

# The Taranaki Orchid Society Inc.

P O Box 635, NEW PLYMOUTH



## NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2009

### NEXT EVENING MEETING

*10th November 2009 – Make a note of it on your calendar now!*

in the Central School Hall, Pendarves Street, New Plymouth, commencing at 7.30pm.

Come along and join in for this evening meeting. The programme was not available at the time this newsletter went to print, so it will be a surprise for you.

Trophies from the Spring Show will be presented to the clever winners!

- \* Bring along your plants for display, sometimes this may be the only way others get to see and enjoy them
- \* Don't forget some gold coins to buy raffle tickets though.
- \* There may be members with plants for sale at the meeting.
- \* Last but not least – please remember to wear your name label at the meeting!!

\* **Supper Duties: Murray and Hazel Fawcett**

### NEXT DAY GROUP MEETING

*19 November 2009 – Make a note of it on your calendar now!*

The next Day Group meeting will be held on Thursday, 19 November 2009, at **Cliff and Ruth Coles, 72 Riversdale Drive, New Plymouth**. Phone: (06) 757-4408, gathering at 9:30am for a cuppa, meeting commences at 10:00am. Don't forget to bring something for the raffle and of course, some gold coins to purchase some tickets!

**Jennie Meads has offered to hold the Christmas Day Group meeting on Thursday, 17 December 2009. Members, please let the committee know asap whether you feel this date is too late in December.**

## TOOTAPPS TOPIC

Hi folks,

Boy time flies by quick, I just seem to do one of these and there is another one due.

First of all I would like thank all who attended our last meeting, for their input into the forum, I thought there may have been a bit more involvement from the floor but what was discussed was very interesting.

Don't look now but Christmas is upon us, which means our Summer Show is only two months away!!!!!!

At this point I am going to sound like a squeaky hinge, and remind people about the fun to be had, and the knowledge to be gained by attending all or part of this great occasion. All the different groups have meetings / seminars (mazzy, odont, disa, paph etc) which you can attend, **AT NO CHARGE**, and you get to learn an awful lot. You do not have to do anything else, but if you are able, please lend a hand to set up and dismantle, and roster your name with Joy or Cyril if you could lend a hand at some stage over the weekend. It never ceases to amaze me that so many of our members do not attend this sort of weekend, there really is a lot of fun to be had, and new friendships to be formed.

I'm sorry if you have heard all this from me before, but it is a bit of a soapbox issue for me, as I would like to see more of our members involved in things and getting more from the Society, it does not take a lot of effort, and it makes the workload a little easier for all.

I will have another spiel on this next month to try and generate some enthusiasm amongst members, so BEWARE. 'Til next month.

Muzza. ( Your Prez.)

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## Report from LAST EVENING MEETING

Last meeting we had questions and as many answers as we could extract on general culture of orchids, facilitated by Kath Bruce along with George Fuller, who, as always, had a wealth of information to give to the members. Subjects touched on were: variegated leaves on a Disa plant – maybe needs a bit more nitrogen and possibly more light. The plant receives liquid feeding, Phostrogen and others and is watered on a timer, at 10:00am and 2:00pm. Neem granules – the question was asked ‘can you use too much’ to which one grower replied that he puts ½ tsp around a 200mm (8”) pot every 6 months. (See article on Neem – 2008 Yearbook, Page 87.)

A member said his *Pleurothallis truncata* never flowers. It used to, but not lately. It produces lots of pups and is growing in 3FB. Someone cheekily suggested he should give it to Paddy!! There were a few other suggestions too. Another member has three seedpods on a Thunia and asked what she should do with them. Leave pods until dry, then try sowing in the fines of the bark – keep slightly damp. Orchid seed is very fine – it requires some moisture, some light, and the right temperature to germinate in this way. Symbiotic – seed germinating with fungus association, as opposed to Asymbiotic – seed germinating in a laboratory situation – no fungus.

Thanks to everyone for contributing to a most interesting discussion on orchid culture.

