

## ORCHID COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND NEWSLETTER

July 2025

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Website: [orchidcouncil.org.nz](http://orchidcouncil.org.nz)

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### President's Message: Keith Smart

I haven't been amongst my orchids much recently but did make a trip to the National Poultry and Pigeon Show in Ashburton last month, with 80 poultry and fowl in tow (not all mine). My bantams achieved some placings but no winners – but, as we all know, that's showing! It seems as though the winter orchid shows are going off well around the country so congratulations to the organisers and volunteers. These things wouldn't happen if people didn't put their hands up to help, thank you. And congratulations to our OCNZ Secretary Phil Thomsen of Whanganui who has also been working outside the orchid world and just published a new book for home gardeners, *Down to Earth Gardening*. [Read more here](#).

### Cash Prizes for Best Cymbidiums!

A surprise donation from New Horizon Cymbidium breeder Andy Easton, a Kiwi domiciled in Colombia, means OCNZ is pleased to announce two cash prizes for 2025 – \$250 each for the highest-scoring Standard Cymbidium and highest-scoring Intermediate/Miniature. Don't delay – get your Cymbidiums in the best shape of their lives and on to show benches or request a judging. Our grateful thanks to Andy for his generosity in supporting orchid growing in New Zealand.

## Iwitahi Working Bee & Native Orchid Weekend

Friday, December 5th - Sunday, December 7th

At the Iwitahi Reserve off SH5 (Napier - Taupo)



Starts Friday after 4pm  
Ends Sunday Lunchtimeish



Includes Meals and 2 Nights' Accommodation at Sika Lodge  
(bunk room style)

Light /Moderate Track Maintenance, Weeding etc.  
Orchid Identification, Photography, And Discussions On Site

\$120+ / -PP  
[THE MORE THAT COME](#)  
[THE CHEAPER IT GETS](#)

We would expect to see Calochilus, Chiloglottis, Gastrodia,  
Thelymitra and Pterostylis species in flower or bud

If you are unable to attend for the full weekend but would like to join us at the reserve or prefer to organise your own accommodation, please let me know so we can keep an eye out for you

To register your interest, contact me by FB Messenger me or email - [tobymarris@hotmail.com](mailto:tobymarris@hotmail.com)

