

*The New Zealand*  
Internet  
*Orchid Review*

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b><i>This issue's cover</i></b> .....                                 | <b>2</b>  |
| <b><i>Editorial</i></b> .....  | <b>3</b>  |
| <b><i>Surgery – but not in a hospital</i></b> .....                    | <b>3</b>  |
| <b><i>What happens to your orchids after..?</i></b> .....              | <b>5</b>  |
| <b><i>Unlabelling labels</i></b> .....                                 | <b>5</b>  |
| <b><i>Orchids in the quarry</i></b> .....                              | <b>6</b>  |
| <b><i>My Orchid of the Month</i></b> .....                             | <b>7</b>  |
| <b><i>The Trials and Tribulations and Joys of a Novice!!</i></b> ..... | <b>8</b>  |
| <b><i>Hint and Tips for Winter</i></b> .....                           | <b>9</b>  |
| <b><i>Where to from here?</i></b> .....                                | <b>10</b> |
| <b><i>Wider Worlds: Nerines</i></b> .....                              | <b>12</b> |
| <b><i>Growing conditions in a Dunedin Greenhouse</i></b> .....         | <b>15</b> |
| <b><i>Cinnamon Powder in the Orchid House</i></b> .....                | <b>16</b> |
| <b><i>Publication Details and Charges</i></b> .....                    | <b>17</b> |
| <b><i>Society Notices</i></b> .....                                    | <b>19</b> |
| <b><i>Classified advertisements</i></b> .....                          | <b>21</b> |
| <b><i>Advertising Section</i></b> .....                                | <b>24</b> |

### **This issue's cover**

*Laelia anceps*. This photograph of a rather fine clone accompanies an article about this popular, handsome and (for most) easily-grown species. Grower and photographer Franz Zumbuhl. See article on page 8 for details.

## **Editorial:**

Winter is upon us with the editors having had their first frost this morning (16 June). An excellent time to reflect upon all the mistakes that we have made with our orchids over the last growing season, such as:

- Too little water
- Too much water
- Forgetting to fertilise the plants
- Too hot
- Too cold
- Etc

A long and depressing list. However, there's always next season! When this issue goes out, the shortest day will be only four days in the future. After that, a couple of weeks of deepening cold (well, maybe a month in some areas!) and lengthening days with gathering warmth will bring more flowers to gladden our hearts. Orchid shows, of course, will follow. And on that topic, we wish the organisers, exhibitors and attendees at the International Orchid Show at Palmerston North in September, all the best for a successful and exciting Show and Conference.

This issue offers some ideas and reminders on caring for your orchids, especially over the colder part of the year, and thoughts on what the temperature readings on your greenhouse thermometer really mean. Make the most of the spring shows, enjoying the flowers, and welcoming and encouraging visitors to share the benefits of society membership.

The editors enjoy the variety of articles sent to this magazine, and really appreciate the time and effort that contributors have given. This issue marks three years of quarterly publication. Thank you all very much, and we hope to hear from you again!

Nick & Elizabeth

## **Surgery – but not in a hospital**

The following page was sent to us by one of our readers, who had first obtained the permission of the ANOS Warringah Group Inc. for us to use it as published in their February 2007 newsletter. We thought it might encourage those readers who are nervous about the prospect of dividing up large plants such as *Dendrobium speciosum*. (next page) The 'surgeon' was Bill Dobson of the Warringah group of the ANOS. As you can see, Bill is not afraid to carry out radical surgery. So next time you have a large plant to deal with, venture into the workshop and select your tools! And remember, orchids are very tough.



**Operation Speciosum**



**First step – removal from pot**



**Surgery commences**



**The smiling surgeon**



**Division**



**Amputation of root ball complete**



**Assistance provided by Mick**



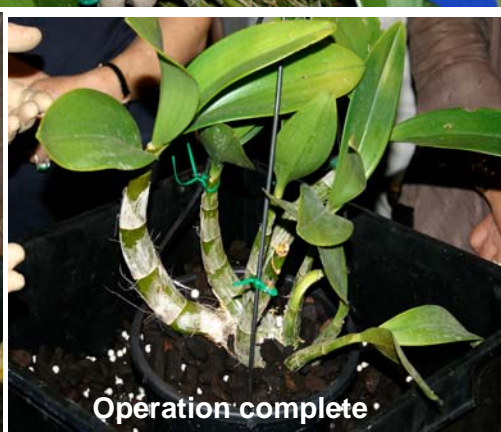
**Removal of all roots**



**Rootless division potted into bark-styrene mix**



**Staked securely**



**Operation complete**

## What happens to your orchids after...?

David McConachie (pleione@orcon.net.nz)

In March the Wellington Orchid Society had a group discussion about “what happens to your orchids after...” which brought up some interesting points for consideration. People expend a lot of time (and money) looking after their orchids and, no matter how common or rare they are, think that they are special. Quite often they hold special memories for the grower, be it of a time or event or a previous owner.

At times life can throw us a curve ball so we need to think about what happens to our plants then. Some of the things that can happen vary from illness or accident, either of you or another family member, through to death.

There a lot of discussion about what to do and as a result the WOS committee has decided to produce contact cards, similar to In Case of Emergency cards, which can be placed with members’ plants. If difficulties arise, friends or family can use them to get help looking after plants. The committee will also help arrange for plants to be boarded for the duration if needed.

Everyone should have a will and in the event of your death there should be a codicil to your will stating what you wish to have happen to your plants.