**Popular Vote:** 1<sup>st</sup> : Cattlianthe Blue Chance owned by Allan Watson  
2<sup>nd</sup> : *Odontoglossum* Elaine ‘Gillard’ x *Oncidium* Jorge Verboonen, owned by Maureen Russ  
Very sorry, but the names were not recorded so I’m not sure which ones won.

**Lucky Door Prize:** Murray Fawcett

**Raffle Winners:** Hazel Fawcett, Lois Peters, Paddy Fox, Maureen Russ, Joy Furze, Gary Faigan, Tom Godkin, Jean Nicholson.

**SUMMER SHOW** – January 2010. This event is fast approaching and there is a lot to do between now and then, not only with ‘orchids’!! The notification and registration forms have been sent out with the last newsletter, so please give some thought as to how YOU can be of help with the setting up and running of this show. It is the only orchid event that is held at this time of the year and we have people register from all over the country, so we must make sure we put on the most enjoyable weekend that they could wish for. I rather like the idea put forward at the Day Group meeting of holding a BBQ when the Car Boot Sale is on – anyone like to volunteer? Would be something different to what we have done before. Any other ideas, please let any of the committee know asap so that we can give them due consideration in plenty of time.

Would any new members who joined since the 2008 AGM, which was held in July 2008, please contact Cyril Whittaker at your earliest convenience. Ph: 759-4388.
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## Report from LAST DAY GROUP MEETING

On Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009, 13 Members attended the Meeting hosted by Lois Peters and Chaired by Cliff Coles in the absence of Neville Morris, who is recuperating following Surgery. From the Day Group we wish you a speedy recovery Neville.

The Meeting commenced with a large plant display and each contributing member gave a brief talk on their plants and answered some interesting questions.

Jenny W was first with her Sarcs, Mini Cyms, Odonts, a ‘no name’ Vanda crossing and Dockrillias.

Ruth had 2 each of Phallies, Dendrobs and Sarcs.

Jennie M had several ‘no name’ Cyms and invited members to provide name if possible.

Cliff with *Cym. devonianum* well grown and said plants should be grown high and fed with sheep pellets.

*Oncidium* ‘leleui’ with large bulbs but disappointing small flowers, several Massies.

Dawn had 2 Dockrillias.

George had several Pleione variants of ‘Doris’, *Cym. tigrinum*, Massies coloured white through to bright red, plus *Sophrolaeliocattleyas*.

All in all, a brilliant display which created a constructive and interesting morning.

On behalf of the Committee, Nola was invited to speak and asked Members present if they had any suggestions for the Night Meeting programme. Most appeared to be happy with the present format but some comments were made about the yearly showing of Awards were to long and asked the possibility of shortening same. Also the suggestion of different seating arrangement so it was friendlier, like the Day Meeting.

Lois also suggested at the Summer Show we should have a Sausage Sizzle during the Boot Sale.

Raffle winners were Jenny, Terry x 2, Jennie x 3, Flo x 2, Cliff, Lois, Ruth, Michelle x 2, Grahame.

Cliff thanked Lois for her hospitality and announced the next Day Meeting will be at Cliff and Ruth Coles, 72 Riversdale Drive on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

Many thanks to Grahame Hill for providing this writeup.

# PLANT LISTS

## George Fuller

- Pleione formosana* 'Colossus'  
“ *formosana* 'Phyllis Every' AM/OCNZ  
“ Chinese Dragon 'Wanganui'  
“ Ueli Wackernagel 'Wow!' AM/OCNZ

## *Cymbidium Cooperi* 'Plush'

- “ Tiger Hunt  
“ *lowianum*

## *Masdevallia coccinea* 'Rosea'

- “ *igneae* 'Paradise'  
“ *veitchiana* 'Torbay'  
“ *veitchiana* 'Merv's Victory'  
“ Rubicon 'Red Beauty'  
“ Falcata 'Goldfinch'  
“ Falcata 'Golden Pheasant'  
“ Fraseri 'Red Lips'  
“ Fraseri 'Merry Christmas'  
“ Jim Harper 'Galena Sunrise'  
“ Jim Harper 'k'  
“ Red Flamingo 'Zambesi Red'  
“ Carmita  
“ Trevor Gillbanks 'Referee'

