



The New Zealand Orchid Society Inc.

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NZOS NEWSLETTER

August 2023

In this issue:

Next meeting

Notes from the President

Report from our last meeting

Reminders

Notices

Our upcoming Spring Show

The NZOS at other club's shows

New members

More on the National Show

Important Dates

This Month's Orchid:



Cym. Alan Napper

(Kirby Leash 'Spots' x Betty Watt 'Ann')

Bred and registered by Andy Easton

Well, I was going to write about another orchid, but as this plant of mine won the Best First Flowering Seedling at the recent Waitakere Orchid Club Show, I couldn't help myself.

This was a seedling I got from Joe & Betty Vance, who had in turn purchased a number of seedlings from one of our members, Alan Napper, who was unwell at the time and wanted to move these, and a number of his other seedlings on.

As I have a strong liking for spotted Cymbidiums, Betty suggested that I might want to take one of these seedlings.

In an interesting coincidence, that seedling that came from Alan Napper, has also been registered as Alan Napper by Andy Easton.

NEXT MEETING:

WHEN?	Wednesday, 20 September 2023
WHERE?	<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)
TIME?	7.30pm
WHAT?	Guest Speaker – Anjo McKernan & Greg Barnes on Cymbidium repotting, culture, plus growing tips



It is that time of the year when Cymbidiums are in flower, and so once they have finished flowering, it is also the time when they need to be repotted, potted on, or just generally checked to see if anything needs to be done to them, so it continues to thrive and flower for next year.

Tonight our speakers will be covering:

- ❖ Where to grow cymbidiums
- ❖ Water requirements through the seasons
- ❖ How and when to repot cymbidiums
- ❖ What to do with the leftover back bulbs
- ❖ Pest & Disease prevention & control
- ❖ Options for fertilising cymbidiums

So, come along and find out more about how to grow these rewarding orchids, that are relatively easy to grow, and come in an amazing array of shapes, colours and sizes today.

Notes from the President

With the arrival of sunnier, longer, and warmer days (😊), our plants will soon exhibit the first signs of spring growth. This presents an ideal time to start repotting and adjusting our watering and fertilisation routines.

We are in the midst of the orchid show season. Over the past month, societies have successfully hosted several shows, and our very own Spring Show this Saturday. Despite the whims of the weather, it's been truly gratifying to see the impressive displays at these events.

A highlight on the horizon is the much-anticipated 10th National Orchid Expo at Mystery Creek, slated for later this month.

The committee recently convened for a planning session for future activities. Our primary focus is centered on the art of cultivating orchids. Last month, Allan Benson generously shared a wealth of insights into general orchid care. This month's meeting will delve into the culture of Cymbidiums, followed by a session next month dedicated to the cultivation of Growing Cattleyas.

We have also planned three club outings during the upcoming summer months with the first meeting is earmarked for October.

I look forward to catching up with you all at the show and meeting.

Greg

NZOS Displays at Waitakere OS & South Auckland OS Shows

Well. It is that time of the year when there are lots of shows on, and so the NZOS has been out and about putting on displays at some of the recent shows around Auckland.

First up was our display at the two-day Waitakere Orchid Club show in Te Atatu.



This was a judged show, and as well as **several plants on our display winning best in their category**, and so there was some **silverware** to take home, we also won **second place** for the **display** itself.

Richard had stuck a small bird's nest with two tiny eggs in it amongst the branches, which caused much fascination amongst the children at the show.



Next on the agenda was a display at the one-day South Auckland Orchid Society's Show in Pukekohe, where we again mounted a display.



A big thank you to those members who contributed to the displays by providing plants and/or helped with putting the displays together at these shows.

Welcome To New Members

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

Mike Nudds & Kris O'Connor

Carol Boyle

Vanesa Continillo



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**

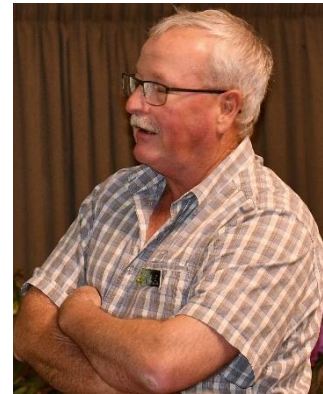
Report from the August Meeting

Our guest speaker at this meeting was Allan Benson from the Thames Orchid Society.

Allan grows a large variety of orchids at his home, which is located right on the coast. This provides some benefits as well as problems, as he gets a regular sea breeze, so plenty of air movement for his plants, the down side, that breeze can bring with it some salt spray, which not every orchid likes.

