



MOS NEWSLETTER

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Next Meeting: May AGM: Saturday 16th 1:30 p.m. Autumn lingers and some days the weather seems better than summer. But then the sun goes down ... Never mind that. Come along on Saturday for an entertaining afternoon featuring guest speaker Ken Ham.

Ken is a well known and highly respected member of our community with interesting tales and telling observations for us all. This meeting offers something a little bit different so you are urged to get out and make the most of this opportunity for an entertaining afternoon.

As it is once again the end of our financial year it is time for a presidents report and time to remind everybody subs are due. They remain at \$20 per member or \$30 per family these are important for the day to day running of the Society, such as this newsletter, to keep up to date with orchid publications and to maintain our very important affiliation with OCNZ.

Don't be shy if you would like a turn on the committee – we always welcome new blood.

The April Meeting:

Our April Buy-Sell Swap was well attended with a great display table and a number of fine plans found new homes.

Plant Display:

Cattleya		(Best Presented)	
Blc Melinda Wheeler	Phil Norton	Others	
Slc Waikiki Gold x(Bracey x <i>L pumila</i>)	" "	Asco ??	Brian Day
L Intercepts	Peter Peterson	(Best large flower)	
Cymbidium		Onc Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'	" "
Cym Chieftain	Rosemary	Vanda Harvest Time x Pontip	Phil Norton
Clark (Best Cymbidium)		<i>Brassavola nodosa</i>	" "
Cym 'green' un-named	Peter Peterson	<i>Stanhopea inodora var album</i>	" "
Paphiopedilum		Milt Tropic Dawn x <i>bluntii</i>	
<i>Paph</i> Helenae	Allister King	Zygo Blues Eyes x Purple Thunder	" "
<i>Paph</i> Keelingii HCC	" "	Zygo ??	Allison Vercoe
<i>Paph</i> insigne var <i>sanderae</i>	Brian Day	<i>Coel tomentosa</i> 'Nisha Zayd' HCC	Ian Blissett
		Masd 'red'	Peter Peterson
		Phal equestris x	Allister King



Paph Helenae

Future Meetings

June 19th: Mid Winter Lunch: Our social committee have been hard at it again and after much travail and anguish (it's hard being on the social committee!) have selected 'The Secret Garden' for our venue. Names to Rosemary if you would like to join this fun occasion.

Presidents Report 2009-2010

Another year rolls on summer rolls into autumn and with confused seasons some orchids have flowered well, others have not. Part of the fun is figuring out why and trying to do better next year. Orchid growers, like all gardeners have to be patient. But while the financial world is all doom and gloom orchid just grow & flower – oblivious to everything except the weather.

This year has seen members come & go as people move from place to place or change interests. Overall our membership remains fairly steady and – better – active. There is no benefit in belonging to a group if you don't take part in their activities. Many larger groups don't get any more people to their meetings than we do.

We all enjoy a common joy – orchids. The challenge is to pass that on to new members. It is easy to get complacent and think we know all about orchids & how to grow them. The truth is no one ever can, we can all learn and we should all be willing to try new things. We should also be alert for opportunities to pass on our knowledge. Everybody has something to contribute, especially to people new to orchids.

One method of disseminating knowledge is our monthly newsletter. It is always more than just a diary of meetings and each month I try to include something new that could be of use to all our members.

This year saw the purchase of a data projector to replace our outmoded slide projector. This was purchased with the assistance of a grant from the Council Community Grants program. This has proved most valuable and gives us the ability to view power-point presentations, slide shows and movies in the brightest conditions.



Drymoanthus adversus

A glance over our program from last year shows a variety of subjects and activities, some part of our regular program, some novel.

- May – Data projector demo program
- June – Report from the Subcontinent – Ian Blissett
- July – DVD and discussion on Cattleya – OCNZ library
- August – Rocks and Minerals – Jack Cook
- September – Horticultural Show Display
- October – Orchid House Visits
- November – Native Orchid Stroll and discussion on native orchids from NZNOS DVD
- December – Christmas Dinner at Fairweathers.
- February – BBQ lunch at Phil and Annes
- March – Canal Boating in Bourgogne - Phil
- April – Buy Sell and Swap meeting

A major feature of most of our meetings is the display table. This is always of a high standard and often generates useful discussion. We are pleased that Allister has been able to bring along his Paph's and Phrag's for us to admire despite not enjoying the best of health. Allister's plants are as good as you will see anywhere and we are privileged to see them.

The task of rolling out our library has been greatly eased by the addition of a rolling book-case. This gives us an opportunity to bring out some of our magazine collection as well.

Your committee has kept up a solid year of maintaining an interesting program and managing the occasional business that crop up. This despite not having the services of Ian while he undertook treatment. We are pleased to have him back and well on the road to full fitness. My particular thanks to the committee for their work during the year and especially to Allison for her meticulous minutes and her hospitality hosting the committee meetings each month.

Philip Norton, President.