



# *The New Zealand Orchid Society Inc.*

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## ***NZOS NEWSLETTER***

**July 2023**

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### **This Month's Orchid:**



**Cym. Misdona 'Mick's Creation' HCC/NZOS**

(Valedona x Miss Muffet)  
Registered by Mick Hughes

Just last month, as our featured plant, we had one named in honour of one of our members, Mick Hughes who sadly passed away a few years ago, and now we have another plant associated with him.

Mick was a keen Cymbidium grower and hybridizer, particularly trying to breed spotted Cymbidiums. Mick did this cross originally, and also registered it back in 2011, with one of those seedlings being awarded at that time, and given the varietal name 'Just'. Now at our Winter Show last month, another seedling has been awarded. Mick was a very quiet and unassuming guy, but one who was always active. He would have been very pleased indeed to know that just one of his crosses had been awarded, let alone that now two have.

**NEXT MEETING:**

<b>WHEN?</b>	<b>Wednesday, 16 August 2023</b>
<b>WHERE?</b>	<b><u>Meeting location:</u> Mt Albert Senior Citizens Hall, 3B Wairere Ave, Mt Albert (Next to our old haunt, the Mt Albert War Memorial Hall)</b>
<b>TIME?</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>
<b>WHAT?</b>	<b>Guest Speaker – Allan Benson</b>



This month we have Allan Benson from the Thames Orchid Society to talk to us.

He will be talking about how he grows his orchids. Allan has grown orchids for many years and has a wealth of knowledge and experience in growing a whole range of orchids. Allan has a practical approach to growing and both beginner and experienced growers will benefit from the information shared.

Allan will also have a range of his plants for sale on the night.

So, come along and find out more about how to grow your orchids, and maybe add one or two more plants to your collection at the same time.

**Notes from the President**

By the end of June, Auckland recorded its average annual rainfall - 12 months of rain in 6 months, and the rain continued during July, with August fairing no better so far.

This weather continues, challenging orchid growers with less light, colder temperatures and more moisture. For some, the extra moisture has contributed to rots and other diseases. From now onwards, treat your plants carefully and watch out for any signs of rot and disease.

Some growers believe that our orchids have not flowered as well as they have in past years, no doubt due to the lower light levels we have had.

We should soon see improved growth and flowering with daylight length increasing and the predicted drier, warmer weather.

We had a successful Winter Show, and I would like to thank all members who helped and brought plants for the display. I also congratulate all the trophy winners.

This month our guest is speaker Allan Benson who comes with a wealth of knowledge regarding a diverse range of orchids. In addition, he has a number of plants for sale. Make sure you don't miss this interesting speaker.

Later this month we are staging a display at the Waitakere Orchid Club show, so any plants that you can spare to assist with the display will be greatly appreciated – see details in the newsletter.

With our Spring Show coming up next month, it is a good time to start grooming and preparing your plants for the show.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the members who have agreed to serve on the executive committee this year. I am optimistic that the club will have a great orchid year.

Greg

### **A short report on the Winter Show**

As parking is still an issue at the Mt Albert War Memorial Hall, we again had our Winter Show at the Western Springs Garden Community Hall.

We were fortunate to still have Anjo on board, as her stint in hospital was delayed for a while.

And despite the relatively cold and miserable weather, there was a large gathering outside the door as we opened the doors at 10.00am – I guess we have all started to get used to this weather now, as we have had it since the beginning of the year.

We even had one person arrive just after 9am – in the end we gave them a chair to sit outside while they waited!



**The doors opened and in they came**

Sales were brisk, with almost no room to move around inside the hall for the first hour or so for those trying to see the show.

