

## ORCHID COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND NEWSLETTER

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Website: [orchidcouncil.org.nz](http://orchidcouncil.org.nz) [Find us on Facebook](#)



### President's Message: Keith Smart

Winter is coming; we had our first frosts of the season here in the King Country last week. With the forecast predicting a cooler winter ahead, it is time to make plans to move precious plants to their winter growing areas. Like many birds, Sue and I are heading away for to warmer places. This trip has been planned for over 2 years and it was one of my prerequisites — that I would be out of New Zealand for the 2026 winter — when I accepted the nomination for Orchid Council President. This means that unfortunately I will not be at the Hawke's Bay Seminar and AGM in June, but I will be back for the spring show season. In my absence, vice-president Glenys MacRae will head up the Executive.

### National Judges' Seminar, Napier June 12-14

Guest speakers are John Mort and Jason Strong on Paphiopedilums. Hawke's Bay Society emailed information and a [link to registration](#) to clubs on February 3. If you have not seen it, please ask your secretary or use the link. **Registration closes May 4.**

### Nominations For OCNZ Executive

Nominations for the OCNZ Executive will be received by the secretary, [Phil Thomsen](#), until the end of the day on **May 13**. The nomination form and consent form are attached to the same email as this newsletter.

### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cake

OCNZ will mark its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a brief speech and a cake-cutting on Sunday, June 14 at 12.45pm between the end of the Judges' Seminar and the opening of the AGM. We invite all judges and AGM delegates to join us.

### Thanks to The Orchid Foundation

Our sincere and grateful thanks to the Orchid Foundation Trust which has donated \$1500 towards production of the *2026 Yearbook*.

### Iwitahi Orchid Reserve Visit June 12 (pre- Judges' Symposium)

Toby Marris will be at the reserve from about 10am on Friday, June 12, aiming to enter the reserve at about 10.15am to do a full circuit and inspection, so will be there till 1.30/2pm. "Anyone en route to Napier will be welcome to join me, I am not expecting to see much in the orchid line but it will be an opportunity for people to get an idea of our work there." For those unsteady on their feet, the group could do an entry at the Napier end and a short walk in either direction from that point. Please [email Toby](#) for more details.

### What Happens to Your Orchids After You Die?

At the request of a club member, OCNZ has drawn up a simple Statement of Wishes document as a guideline we hope will be helpful (and it has been checked by a lawyer). Along with your will, you can leave a direction to your Executors as to how they will deal with your orchid collection. This document should be kept with your will and updated as needed. Unlike a will, however, it is a non-binding document. Please request a copy, which can be adapted as you wish, from the [newsletter editor](#) and one will be sent to you.