He provided a good assortment of advice around growing a mixed collection, as well as practical tips around growing some of his favourite orchids, in particular, Miltoniopsis, of which he has now amassed a very good collection.

And somewhat reminiscent of one of our old members, Alf Day, Allan said he is always experimenting with new ideas for his growing techniques, so hopefully getting better results from his plants.



A view of the growing houses for Allan's orchids, which will give you some idea of the diversity of plants he grows



A view of one the houses showing the black mussel floats under the benches (refer more on this below)

One of Allan's experiments involved the use of mussel farm floats. Coming from the Coromandel where there are a number of mussel and oyster farms operating, I guess these are somewhat commonplace there.

Allan has been using the floats in two ways:

1. By cutting some open so they act as a source of water to provide more humidity to his plants
2. By keeping others intact, but filling them with water so that they effectively become heat sinks - by absorbing heat during the day, and then releasing that heat at night as the houses cool down.



Some of Allan's favourite orchids, the Miltoniopsis, in flower

Allan gave a lot of practical and straightforward advice around growing plants in a green house, and, by observation of microclimates within them, how to try to adapt things to accommodate a mixed orchid collection.

He also gave tips on growing particular genera that he has accumulated over the years. Perhaps the best advice from him was, don't be afraid to give things a go, observe what is happening with you plants in the green house, and experiment with what you are attempting to grow but maybe isn't going so well, by moving those plants around, changing growing media, etc, to see if that makes a difference to them.

Allan's advice was practical and straightforward, hopefully giving those who attended a better understanding of how to grow, observe, and better understand your plants.

Plants on display - compiled by Noel Townsley





Greg & Lyn Barnes

Paph. Fanaticum

2nd=

Richard Legg

Paph. Rosy Dawn

Paph. F C Puddle (3x plants)

Yvonne Tapsell

Coel. *cristata*

2nd=

Den. King Wong 'Big Foot'

R & S Tucker

C. Lindy-Lou

1st

Cym. Nicole's Valentine 'Bombay' AM/OCNZ BM/CSA

Brsdm. Hec Hazelwood 'Danny'

Onc. Pui Chin 'Flying Tiger'

Onc. Elle Ronis

2nd=

Lyc. Isabella x Macama

Registration and dinner for the National Show in September

Well, if you were wanting to register for the Conference at the National Show at Mystery Creek and hadn't done so, then the cost has just gone up to \$200, and as well, time is running out to register at all, as that closes completely on 10 September

For those wanting to attend the dinner, 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 and/or the dinner, then you will need to do so *very soon* or you will miss out!!

Another thing to remember is, if you were wanting to get flasks from either **Fred Clarke** or **Ching Hua** – flask lists were sent to you recently - make sure you get these orders in soon as those travelling here will need time to collate everyone's orders together.

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 Orchid Club.

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

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)

NZOS Annual Spring Show

Yes, Spring is here (we hope!), and so it is time for our Annual **Spring Show**.

This will be held at the **Western Springs Garden Community Hall**.

Set up day is Friday **8 September** with judging later on that day – refer to the show schedule sent to you last month for full details.

And the show will open to the public on Saturday **9 September** from 10am to 4pm.

We will of course need as many as plants as possible to make the show a spectacle for the public.



Plus, we will need help at setup, and during the show itself, so any time you can give here will be very much appreciated.

You never know, one of those plants you bring along could end up being the Grand Champion, or even a class winner – after all someone has to win it, and if it isn't there, it can't win.

And if not, you can have the satisfaction of knowing that you have helped contribute to yet another great show, and maybe get more people enthused about growing orchids, just like us.

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

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

9 December 2023 – Christmas get together – AHC Rooms, Western Springs

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



ORCHIDS & MORE: RARE & EXOTIC PLANTS



A unique opportunity to see displays of flowering orchids from around NZ, irises and floral art, enjoy free daily talks, and browse vendor stands.

orchidsandmore2023.wordpress.com
facebook.com/orchidsandmore23
Email: orchids23more@gmail.com

Sept 29-Oct 1
Mystery Creek
Events Centre

Open 10am-4pm
(Fri-Sat)
10am-3pm
(Sun)

\$10 at the door
(under-12 free)

FREE TALKS DAILY

Food & coffee
caravans on site

Plants for sale incl:
Orchids, some new to NZ
Houseplants & Hoyas
Carnivorous plants
Unusual perennials
Air plants
Bromeliads