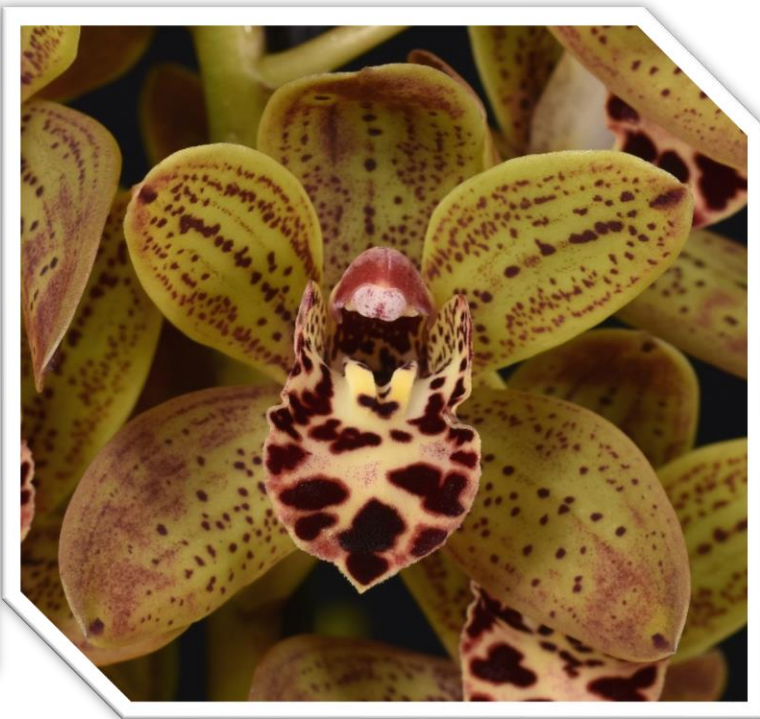


**The hall very quickly filled up with people**

Judging had been done in the afternoon on the Friday, after the setup had been completed, so the results were in, and the various champions on display for the public when we opened on Saturday.

The weather proved not to be the problem that had been forecast, but the cold and dull conditions outside, made for a welcome contrast of colourful flowers, bright light, and warmth inside.

### The Show Winners



**Grand Champion Orchid of the Show: The New Zealand Orchid Society Trophy  
and  
Champion Miniature or Intermediate Cymbidium: The Corban Trophy  
and  
Best Miniature Cymbidium: The Corban Cup**  
Cym. Misдона - Grown by: R & S Tucker



**Champion Paphiopedilum**  
Paph. Kenmag HCC/AOS AM/AOS  
Grown by: J & B Vance



**Best First Flowering Cymbidium Seedling**  
Cym. Kiwi Beauty x Denise Porter  
Grown by: R & S Tucker

**The other Trophy Winners:**



**Best Cattleya Alliance**  
Pcv. Key Lime Stars 'Triumphant'  
Grown by: **Leroy Orchids**



**Most Outstanding Oncidiinae Alliance**  
Onc. Carolyn Woolf  
Grown by: **R & S Tucker**



**Best Inter-generic Orchid**  
Zga. Kiwi Advance  
Grown by: **R & S Tucker**



**Best Phalaenopsis**  
Phal. Venice  
Grown by: **Anjo McKernan**



**Best Pleurothallid Alliance**  
*Ste. guianensis*  
Grown by: **Barry Baxter**

Some of the other plants on display:





This show has to be one of the best for some time for the number of unusual orchids on display. So many of the public, when you mention orchids, think only of Phalaenopsis, Cymbidiums, or Cattleyas, so it was good to be able to showcase some of these and educate the public a little more on the incredible diversity of orchids.



Some of the workers who helped with the show finally relaxing once the show was all cleared away and the hall cleaned:



Everyone was finally able to relax after a long day at the show

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the show – whether that was by way of plants, or helping out during the show, or both! It all helped to make create a great show.

## Welcome To New Members

The NZOS would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest members:

**Holly Brown**

**Terry Smith**

**Rossy Fleischer**



## NZOS annual subscriptions are due for 2023/24

!! A reminder to those who *haven't* paid yet, that your \$30 annual subscription is **due now**. !!

Renewal is easy, just make payment to our bank account shown below, include "subs" in the description, and you're done!

If there are any changes to your details – address, phone numbers etc, just email that through to Noel so our records remain correct.

Please make payment to our bank account number **06-0115-0179194-00**

## Report from the July Meeting

The meeting tonight was a mixture of events, with the prize giving from our recent Winter Show, plus the AGM, plus a short talk by Greg Barnes on how the correct application of water can make a difference to how well your plants can grow.

First up was our Prize Giving from the Winter Show.

There were a number of trophies up for grabs at the Winter Show – refer to the report on the Winter Show earlier in the newsletter. Ross and Susan did a good job of securing a number of these this year, probably the largest number I have seen anyone take away in the one show. So that was a great effort on their part.





Ross & Susan Tucker were the recipients of a number of trophies for the show – refer summary of the show earlier in the newsletter, taking home a total of 7 trophies!



Roy and Lee Neale (Leeroy Orchids) won the Best Cattleya Trophy, and also accepted the Best Pleurothallid Alliance Trophy on behalf of Barry Baxter

Next on the agenda for the evening was the AGM. The minutes and president's reports had previously been circulated, so the only other new business was the financial report, which Martin Bonham ran through for us.