## Unlabelling labels

Nick & Elizabeth Miller (ncmiller@orcon.net.nz)

In our recent articles on labelling, there was a preference expressed by many growers for pencil as the method of writing on plant labels. Here’s a tip for those growers. Among your editors’ other interests are small wooden boats – building them, admiring them and sailing them. To this end, every two months, the latest issue of *Wooden Boat* magazine enters our household and is eagerly read by all hands. We found an interesting little snippet of information in the April 2010 issue, in an article titled ‘A Sharp Pencil’ by Harry Bryan, a well-respected US designer and builder of wooden boats (we own a boat built to one of his designs). The article discusses the art of marking patterns and lines out on wood or other materials. Harry comments “As is the case with other hand tools, some pencils are real junk.” We agree! Then later in the article we found this:

“Most ballpoint pen lines can be erased easily with a rag moistened with denatured alcohol. Alcohol will also erase **pencil** lines although this does not work so well on softwood where the graphite has been pressed into the wood. On a painted surface such as a lofting board however, pencil lines can be removed far more easily with alcohol and a rag than with an eraser”

This came as a real surprise – we had never thought of that one. Sure, alcohol (we use the form of denatured alcohol known as methylated spirits) is good for removing felt-pen markings from plastic labels (sometimes a faint trace is left behind but it can easily be overwritten), but pencil? We tried it and it works. On softer plastics a faint trace is left, but it’s much quicker than an eraser and any traces can be overwritten. Many growers keep some ‘meths’ in the greenhouse or shadehouse to deal with pests, now add a rag to the mix, and save your pencil erasers from wearing out. Probably better not to use the best cognac though. So thank you Harry!

## Orchids in the quarry

Audrey Hewson and Mary Parkinson (tramp@paradise.net.nz) plus friends

Will Cymbidiums become a noxious weed as proclaimed by our local orchid Guru? It is 13 years since the first cymbidiums were planted in the Te Puna Quarry Park. After seven years we found a group of seedlings on a clay bank and about three years later one flowered (see photo). We were too busy to keep up with records and weeds etc. so they had to look after themselves.



Self-sown Cymbidium seedling, Te Puna Quarry

This year we have found quite a few plants in different areas, some in gravelly ground and last year coming up on the pine bark logs that surround some of the gardens. The vigorous roots extend under the bark and the growths are very healthy. This has happened with no human help, no trouble at all. Now having identified them we will take greater notice.

Orchids of many genera continue to thrive in the Quarry although last summer was very dry and we had water problems. Even so, the Zygopetalums were the most happy with 45 spikes on 5 plants during April and with more spikes coming. The public still marvel at orchids growing outside with little care which proves a point made by the Hepburns of Whakatane years and years ago: “treat them like weeds and they will grow like weeds.”

Our group is getting smaller but we continue to enjoy caring for any orchids we can get.



Self-sown seedlings in the quarry

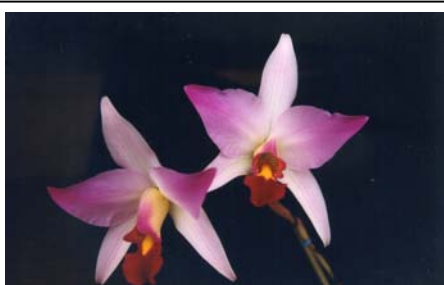
*If you're visiting the Tauranga area we can heartily recommend a visit to the Te Puna Quarry Park. Eds.*

## My Orchid of the Month

*Laelia anceps* Lindl. 1835

Frank Zumbuhl (franzanda@xtra.co.nz)

I wonder why I am even attempting to write anything about this beautiful species. Many experts/botanists/enthusiasts have tried to make sense of all the varieties and vagaries of opinion, either botanical, commercial or in the eyes of orchid judges. As always, I try to be practical and keep it simple, but that is not so easy with this orchid. There are hardly two plants of *L. anceps* exactly the same, except divisions. As a result, over the years I have owned and flowered a number of clones with fancy names. God knows who has dreamt them up. Most of us hobbyists do not need to be bothered with subspecies, varieties, forma this or forma that. Trying to sort all that out leads to confusion and/or misunderstood labelling. While lots of clones in general cultivation are obviously true to label, others are given fancy names as a marketing ploy, patently there to entice prospective buyers.



*L. anceps* subsp. *dawsonii*

There are two distinct tribes of *L. anceps* growing either on the Gulf side or the Pacific side of Mexico. The habitat of *L. anceps* subsp. *anceps* is found mainly on the Gulf side in the edges of evergreen forests at 1200-1600m. Its flowers are generally pink, rather starry in shape; the pseudobulbs are squat, and distinctly four-sided.

On the Pacific slope *L. anceps* subsp. *dawsonii* is at home at slightly higher

elevations on trees or rocks. Beside pinks, it produces alba and semi-alba forms and the flowers can be of a rounder, “better” form. This tribe produces the well-known forma *chilapensis* with its broad, flared petals.



*L. sierra*

A new clone has been introduced here by the Australian distributor Mackinney’s Nursery in 1981, which it called *L. sierra*. The plant is more compact and the pink/rose petals are nicely rounded, “muy redondeada” in Spanish! It could be a *L. anceps* from Guatemala?

It has been interesting to collect a sprinkling of this species. I have flowered a number of these beauties over the years and have found them to be a “piece of cake” to look after, be it in a pot in the glasshouse or on a lump of timber hanging in the camellia tree all year round.

*L. anceps* subsp. *dawsonii* f. *chilapensis* must be my favourite, the flowers being of great shape, and the wide, triangular petals flushed with a deep purple blush towards the tips. Yes, the name is a mouthful, but it deserves it!



L. anceps 'Chamberlainiana'

*L. anceps* 'Chamberlainiana', I call the mother of all my "ancepses"; lovely shaped, 14cm wide blooms, rosy purple, on a 110 cm inflorescence!

Then there is *L. anceps* 'Veitchiana' with its bluish lip and always shapely flowers. And one cannot go past the big, brilliant *L. anceps* 'Schroederiana'; all show, big, glistening white, just yellow in the throat and red/purple striations on the side lobes, on top of a long elegant inflorescence.



*L. anceps* 'Veitchiana'

OK, you knew all that anyhow, didn't you! If not, invest in a couple of clones of this easy going orchid. By the way, my *L. anceps* growing outside boasts pseudobulbs bigger than its twin in the glasshouse. Does that try to tell me something?