## Joy Wray

- Lycaste Sulphura*  
*Phalaenopsis* Ho's Colourful Bubbles  
“ Golden Peoker  
“ Ever-spring Prince 'Black Eagle' AD/OCNZ  
*Paphiopedilum* Barbara Meads 'Kathe  
Memoria' AM/OCNZ

## Murray & Hazel Fawcett

- Sarcochilus* Perky  
*Dendrobium* Duno Luckys Zip x Spec. Fun  
'Daylight Moon'  
*Cymbidium* Pure Love 'Egmont Gold' x Flying Fish  
'Leeroy' = *Cym.* Leroy's Snow \*\*  
*Cymbidium* Sussex Dawn x Sleeping Beauty  
= *Cym.* Sleeping Dawn \*\*

- Pleione formosana* 'Colossus'  
“ Lilac Beauty  
“ Shantung 'Apricot Brandy'

- Masdevallia* Falcata  
“ Jeanette 'Daintiness'

- Odontocidium* Hans Neuenhaus 'Bert' \*\*  
*Burrageara* Living Fire

## Maureen Russ

- Dendrochilum tenellum* 'Carabou Whiskers'  
*Dendrobium moniliforme*  
*Laeliocattleya* Mini Purple 'Alan'  
C. Helene Garcia x *L. rupestris* 'Timko Pink'  
*Odontoglossum* Elaine x *Oncidium* Jorge Verboonen  
*Sophranitis coccinea*  
*Dendrobium kingianum* (66 x Karl Marx)  
“ Burgundy Cream x Dianne Gee Gee  
“ Intense Dark x Lawrose  
“ Elegant Heart x June Mac 'Colourful'  
“ Bicentennial Rose x Lilac City (2)

- Dendrobium kingianum* 'Large Red' x Gillian  
Leaney = *Den.* Bicentennial Rose \*\*  
*Oncidium* Victoria Village  
*Odontioda* Memoria Len Page

## Paddy & Gerli Fox

- Aerides rubescens*  
*Cymbidium* Pee Wee  
*Dendrobium moniliforme*  
*Dendrobium moniliforme pseudoglomeratum*  
*Dockrillia pugioniforme*  
*Masdevallia* Kimbaliana Yellow Doll  
*amabilis* 'venusta'  
Ada's Delight 'Justine'  
Peppermint Rock  
*Oerstedella centradenia*  
*Oncidium* Gower Ramsay  
*Sarcochilus ceciliae x australis* = *Sarco.* Jane \*\*  
*Zygopetalum crinitum*

## Dawn Bowen

- Cymbidium* Kiwi Cascade x Black Ruby  
*Dendrobium* Pukekura Park  
*Laelia jongheana x kautskyana*

## Ken Davey

- Pterostylis* sp. Aff. Montana  
*Pterostylis* sp.

## Allan Watson

- Dendrobium cassiope*  
*Laeliocattleya* Mandarin Melody  
“ Rojo  
“ (CG Roebing x Blue Boy) \*\*  
= *Cattlianthe* Blue Chance

## Marea & Gary Faigan

- Dendrobium tetragonum*  
*Sarcochilus* Heidi x (hartmannii x Dove)

## Franz Zumbuhl

- Ada keiliana*  
*Aliceara* Royal Ebony  
*Cattleya intermedia concolor x aquinii*  
“ *intermedia* 'Spots'  
*Chondroscaphe chestertonii*  
*Dendrobium alexandrae*  
“ Gerald McCraith  
“ *hodgkinsonii*  
*Laelia bahiensis*  
“ *brevicaulis*  
“ *cinnabarina* var. *cowanii*  
“ *endsfeldzii*  
“ *kautskyana*  
*Leptotes unicolor alba*  
*Masdevallia coccinea* 'Shocking Pink'  
*Paphiopedilum* Blackberry Delight x (Geyserland  
x *callosum*)  
*Sphyrarhynchus schliebenii*  
*Phaius schlechterii*  
*Mormolyca ringens*  
\*\* Please update your label

The following verse was penned by Maureen Russ: Thank you so much, Maureen, well done.