Then it was on to the election of officers. With one nomination in each position, it was a quick resolution to have them declared elected without the need for a vote.

So, your executive for this year is:

<b>Patron:</b>	Joe Vance
<b>President:</b>	Greg Barnes
<b>Vice President:</b>	Richard Legg
<b>Secretary:</b>	Lynn Barnes
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Martin Bonham
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Noel Townsley
<b>Executive:</b>	Yvonne Tapsell
	Betty Vance
	Terry Austin
	Joe Vance
	Anjo McKernan
<b>Auditor:</b>	Heather Gurney

Congratulations to all those who have taken up the challenge to help run the club.

In the final part of the evening, Greg spoke about the benefits derived from flushing orchids.

The benefits include:

- Removal of mineral salts and other residues that have built up over time.
- Replacing stale air with fresh air.
- Saturates the potting mix and roots with moisture.

Flushing orchid potting mix with water refers to the process of thoroughly rinsing the growing medium in which the orchid is potted.

Greg explained that he had changed his cultural practices to watering more and fertilizing less, and some of the things he has observed with his plants are:

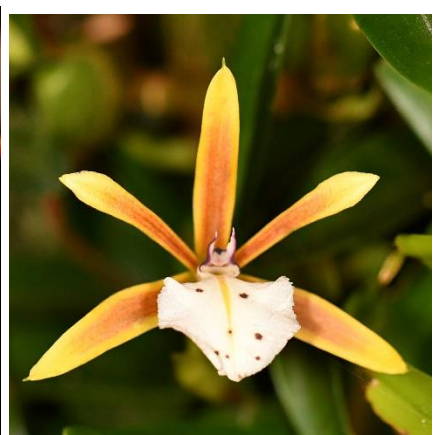
- Plants appear to look better. The leaves have taken on a healthy green colour and better turgidity
- He is of the opinion that his plants produce more roots and shoots. They are flowering better.

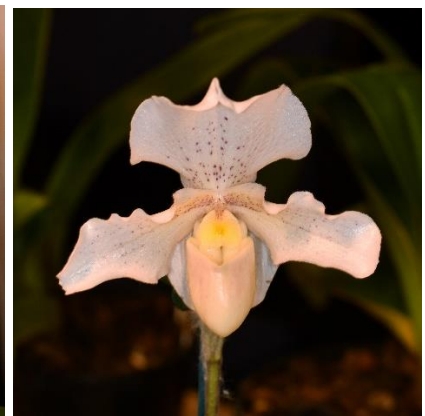
Greg has an article on his website which provides more detail about this topic:

<https://www.bioleaf.co.nz/articles/flushing-potting-mix>

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### Plants on display - compiled by Noel Townsley





**Greg & Lyn Barnes**

C. Bright Spark 'Luscious'

Ctt. (C. Brazilian Sunset [\*\*\*] x Ctt. Aussie Sunset)

**Rossy Fleischer**

L. anceps var. veitchiana

**3rd**

Din. *polybulbon*

### **Leroy Orchids**

Bulb. *longiflorum*

Psh. (*Prosthechea*) Matiana

### **Richard Legg**

Paph. Rosy Dawn

Paph. Winston Churchill 'Indominatable'

Paph. F.C. Puddle

Paph. Velimartini de Paris

Paph. Phips

Paph. Hsinying Macus [\*\*\*] '#4' x Wood Wonder 'Black Forest'

Paph. Silver Fleuret x *appletonianum*

Paph. Winston Churchill 'Redoubtable'

Paph. *gratrixianum*

**2nd**

Paph. ? 'Poole Sundancer' [\*\*\*]

Rlc. Hsinying Luna Gold (Hsinying Boy x Williette Wong)

### **Noel Townsley**

Max. *praestans*

### **R & S Tucker**

Cym. Hot Port 'Charity'

Cym. Misdonna 'Mick's Creation' HCC/NZOS

Cyr. (*Cyrtorchilum*) Rustic Sunset x *macranthum*

Onc. Elle Ronis

**1st**

Ctt. Sunset Vision

[\*\*\*] = not a valid name in OrchidWiz – please check your label



The plant commentary tonight was very ably done by Lee Neale.

Noel

## **Registration and dinner for the National Show in September**

We have received notification from the organizers regarding the National Orchid Expo, that the dinner location and costing has now been confirmed. This will be at Vilagrad Winery on Saturday, September 30. The cost of the dinner will be \$80pp (this price includes a subsidy from the Expo committee), and there will be a cash bar operating.