PS. There was a very good article on the theme "*Laelia anceps* - Sorting out the confusion" in the *Australian Orchid Review* June/July 1999 by

Gary Yong Gee.

Another great source of information on the subject is the 1993 publication "*Laelias de Mexico*" by Federico Halbinger (in espanol). It has numerous photos and line drawings, and a wee bit of imagination should help you understand the important bits.

## **The Trials and Tribulations and Joys of a Novice!!**

Lynne V Davidson (lynne davidson@xtra.co.nz).

My first phalaenopsis was a joy to behold. Exotic and beautiful. I had always envied people who had them, and whenever I went to a garden centre I spent a lot of time wistfully looking and admiring them, and promising myself that I would have one, and then I was given one. It was so beautiful, with gorgeous mauve flowers that just seemed to go on and on. Everyone who visited had to admire it. But I could not tell them anything about it and it didn't have a name, and to cover up my ignorance I would extol its beauty and the length of the spike and how many gorgeous flowers it had.

Then of course reality and some panic set in as I wondered how I was to care for my treasure. Surely it cannot be too hard. I went to a garden centre to find out a name and some information only to find that they only tell you it is a phalaenopsis with a mauve flower! At the counter they were not too sure of the actual variety but suggested I go to the library and in the meantime do not overwater it and keep indoors!!!

So to the library I went to find information to set my learning curve in motion. I came home laden with books on orchids. All systems go. Wait a minute, I don't even know the name of my beauty, for all it says on the label is "Phalaenopsis, Mauve Flower". Well that's really helpful to a novice!! I now open books with lots of pictures showing many orchids, knowing only that it is a phalaenopsis with mauve flowers. But what else am I supposed to look for? So many look much the same. I will have to ask for help on this but in the meantime lets get to the nitty-gritty of how to care for this beauty. There are so many "do"s and "don't"s, and "is it"s or "isn't it"s! Is it too wet? Is it too dry? Is getting enough light? Do not put it in direct light. What fertilizer? How much fertilizer? How often do I water? How often do I fertilize? What size pot? What do I plant it in? Do I use soil? Bark? Moss? Which is best? HELP!!!!!!!!!!

So down the track I have a few more phalaenopsis, dendrobiums, oncidiums and cymbidiums ( I believe I have an addiction!!!) and if I could, lots more. They are all so beautiful and spectacular. How could you not love them!

And yes, I have to admit to some not making it, which still upsets me, but for those that have, the feeling of pride, joy, and satisfaction of seeing all those gorgeous blooms makes it all worthwhile, especially because I grew it!!!

And now I have joined The Hibiscus Orchid Society who are a really great group of people who share all they know, and what a wealth of knowledge they have. Best of all one gets to enjoy the beauty of so many varieties of orchids that the members bring along. It's like being a child in a candy store and not knowing which sweet is the best as there are so many to choose from!

Its also all the tips and enthusiasm they share with you. It's nice to know you are not alone and help is always close by. This year after listening to one of our members give a talk on the care of phalaenopsis, which was so informative and helpful, especially to those of us still relatively new to growing orchids. I have repotted, re-sited and now...

Keep a record of when, what, why and how. My treasures are looking good!!!!

## **Hint and Tips for Winter**

By sarco

- 1) Good air movement should be provided across your plants so do not bunch them together, allow for air movement between the plants.
- 2) Over watering your plants may rot the roots; let them drain. An easy way to know if your plant requires water is to lift the pot and should it feel light then it requires watering; if it feels heavy then do not water, or if you dig down into the top of the potting mix and it is damp then leave it.
- 3) Move your plants around if they are not showing signs of growing; there may be a better place to grow them in your shade house.

- 4) Use ground cinnamon paste to put on cuts.
- 5) Always follow instructions on packets and cans before using the contents.
- 6) When winter comes the light levels normally change, so some adjustment may need to be taken; take down that shade cloth, maybe shift those plants that require more light to a better place. Maybe the shade house roof needs cleaning, we spray with 'Wet and Forget'.
- 7) Leaves on the plants will get greener with less light.
- 8) Always sterilize those used pots.
- 9) We still feed in the winter but not as much as the summer.

## **Where to from here?**

Glenn Poffley (gpoffley@clear.net.nz)

Last year's season of shows was disappointing from some perspectives, especially from the point of view of recruiting new members and the orchids on sale. Admittedly the flowers on show have been excellent and the range of genera gets better and better but it has been proven that the public and orchid club members attend primarily to buy plants and look at the show later.

I still hear talk of days gone by about the large memberships, huge numbers of people coming to shows and big numbers of orchids on the club sales benches. This has now changed in a number of ways especially in the Auckland area. I watch with some puzzlement at many societies' dwindling memberships and the executives still refusing to keep up with the times by changing for the better. In a previous article this subject was broadly discussed but it appears that nothing has changed much since then.

You may be all wondering just what new ideas I may have for improving this deteriorating situation but apart from what has been stated before and will be reiterated here I don't have anything radical to add. Quite frankly when a society spends very large sums of money on staging a show and members work extremely hard for little or no benefit then something is very wrong.

The first question we have to ask is 'what are the main reasons for a show?' Is it to attract new members? Most of the clubs I have queried are lucky to get half a dozen sign on and many of these will fall by the wayside in the first year. Is it to display a range of orchids to the public to encourage them to grow orchids? If this is the case then the abysmal advertising that some societies specialize in will never attract them along. Is it to judge orchid members' and growers' plants? Yes of course it is, but any amount of prize certificates in the hall will not improve your membership numbers.

Is it to sell plants to other members and the public? Yes, and the variety and maturity of these plants seems to be diminishing as membership numbers drop.

Is it a money-making exercise? To some degree yes but for what? Many societies appear to be hoarders of these hard-earned funds, with very little reinvested for the benefit of members and the society. So we now have a situation where a club can spend thousands of dollars to stage a show for little or no profit, attract few new members and even more worrying, cannot source enough good plants to sell. The public generally doesn't want seedlings, from what I've ascertained.