*orchids are my hobby, along with a few other things  
The different species and flowers are the pleasure they all bring  
Cymbids, dendrobs, odonts, sarcs and many more  
All make up my collection, right up to the door.  
Brilliant colours, orange, red, yellow and green  
They all help to make me happy and smile with a gleam.  
watering and feeding and spraying the lot  
keeps me busy, like checking the pots  
For slugs and snails and mealy bugs too,  
But the rewards outway all the things to do.*

## ME AND MY ORCHIDS

Belonging to an Orchid society has a number of benefits. These include meeting great people, sharing a common hobby and of course learning about orchids and the ultimate benefit in getting given the odd free plant. So over the next months the challenge will be to get others to write about themselves and their orchids. To make this easier a simple question and answer format will be used:

**Name of Orchid Grower(s):** Joy Wray

**What type of Orchids do you grow?** Most of my collection are phalaenopsis, but I also have many other genera, such as paphiopedilums, a couple of phragmipediums, dendrobiums, miltoniopsis, ascocendas, minicatts, beallara, oncid, dendrochilum, and a few odd species, all of which I attempt to grow in the same conditions, which doesn't always work too well. However, I do always have something flowering to bring into the house all year round which is one reason why I enjoy growing them.

**What type of growing conditions do you have?** I have a small Eden glasshouse which is lightly painted with white paint and also has a shade cloth covering over the outside of the roof and down one side about 100mm off the roof, which provides a bit more shade, especially through the summer months when the sun is quite fierce. Two of the benches inside have a hot bed, which gives the phallies nice warm 'bottoms' and keeps them a little warmer through the winter months. Sometimes when we are expecting a frost, I turn on a little heater with a thermostat just before retiring to bed and turn it off in the morning. Surprisingly, the glasshouse doesn't seem to get down below about 5°C, even on a cold night. O.K. for some plants but not for the phalaenopsis. They prefer conditions a lot warmer than that, but it can become a very expensive exercise. They can be quite happy growing inside your home in a warm spot and if they get regular feeding, they will reward you.

As our Society is affiliated to the Orchid Council, your committee feels that the Council website should be included in our newsletter. We invite you to visit the site when you have a moment and check it out. Included in it are, OCNZ Awards, Society meeting dates and show dates, club news, introductions to the Orchid Council executive committee and several links to other interesting sites, including newsletters from other societies. Take a look next time you are on line at: [www.orchidcouncil.co.nz](http://www.orchidcouncil.co.nz)

If you would like the plants you take to the meetings written up in the newsletter, please ensure you place your list in the green box next to the plants on the night of the meeting. If you do not have it available at that time, please post or email to Joy Wray, PO Box 635, New Plymouth 4340, or email: [joywray@xtra.co.nz](mailto:joywray@xtra.co.nz)

We encourage everyone to participate in the Popular Vote at the meetings, i.e. write on a piece of paper the number of the plant that you would most like to take home. Then put it in the box provided, on the display table. There are plenty of pieces of paper and pencils available to carry out this small task. Lately, there have been very few votes cast and it would be nice to have to count at least the number of votes for the number of people in attendance.

## COMMITTEE NEWS

The next committee meeting will be held at Nola's on **Thursday, 19 November 2009**, commencing at 7:15pm. Please notify the secretary, Allan (Ph: 755-0676) if there is anything you wish to add to the agenda. Also, please contact Nola Hill, Treasurer, (Ph: 759-1606) if there are any accounts to be passed for payment.