

The New Zealand Internet *Orchid Review*

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This issue's cover

At the recent Orchid Extravaganza 2010 in Palmerston North, this stand caught the Editors' attention. Not a huge display of flowers but, considering that the area concerned had experienced a Magnitude 7.1 earthquake just a very few days prior to setting up this show, we think that this display from the Canterbury Orchid Society deserves our front cover ranking. A tribute to the human spirit! And also see the photo below. In a future issue we hope to carry reports on how orchid collections survived this experience, for the benefit of all our readers in the Shaky Isles.



Editorial:

The editors spent a very enjoyable day at the recent International Orchid Extravaganza in Palmerston North. A fine collection of orchids was on display, despite recent financial stresses and the general aging of the gardening population. Many of the sales stands seemed to be doing fairly brisk business, so we can look forward to seeing more fine orchids appearing in collections and at meetings. The venue was a good one, with lots of space for exhibitors and sales areas. We hope to see more such events in the future. The Esplanade Conservatory at Palmerston North is always worthy of a visit if you're visiting that city, with a rich and interesting collection of warm climate plants – orchids, gesneriads, Nepenthes, ferns and other delights. And for gardeners, the grounds at Massey University have a very fine collection of trees and shrubs, many of them much more subtropical in origin than one would expect. If another Orchid Extravaganza should be held there in the future (and it seems likely) take a look at these fine plant collections, when you can drag yourself away from orchids.

My genus of the Month - *Hoffmannseggella*

Franz Zumbuhl (franzanda@xtra.co.nz)

Hoffmannseggella (H.G.Jones) Castro & Chiron

Syn. *Sophronitis* Van Den Berg & Chase; *Laelia* Blumenschein; *adrolaelia* Chiron & Castro.

And Van Den Berg produced a paper in 2008 grouping *Hoffmannseggella* together with *Cattleya*! Sorry, I am getting confused!

Many moons ago my curiosity about South American species was expanding. So it was only natural, that the rupicolous *Laelias* (currently known as *Hoffmannseggella*) from Brazil grabbed my attention. Some plants were freely obtainable in NZ, mainly from Keith Goodwin. Wanting more variety, I imported seed from Alvim Seidel, Brazil, and Jim Gilchrist sowed and flasked them for me. Burleigh Park, Australia, had some flasks on their sales list as well, so I finished up with about 20 different species.

After purchasing and/or deflasking my *Hoffmannseggellas* everything looked good, growing in coarse bark in plastic pots in high light. For a couple of years there were plenty of new,



strong growths and lots of flowers; *H. milleri* even got an HCC. While most plants kept going well, the pseudobulbs got skinnier and shorter and the odd specimen gave up the ghost altogether. I resigned myself to the thought, that these gems must have a limited life span. Then, recently I read an article in the German "Die Orchidee", in which the author voices similar problems. So he went to Brazil to study the genus at "ground level". He noticed the lack of moisture retaining materials on the rocky habitats. He

changed the mix to 60% quartz pebbles/40% charcoal/bark mix and used clay pots only; kept the mix just damp, **NOT** wet.



H. harpophylla 'Peter Hodges'

There are about 42 species included in this group. These have the characteristics of genuine rock-dwellers. Some species grow tall; i.e. *H. harpophylla* with hard, pencil-like pseudobulbs 40x1cm and a single, tough, leathery leaf 27x4cm with a bunch of bright orange, starry flowers, to 8cm across, on a 15cm stem.

Then there are the true miniature specimens amongst this genus. *H. liliputana*, as the name suggests, is a true dwarf. Pseudobulbs 1.5cm tall and 1cm across, the fat, succulent upright leaf is to 3cm long. The 3cm inflorescence usually carries a single sparkling pale pink flower, which is of solid texture.

Within the genus there are variants size-wise between these two above. Also the colour range is amazing with sparkling whites, pinks, brilliant reds/oranges, bright and dull yellows. With the strong colours, the easily managed size of the plants and the tidy appearance even out of

flower, makes this genus very desirable for the inner city grower with limited bench space.