This year we were visited by a very well known VIP in gardening circles and the feedback I received was 'Great Show but not sold to the public'. This was in fact a nice comment compared to what the same person said about some of the other orchid shows visited. I have to agree, most shows do not have enough people 'selling the product to the public', and by this I mean telling them of the wonders of growing orchids and how much better they will be able to do this if in a club. The show is the ideal time to attract interested growers. An 'official' information table, while necessary, in my opinion is not proactive in going to the public. They need to be engaged in conversation by someone from the club and made to feel they too can share in what growers have been achieving in the hall.

I have seen a lot of different ideas tried by many societies to attract new members but still think that the most successful over the years in getting people who will last the distance, are the simplest. The most successful idea is where people are introduced by friends or associates, or have an initial affiliation with someone already in the club. By having some mutual interest, friend or just by being more outgoing, new members are more likely to stay in the club. If they can socialize or feel comfortable with someone right from the start the biggest hurdle is surmounted.

Being able to buy nice healthy plants that will flower quickly is also important. My first purchases at orchid shows were all good-sized reasonably priced plants of varying genera that rewarded me with flowers very quickly. We made friends quickly, the then President and a few others were most welcoming, taking the time to always talk to us and eventually getting us involved in other aspects within the society.

I have tried to take these lessons on board and to instil them in all our members. I do speak my mind and if it upsets a few so be it, but by far the majority in our society have become friends and can enjoy the company of each other.

And for those that already have a nice friendly close-knit group, try opening the doors of the reservation to some new people so they too can enjoy not only the joys of orchid growing but also the friendship of others.

It will be interesting to see how the Orchid Extravaganza coming up in Palmerston North will approach this aspect and 'sell' the hobby to the public. The obvious question is just how much influence on membership numbers have the previous large shows had?

## Wider Worlds: Nerines

Rodney Draper (draperfam@xtra.co.nz)

Yes, I know this is an orchid publication but besides enjoying the beauty of orchids I also enjoy the beauty of many other flora and Nerines are one of my favourite. Having spent the first 48 years of my life in South Africa we used to grow Nerines in the garden but it is only now that I'm living in New Zealand that I realize what an extraordinary plant heritage we have in South Africa. It would seem 75% of the bulbs seen here are indigenous to Southern Africa, including *Watsonia*, *Cyrtanthus*, *Lachenalia*, *Ixia*, *Sparaxis* and even *Oxalis*.

All the *Nerine* species originate in South Africa and grow in a range of habitats from mountains to moist soils and dry scrublands. Most of the species in cultivation prefer well-drained sandy soils and a sunny position. In fact the more they are baked in summer the happier they seem to be. Resist over-watering them in the heat of summer. They will grow for many years in a clump but need to be replanted after about five years when flower quality and quantity start to decline. They flower off leafless bulbs and once the flowers are finished the leaves begin. They also like to be grown with at least a third of the bulb above the soil level.

I grow the following in pots and in my garden in Auckland:



### ***N. fothergillii* var. *major***

*N. fothergillii* is known as the Spider Lily and these flowers which are a scarlet orange colour seem to sparkle in the sun. They multiply very well and are 560-80 cm tall.

I grow them in a north facing garden as well as pots in full sun.



### ***N. masonorum***

Miss Mason's spider lily is a dwarf evergreen species with pale pink flowers. The leaves are grass like and grow to 25 cm long and the bulbs multiply profusely. I grow this in a pot where it gets largely afternoon sun.

This Nerine is spectacular when in full bloom and the flowers wave in the wind.



***N. undulata***

Another dainty spider lily with soft pink flowers. They occur on steep slopes in partial shade and are almost evergreen with a short dormancy period. The flowers are produced abundantly on 24 – 30 cm stems and the bulbs multiply profusely. In 3 years I have gone from 5 to over 30 bulbs.



***N. flexuosa* ‘Alba’**

This is a somewhat shy bloomer and has a rather closed flower on 30cm stems.

This flowers in late autumn and is flowering for me now in May/June. I am advised it grows best planted in semi-shade under trees with filtered sunlight. Mine seem to do fine in a trough that gets afternoon sun.



***N. humilis***

This is another dwarf species with soft pink flowers and narrow wavy perianth petals. This flowers in mid-late autumn and I read that flowering increases strongly after fire but is not dependent on it. Mine flower prolifically without me setting fire to them ☺

They are quite similar to *N. undulata*.



### *N. filifolia*

This species seems quite common in New Zealand and is similar to *N. masonorum* but is a more vivid pink. The grassy, almost evergreen foliage is thin and slender while the numerous flower scapes, 14-22 cm tall, carry 8-10 small spidery flowers, freely produced during autumn.

There is also *N. sarniensis* which is known as the Guernsey Lily. Legend has it that a ship carrying *N. sarniensis* bulbs was shipwrecked off the coast of Guernsey and in time the bulbs naturalised on the island and henceforth became known as the Guernsey Lily until it was correctly identified as *Nerine sarniensis*. Another popular species is *N. bowdenii* which flowers late in the season, mostly in rather bright pink shades. It is, however, hardy in cold climates and left undisturbed will multiply into many bulbs.

There are also many named varieties too numerous to mention and the colour range is now vast including white, pinks, rose, salmon, orange and scarlet. I have some that have not flowered yet, called Pink Fairy, Rose Princess, Magenta Fairy, Virgo and Red Emperor.

Well, I hope this has whetted your interest to go and grow a couple of Nerines. There are still a few species I have been unable to locate like *N. fothergillii* var. *minor*, *N. krigel* and *N. pudica*, so if you are able to point me in the right direction or if you have any you would be willing to sell me, please contact me at the email address at the beginning of this article.

If you are looking for Nerine bulbs try:

Garden Post - [www.gardenpost.co.nz](http://www.gardenpost.co.nz)

Kellydale Nursery - <http://crash.ihug.co.nz/~adpal/kellydalenursery001.htm>

*Reference: Bulbs for New Zealand Gardeners & Collectors – Jack Hobbs & Terry Hatch*

## Growing conditions in a Dunedin Greenhouse

Otto Hyink (otto.hyink@xtra.co.nz)

I have been growing orchids in Dunedin for around six years. Having a full-time job (as a scientist), two young boys, a decent number of animals and a house on a quarter acre section to look after I do not get anywhere near as much time to spend on my orchids as I would like. Despite being rather busy I have somehow managed to accumulate a couple of hundred orchid plants.

My orchids live in a 5 m x 2.5 m plastic film greenhouse (purchased from Redpath). I have 50% shade over about half of it and it gets some natural shade from trees adjacent to it. Temperature is controlled by opening the window, roof vent and door as necessary while minimal heat is provided by a \$25 oil column heater plugged into a thermostat. If the temperature gets below 6-7°C the heater comes on. This keeps the minimum temperature to about 4°C on the coldest winter nights. I also have a fan going 24/7.

I've always had a min/max thermometer in my greenhouse (one that also includes humidity readings), which gives me some indication of the conditions I am growing my orchids in. This is about the simplest way to get an impression of temperature and humidity fluctuations in the greenhouse. Of course, I wanted to know more. If the maximum temperature on a given day was 35°C, how long was it at this temperature? The same goes for minimum temperatures.

My dad owns a couple of dataloggers, which I have borrowed. Dataloggers are simple, programmable instruments that take a temperature reading every minute, 5 minutes, hour etc – depending on what you have set it to. I set them to record the temperature every 5 minutes for the month of December and then again for the month of May (around 9,000 temperature readings per month). This generates lots of numbers (I like numbers).

The results make for interesting reading (Figure 1). In December the highest recorded temperature was 36.5°C and the lowest 6.5°C. In May these were 37.5°C and 6°C respectively. If we look at the amount of time spent at 30°C or more the results are again very similar – the greenhouse was over 30°C for around 2% of the time in both December and May. The time spent under 10°C is a little more informative – 15% for December and 33% for May (yes, even in December it is cold quite a lot!).

These numbers do teach us that looking only at temperature extremes is not always very informative. It is only when you start looking at average and median temperatures that you start to get an idea of actual growing conditions. The average temperatures for these months were 16.1°C (Dec) and 13.7°C (May). In December the median temperature was 14.5°C (that means the greenhouse was under 15°C for 50% of the time) and in May this was 10.5°C.

There is much more information I have obtained from this data but I don't want to go on too much. The most important thing for me is that my cool-growing plants (especially *Masdevallias*) seem to thrive in these conditions. Some of my intermediate plants do struggle a bit with it but I'll work on that – when I get some time...

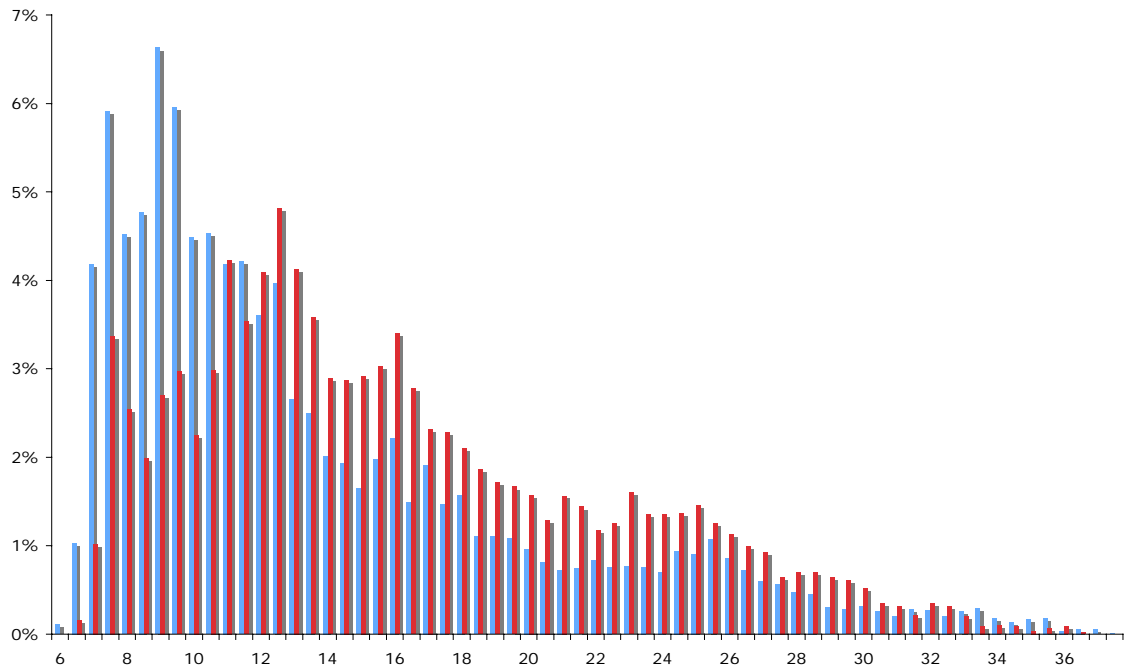


Figure 1: The graph shows percentage time (y-axis) at given temperatures (x-axis) for May 2010 (blue) and December 2009 (red).

## Cinnamon Powder in the Orchid House

Tony Beck (tonybeck@bigpond.net.au), Queensland, Australia

Cinnamon powder has been known to cure everything from athletes foot to arthritis and can be taken in various ways internally and applied externally to any part of the body, so it stands to reason that it would also work it's magic on Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums. With no effective antibacterial agents available to treat the problems of soft rot in Paphs and Phrags I've experimented over the last two years and have found not only does the cinnamon powder work as a fungicide, but it appears to be beneficial for healthy growth from seedlings to adult plants. Both Paphs and Phrags benefit from a dusting of cinnamon powder; you can actually gauge the growth by observing the crust "left after watering" moving away from the crown of the plant. I routinely dust all my collection and have found no harmful effects, I would recommend you give it a try, I'm sure you will be pleased with the results.

## **Publication Details and Charges**

The *New Zealand Internet Orchid Review* is published on a quarterly basis, with publication in March, June, September and December.

The email subscription rate is **zero**. We would like to eventually publish a printed version (which would attract a charge), but there would need to be sufficient demand to make it practical. To date that demand has not been sufficient for us to follow it up.

### **Deadlines for copy**

All written copy for articles must be emailed to the Editors no later than one week before publication date. A reminder will be emailed to all regular contributors two weeks before each deadline. Society notices and classified advertising must be emailed to the Editors no later than one week before publication date. If you are running late, please email the editors (ncmiller@orcon.net.nz). We expect the next issue to go out on Friday 17 September 2010.

A reminder notice will go to all subscribers and Society contacts shortly before each publication deadline.

### **Advertising**

If you are interested in advertising in this publication, please email the editors for an information sheet. Our advertising rates are extremely reasonable, being set at \$10 for a page, part pages on a pro-rata basis. Graphics and photos incur no extra charge, provided that you supply them.

### **Classified advertisements, Society notices**

These are published free of charge, maximum of 30 words for a classified ad please.

### **Letters**

Feel free to write letters to the editor. As long as they are not anonymous, obscene, time-wasting or libellous we will publish them!

### **Question and answer section**

If you have any questions relating to any aspect of the growing of orchids or companion plants, we will solicit replies from our panel of experts. Any responses received will be emailed to the questioner, and the question and answers will be published in the next issue. This way you can receive a prompt response to your question but other readers can subsequently benefit as well.

### **Spread the word**

If you have any friends who grow orchids or 'companion plants', let them know of this publication. All they have to do to subscribe is to send an email. If they haven't joined the computer age and/or would be interested in subscribing to a print version, ask them to contact the editors by mail or telephone or else send an email on their behalf. So far only a handful of requests for a printed version have been received.

### **Please write for us**

All submissions are welcome – long or short. If you're not too fluent with the written word, we are happy to edit your copy. Without writers there will be no magazine.

**File formats**

We prefer to receive copy as a Word document. If you have a very recent version of Word, please ensure that you save your document and send it to us as a .doc file (preferred), or a .docx file. We also prefer not to receive Acrobat (.pdf) files – we actually assemble the magazine in Word and don't convert it to Acrobat until we're ready to send it out. So .pdf files have to be converted to Word – a tiresome business. We are also happy to receive shorter documents as a simple email message. If you are sending us a Word document with photos in it, please shrink the photo file size (to, say, 100 to 300 KB) **before** you insert the photo in the document. We can't shrink the photos from inside your document, without going through a complex procedure. If we fill the magazine with 2 or 3 MB photos then, even after we have converted it all to an Acrobat file, those readers with dial-up access will get very grumpy!

**That address again**

ncmiller@orcon.net.nz

**Please note:** If you change your email address and you don't advise us, you won't receive your magazine! Typically, every time we send out an issue, a few bounce due to invalid email addresses.

## Society Notices

A small suggestion for your readers "across the Tasman". Would it be possible to indicate in future issues if orchid shows are on the North or South Island, and possibly the nearest main city. (Andrew Foster). *We'll do our best, Andrew.*

### July Lecture Series

As the OCNZ Orchid Extravaganza is in September, the NZOS will be hosting their 2010 speaker the weekend of 24-25 July. This year's speaker is Wayne Harris from Queensland. Wayne's topics will be on the Orchids of Queensland, Western Australia, Papua New Guinea and Borneo. Registration for the 2 days will be \$30.00. This includes lunch both days. Register at [leaitym@xtra.co.nz](mailto:leaitym@xtra.co.nz)

**Hibiscus Orchid Society Show** Held at the Orewa Community Centre Orewa, 30 minutes north of Auckland.

Friday August the 27th. 12 noon - 5pm. Saturday 28th. 9am-3pm.  
Gold Coin Entry fee.

**The Orchid Council of NZ** has a web site that lists all the shows around the country. The URL is:

[http://www.orchidcouncil.co.nz/show\\_dates.html](http://www.orchidcouncil.co.nz/show_dates.html)

**Bay of Islands Orchid Society** meets 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm except for May, June, July and August when we meet 3rd Sunday of the month at 1.30pm. February starts the year with a "moveable feast."

Meetings are held at St James Church Hall, Stone Store Hill, Kerikeri. Visitors welcome.  
Enquiries to - Lorna (09 4073424).

(3 hours north of Auckland, N.I.)

### North Shore Orchid Society

The Society meets on the LAST Sunday of each month (except January, October & December) in the Milford Senior Citizens Hall, 141A Kitchener Road, Milford (behind New World, adjacent to Milford Shopping Centre Carpark, Auckland) at 12.30 pm. We would love to see you at our meetings, which are relaxed and informative. Any queries regarding meetings to Rodney Draper at [draperfam@xtra.co.nz](mailto:draperfam@xtra.co.nz)

### Notice of Show.

The **Manawatu Orchid Society Winter Show** will be held on July 24th & 25th in the Community Leisure Centre, 569 Fergusson Street, Palmerston North (lower N.I.).

Open from 9am - 4pm both days.  
[www.manawatuorchid.org.nz](http://www.manawatuorchid.org.nz)

## Waikato Orchid Society Shows for 2010

(1 hour south of Auckland, N.I.)



### Waikato OS 50th Jubilee Celebration

- Sun 4th July Hamilton Gardens
- Display plus catered Lunch for Members and friends of the Society
- Guest speaker
- Not open to the public



### Waikato OS 1 Day Spring Show

- Sun 26th Sept Hamilton Gardens
- Display and Sales table
- Open to the public
- Repotting demo's

**Past Members and friends of the Society** are cordially invited to join the 50<sup>th</sup> Golden Jubilee Celebrations on Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2010.

If you wish to be part of this event please email ray.albiston @xtra.co.nz or send your postal details to the Secretary, Waikato Orchid Society, PO Box 7101 Hamilton. Further details of the event will be forwarded to you in due course. Please mark your calendar now.

**Tauranga Orchid Society Annual Display**, 24/25/26 September at the Racecourse, Cameron Road, Greerton. 10.00am to 4.00pm daily. Entry \$3. Enquiries phone Natalie, 07 5430847. (3 hours south-east of Auckland, N.I.)

**Howick Orchid Society Inc.** (Howick is a suburb of Auckland, N.I.)

Meets 2nd Sunday each month except January (no meeting) and October, which is 2 weeks after show date.

Venue: Fencible Lounge, Uxbridge Rd, Howick, adjacent to library.

Our **One Day Show** this year is Sat. 9th October at the above venue. Set up Friday 8th October.

We have approx 100 members (usually 50+ at each meeting) and a large variety of orchids displayed each month.

Check out our Website where you can see some photos of plants displayed and read our newsletters: <http://hos.inetgardens.com>

For further information phone Glenn 09 534 8689 or Len 09 576 6303.

## Classified advertisements

### **Request for information:**

In respect of some research I'm doing, if anyone has memories of Frank Gronwall, particularly the cattleyas he imported and grew, I'd appreciate if you could email me at [lenb@actrix.co.nz](mailto:lenb@actrix.co.nz).

Thanks, Melanie Brigden,

**Wanted:** We are looking for a *Cymbidium madidum* for sale - would anybody out there have one available. If so please contact Lex at [lexandjulie@clear.net.nz](mailto:lexandjulie@clear.net.nz)

**Wanted:** I am looking for a copy of Karsten Wodrich's book "Growing South African Indigenous Orchids". Carol Hughes. Phone: 09 4017050 or email: [carol.hughes@xtra.co.nz](mailto:carol.hughes@xtra.co.nz)

**Wanted** - crucifix orchids: colours other than red, orange, pink or pale mauve. Contact Barbara Parris, [bsparris@igrin.co.nz](mailto:bsparris@igrin.co.nz)

**Wanted:** I would like to know if there are any growers who may have any *Diuris* tubers for sale.

David Hutchins - [dphutchins@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dphutchins@xtra.co.nz)

**Wanted:** Orchids Needed:

Phal. bellina  
Phal. equestris rosea  
Paph. philipinense  
Odont. rossii

Please contact: John Edwards, ph.07 544 3048, email: [sowers@johnwins.com](mailto:sowers@johnwins.com)

## **The Stanhopea Book**

### **Rudolf Jenny (2010)**

There is a new book on *Stanhopea* due to be published in mid-2010. The author is Rudolph Jenny, of Switzerland.

The book includes beside chapters about history, taxonomy, pollination, habitat, culture, the documentation of 67 species and natural hybrids with more than 850 pictures.

**(Update)** Dear Orchid friends

The publication "The Stanhopea Book" is now printed and available. On 2.7 kg of paper and 496 pages you will find more than 850 illustrations. If you are interested please contact [RJOchids@gmx.ch](mailto:RJOchids@gmx.ch)

Rudolf Jenny



## **8th to 12th September 2010 Arena Manawatu Palmerston North**

Hosted by the Orchid Council of New Zealand this will be a fully judged show featuring world class orchids in magnificent displays; lectures by international speakers; orchid plants and products for sale; incorporating the 2010 National Daffodil Show

Overseas speakers will include - Norita Hasegawa, USA; Rudolph Jenny, Switzerland; David Menzies, UK; Kevin Western, SA; Kevin Butler, WA; Dennis Diehm, NSW

**Plan to be there — It's the place where your orchid friends will gather**

For more information or to register your interest visit our website now;  
[www.orchids.org.nz](http://www.orchids.org.nz)  
Or contact  
6NZIOE, PO Box 5223, Palmerston North 4441



# Wellington Orchid Society Show

"It's a Kind Of Magic"

16 and 17 October 2010

At The Horticultural Hall Laings Road Lower Hutt

For more information Phone Paul Herd on 04-5861032

## Advertising Section



### **POTTERING ABOUT GARDEN CENTRE**

254 Military Road, R D 2,

Whakatane 3192

Ph: (07) 3228101

Email: [potteringabout@xtra.co.nz](mailto:potteringabout@xtra.co.nz)

Webpage: [www.potteringabout.com](http://www.potteringabout.com)

Open Wednesday to Sunday 9am to 4pm unless by appointment

Here at Pottering About we have a great range of orchids, bromeliads and subtropical plants.

Some of the more unusual plants that we have available are:

**Hoya** bella, fusca, australis, carnososa, red buttons, carnososa variegata, nicholsoniana, pauciflora, polyneura. These are all in 2 inch tubes and are \$5 each.

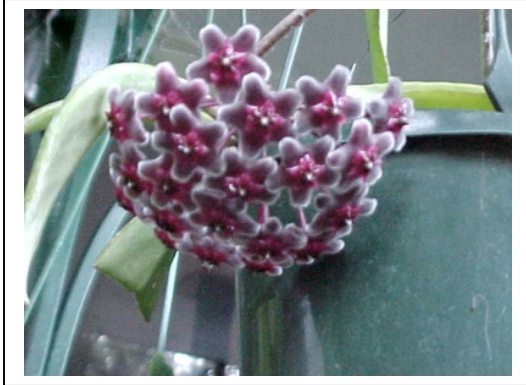
**Dendroseris litoralis**. This is an endangered species and part of the cabbage tree family. It comes from the Juan Fernandez Islands in the Pacific. It is an evergreen perennial species. The leaves look like cabbage and are edible. It is a cool grower but should be protected from freezing conditions. Can be grown in part shade with protection from afternoon sun. See google images for some great photos of the plant and flower. These are \$8 each in 70mm tubes.

**Ceropegias**. These are unusual plants and are treated as succulents. We grow our main plants in hanging baskets as they have a twining habit. We have the following ones available : woodii, ampliata, stapeliaformis, barkleryii, haygarthii and stapeliaformis serpentine. We have a limited number of these that we are offering out at \$8 each in 2 inch tubes. (the main photo, above, is of stapeliaformis).

We do mail order on all our plants so we are more than happy to package them up and send them to you. All orders are p&p extra.

## HOYA FOR SALE

Rooted cuttings of Hoya Red Buttons \$5 plus \$5 freight in north island..  
could be more freight for South  
Island. *See photo to left*



Contact hoyagrower at  
[hoya333@xtra.co.nz](mailto:hoya333@xtra.co.nz)

Virginia,  
[hoya333@xtra.co.nz](mailto:hoya333@xtra.co.nz)

### FOR SALE

Flasks of Paph Alex Szabo 'Tawhiri' x Paph Suzie Del 'Nicky' available now  
priced \$60 each

Villa Orchids  
76 Mile Rd  
Bombay  
Auckland  
Ph 09 236 0225



Miltoniopsis (pansy-orchids) for sale. Due to a serious disability, I am reluctantly having to dispose of many from my large collection. None of them are rubbish, they are genuine divisions, the two photos are examples only.

All are in port-pots, sphagnum-moss is the medium, they should bloom towards the end of this year (normal time)

Because most are one-offs, this sale is **My selection only**. 100mm pot size = \$10, 120mm = \$15. Freight by courier at cost.

Not many with waterfall pattern unfortunately.

e-mail [perртуа@xtra.co.nz](mailto:perртуа@xtra.co.nz)

or Mr Ewen Perrott

253 Tui Crescent  
Te Awamutu.



**Sunvale Orchids**  
**31 Sunvale Crescent**  
**Gisborne**  
**New Zealand**



**D S & P R Hutchins**

**Phone 06 867 2567**

**027 640 4109**

Email [Hdphutchins@xtra.co.nz](mailto:Hdphutchins@xtra.co.nz)

Sarcochilus seedlings, divisions and flowering plants for sale in pots and on rafts

Send for a list of flowering size and seedling plants

A limited number of den rafts available

See you at the Orchid Fair being held at Russell Hutton's nursery at Labour Weekend

**ORDER NOW TO GET YOUR PLANTS**

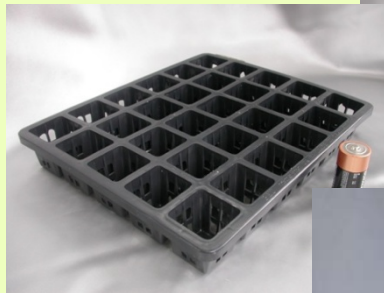
Sarcs starting to spike now

The Orchid Tray Company is an internet based company primarily set up to offer orchid accessories to orchid enthusiasts. We have several exclusive products designed especially for orchid lovers and will be expanding our range regularly.

250mm Port Pot-\$4.00 incl. GST



50mm tray-\$5.50 incl. GST



**Products**

- Trays
- General Pots
- Squat Pots
- Clear Pots
- Port Pots
- Basket Pots
- Specialty Pots
- Fertilizers/Sprays
- Accessories
- Wire Hanging Baskets
- Wooden Hanging Baskets
- Meters
- Media



pH meter-\$35.00 incl. GST



Products



**Wooden hanging baskets** for hanging vandaceous orchids, beautifying or for anything that likes lots of drainage.



**Nutriflow** slow release fertilizing system.



**Auxinone** root hormone stimulants for use on orchids and other plants, great for transplant shock when re-potting.

Please visit [www.orchidtrays.com.au](http://www.orchidtrays.com.au)

Contact Robert Bisetto 0431037372 or George Birss 0413581777 for further product information.



# *New Zealand's Only Orchid Fair*

*K&R Orchids  
178 Dominion Rd, Tuakau*

*Labour Weekend  
October 23 - 25, 2010  
10am - 4pm daily*

## **Nurseries in attendance:**

**K & R Orchids** - Russell Hutton & Kimi Ishida will have a huge range of orchid species

**Villa Orchids** - Joe and Betty Vance will be there with a selection of fine Cymbidiums, Paphiopedilums and Odontoglossums

**Tuckers Orchids** - Ross and Susan Tucker with a selection of hybrids from Cymbidium, Oncidium, Odontoglossum, Cattleya etc

**Paradise Orchids** - Ron Maunder and his large selection of Masdevallia, Disa and various Odont alliance plants.

**Keith Goodwin Paphs** - Keith and Vanessa with their selection of beautiful and some now hard to get Paph species.

**Napier Orchid Supplies** - Bill Liddy and a wide selection of orchid 'hardware' – real orchid pots, trays, pot hangers etc, etc.

**Sunvale Orchids** - David and Patricia Hutchins with a selection of eye-catching Sarcophilus and related types.

**Other vendors to be confirmed.**

Rare and hard to find plants,  
new varieties and the latest hybrids

Culture Corner  
Learn from the experts  
Potting, growing, deflasking  
Most common genera covered

Continual refreshments including  
Sausage sizzle, tea, coffee, juice

## **SOCIETIES**

Bringing a group?  
Qualifying groups will be given a  
basket of orchid goodies to raffle off on  
your journey home. Conditions apply  
Contact Susan for details.

Got a problem plant? Bring it along.  
Someone can help with answers

Looking for something special and unique?  
Check with us beforehand and if we have if you  
can be sure that it is there waiting for you

## **Contacts:**

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Russell Hutton            | (09) 236 8392<br>lrorchids@xtra.co.nz            |
| Joe & Betty Vance         | (09) 236 0225<br>jborchids@xtra.co.nz            |
| Ross & Susan Tucker       | (09) 473 8629<br>orchids@clear.net.nz            |
| Bill Liddy                | (06) 836 6735<br>wflid@xtra.co.nz                |
| Ron Maunder               | (07) 552 5570<br>paradiseorchids@paradise.net.nz |
| David & Patricia Hutchins | (06) 867 2576<br>dphutchins@xtra.nz              |