The dinner is a 4-course meal and will include OCNZ presentations (orchid prizes will be presented on opening night, September 27) and a guest speaker.

You may read more on their website: <https://orchidsandmore2023.wordpress.com>

If you haven't registered already for the conference, but plan to do so, I would suggest you do this soon to take advantage of the early-bird price of \$160, as will rise to \$200 on September 1, with registrations closing on September 10. I presume close-off date will be the same for the dinner.

### Wondering how to get to the National Show in September?

If you aren't keen on driving, you might want to think about joining the bus trip being organized by the Waitakere OC.

Here are the details from Lee Neale:

The Waitakere Orchid Club is organising a bus trip to the Expo at Mystery Creek Hamilton and we are inviting members of your club to join our bus. We are going on Saturday 30th September leaving Auckland at 8.30am (probable pick-up point is Western Springs but will be confirmed nearer the date) and returning by 4.30pm. The price of a seat is \$65.00 which includes the \$10 entry to the show.

If any of your members care to join us, please let me know either by phone, text or email.

My mobile no. is 02102399941 or [leeandroy99@gmail.com](mailto:leeandroy99@gmail.com)

Happy orchiding Lee

(PS Our Club is subsidising our members by \$30 per seat and if we ended up needing a bigger bus than a 28 seater the cost would reduce by \$10 or more depending on numbers and the bus size)

### New Zealand Native Orchids get a mention on TV1



Some of you may recall a few years ago, we hosted Carlos Lehnebach with a special meeting where he talked about his work on the pollination of native orchids.

Carlos is the Curator of Plants at Te Papa in Wellington, and he made the news on TV1 recently, with a report on his continuing interest in native orchids, and how his research has resulted in trials to reintroduce native orchids back into areas where they have, or have almost, disappeared.

To do this, he and other workers are attaching tea bags containing seed, moss, and the correct fungi to allow them to germinate and hopefully attach to the tree, while the tea bag, being biodegradable, will eventually break down.



Additionally, there is a backup plan, where seed is being deep frozen so that it can be used in the future if needed, should the orchid die out in the wild.



Orchid seed being frozen for the future



Attaching teabags of orchid seed to a tree

It is good to see some work is being done in this area in NZ to preserve our native orchids – there has been a lot of work in Australia regarding the study as preservation of their orchids, so it is good to see we are also catching up here, thanks to Caros.

## 2022/2023 FUTURE PROGRAMME AND UPCOMING EVENTS

**Please note, there may have been some changes of venue due to the Auckland Council's booking system, make sure you check here**

**7-8 July 2023 - NZOS Winter Show** – Western Springs Garden Community Hall

**19 July 2023** - NZOS Meeting Night – Mt Albert Senior Citizens Hall

**23 July 2023** – Waikato OS Show – Hamilton Gardens

**16 August 2023** - NZOS Meeting Night – Mt Albert Senior Citizens Hall

**18-19 August 2023** – Whangarei OS Show – Cafler Suite, Forum North

**25-26 August 2023** – Waitakere OC Show - Te Atatu Peninsula Community Centre

**2 September 2023** – South Auckland OS Show - Pukekohe War Memorial Hall

**8-9 September 2023 - NZOS Spring Show** – Western Springs Garden Community Hall

**8-9 September 2023** – Hibiscus Coast OS Show - Orewa Community Centre

**20 September 2023** - NZOS Meeting Night – Mt Albert Senior Citizens Hall

**29 Sep – 1 Oct 2023** – **National Show**, “Orchids & More” – Mystery Creek, Hamilton

**18 October 2023** - NZOS Meeting Night – Mt Albert Senior Citizens Hall

**28 October 2023** – Howick OS Show – Fencible Lounge, Howick

**4-5 November 2023** – North Shore OS “Sarc” Show – Albany Village Hall

**15 November 2023** - NZOS Meeting Night – Mt Albert Senior Citizens Hall

**27 January 2024** – **Orchid Fair** – Western Springs Garden Community Hall

## We need your plants

This month we are putting on a display for the NZOS at the **Waitakere Orchid Club's show**. This will be held at the Te Atatu Peninsula Community Centre.

Set up day is **24 August**, with the show open to the public on 25 & 26 August.

There will be a table there for us, presumably with our name on it.

Noel and Richard are putting the display together, and as it needs to be completed before judging in the early afternoon, we plan to start putting the display together about **11.00 am**.

So, if you have any plants, please let one of us know, or just put your plants on our table if you get there earlier - along with your name so we know who they belong to of course!

We will enter them into the judging for you.



This one is for you Anjo:

