm summer conditions so ventilation is still very important. A growing area with warmth & air movement means that regular watering is important.

Cymbidium Orchids must never be dry, watering the floor every morning helps create a bush environment.

When watering plants always give adequate water so that water runs right through and out the bottom of the pot.

It is a good habit to get into, feed plants on a regular program. I still feel that the best one is to feed the plants at  $\frac{1}{2}$  the recommended strength with your favorite product of food every 2<sup>nd</sup> time you water.

If you have a small number of plants water thoroughly with a hose then mix your fertilizer in a bucket & put a cupful of this mixture on each plant. NEVER water a dry plant with fertilizer.

As the weather cools & we get heavier dews watering will be required less often. But that is the time when hopefully new spikes will start to show and we must be aware of slugs & snails, also to be prepared to stake spikes.

The stake should be put a along side the spike & in from the edge of the pot. a good rule of thumb is to tie the spike up to beneath the lower bud

Train spikes as they start to extend only on warm afternoons.

Happy growing  
Ross Ross-Taylor

3).

### ***February Meeting.***

This meeting was well attended with a good display of plants, after the formal part of the meeting a slide presentation on Australian Dendrobiums and Sarcochilus and there hybrids. This presentation was the same one that Ray Clements of Tinonee Orchids presented at the International Orchid Expo in Hamilton in 2005.

### ***Cultural Award.***

Ross had a run through the plants on display and made comments on some out standing plants on display, Bill gave a quick rundown on the different Dendrobiums and Oncidiums that he had brought along.

The cultural award for the night went to Ross & Barbara Strachan Dpts. I- Hsin Black Jack (Change your label Barb)

### ***Popular Vote.***

**Novice.** There were no entries in this class. (Get you're a into g you novice growers)

<b>Open.</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup>.</b> R & B Strachan *	Dpts. I- Hsin Black Jack
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup>.</b> Lesly Haren	Brassia verrucosa
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup>.</b> Bev & Dave Lowe	Cat. Snow Blind

**Cymbidium.** No entries

<b>Species.</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup>.</b> Bev & Dave Lowe	Neofinetio falcata
	<b>2<sup>nd</sup>.</b> Bev & Dave Lowe	Den. crepidiferum
	<b>3<sup>rd</sup>.</b> M. O'Malley	Onc. incurvum

Plants with a \* please change your labels.

### ***Future Meetings.***

<b>March 3<sup>d</sup>.</b>	<b>Carl repotting Disa's</b>
<b>April 7<sup>th</sup>.</b>	<b>Alf Day from Auckland. A World expert on Odontoglossums.</b>
<b>May 5<sup>h</sup>.</b>	<b>Dr. Mike Lusk. Native orchids in Hawkes Bay.</b>
<b>June 9<sup>h</sup>.</b>	<b>AGM and Culture.</b>
<b>July 7<sup>h</sup>.</b>	<b>A Visit from the Fire Brigade?</b>
<b>August 4<sup>h</sup>.</b>	<b>A talk on species and there culture</b>
<b>August 29.</b>	<b>Yes this meeting is early, we have an <del>Oz</del> speaker on tour; Murray Shergold (this is a Friday night.)</b>

**Please remove back page for your record of**

## meetings and Shows.

# *H.B.O.S. Programme 2008*

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>General</u>	<u>Judging</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Committee</u>
January.				21
February.	4	10	17	18
March.	3	9	16	17
April.	7	13		21
May.	5	11		19
June.	9	15		23
July.	7	13		21
August.	4	10		18
August.	29			
September.		7	15	
October.	6	12		20
November.	3	9		17
December.	1	17		

## *Dates to Remember*

9<sup>th</sup>. June Annual General Meeting H.B.O.S. Taradale Town Hall.  
12<sup>th</sup>. July Winter Show Clive Town Hall.  
20<sup>th</sup>.-21<sup>st</sup>. September Spring Show Taradale Town Hall.  
1<sup>st</sup>. November Sarcophilus Show Taradale Town Hall.

### Outside Shows of Interest.

12<sup>th</sup>.-13<sup>th</sup>. April Bay of Plenty Orchid Society at Te Puke Town Hall  
18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>. August Auckland Orchid Club  
27<sup>th</sup>. – 28<sup>th</sup>. September Manawatu Orchid Society  
4<sup>th</sup>. – 5<sup>th</sup>. October. Wairarapa Orchid Circle.

**For all your supplies of Bark. Pots, Plant  
Clips.**

**Labels, Stakes & Sphagnum Moss.**

Enquires & Price List Contact: Bill Liddy  
Phone: 06 836 6735 Email: [wflid@xtra.co.nz](mailto:wflid@xtra.co.nz)

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