H. cinnabarina var *cowani*

PS. I have made a couple of hybrids using Hoffmannseggella: One is *H. brieri* x *Cattleya aelandiae*. Not knowing if it is a registered cross, I just call it Lc. Brie-ac. It has turned out to be a very pretty thing, flowering readily, yellow all over except dark red edges around the lip. The second cross is between *Brassavola nodosa* x *H. milleri* 'Fulford'. I do not like it colourwise or shapewise. Unbeknown to me at the time, it had been made before and is registered as Bl. Richard Mueller.

Hints and Tips by Sarco

- 1) High temperatures and humidity may lead to fungal problems or bacterial rot.
- 2) Give fertilizer at the prescribed rate on packets to avoid blackened leaf tip.
- 3) Flush out your plants each month to remove salts.
- 4) Start cleaning your plants of dead leaves for the shows.
- 5) Check your plants out, make sure that they have not dried out too much after the winter.
- 6) Summer is coming so in some areas the watering could be increased.
- 7) Use plastic pots to retain the water in the pot and around the roots. Under hot or humid conditions the pots do not dry out the same as clay pots.
- 8) Soaking the dry bark prior to repotting helps to retain the water in the pot.

Orchids 2010 – 6th International Orchid Conference Show

Elizabeth Miller (Elizabeth.Miller@scionresearch.com), photos Nick Miller

This is a trip to the Show for those not able to attend, or a chance to reminisce for those who were there. Thanks to the Palmerston North orchid growers for organising a wonderful Show on behalf of OCNZ, and to the growers from throughout the country (and a few from overseas) who supported them by transporting their treasures, such as huge specimen dendrobiums and cymbidiums, odontoglossum relatives with their tall brittle spikes, and tiny *Pleurothallis*. The enticing scent of spring orchid shows wafted out to meet visitors at the door, and from there the visual feast began.



So many individual plants caught the eye of Show visitors, on stand after stand. I particularly noticed the beautiful foliage, healthy and glossy, as a general feature of plants on display.

Although there were lots of dendrobiums, masdevallias, cymbidiums and paphiopedilums because of the time of the year, there was a wide range of genera displayed. There were several elegant lycastes, one of which, a beautiful white, *Lycaste Koolena* “Joyce” AM/OCNZ, won Grand Champion of the Show for Kevin and Lyn Sherlock of Sherlock Orchids.

What beautiful, long spikes of brilliant white flowers with spots of red in the throat had been coaxed a bit early from several *Sarcochilus hartmannii*. As well as the more traditional big white phalaenopsis flowers, there were some rich, glowing, dark pinks and reds. I was amazed that the Otago Orchid Club had managed to transport so many beautiful phalaenopsis for their display.

The wide variety of Australian dendrobiums at the Show ranged from the highly scented *Dendrobium speciosum* and similar hybrids and cultivars, with large pseudobulbs, leaves and flower spikes, through lots of *D. kingianum*, *D. falcorostrum* and *D. bigibbum* hybrids, to species such as *D. teretifolium* with long, slender, round, hanging leaves and cascades of



Otago Orchid Club display – lots of Phals!

small, white, narrow-petalled flowers. There was a wonderful plant of this species in the Taranaki Orchid Society display – *D. teretifolium* ‘Ivory Shower’. There were also Indian/S.E. Asian dendrobiums, including showy *D. nobile* in several displays, and a rich cerise *D. Kumika* in the N.Z. Orchid Society area. I noticed a violet-blue flowered *D. victoriae-reginae*, a species that comes from the highlands in the Philippines.

The stately paphiopedilum flowers included large, complex hybrids with warm gold, brown and green markings, as well as species and hybrids, some rich crimson, some, so dark they

are almost black, and others elegantly veined in green or red, or spotted.

There were fiery, tall-stemmed masdevallias that always seem to be peer out inquisitively on their slightly arched stems, and clusters of smaller types, many in warm gold or apricot shades.

Standard cymbidium clones in attractive, clear colours were a strong component of many displays, as expected at a spring show, together with some smaller-growing crosses in dark velvet red, green or pink. Some large specimens of *Cymbidium lowianum* were eye-catching features, and caused comment on how difficult they would be to transport to the show without damage. The display by a Chinese nursery of dainty-flowered *C. goeringii* cultivars in tall, ornamented, and in some examples, beautifully painted, pots gave a glimpse into a different tradition of orchid growing.

A few large, scented cattleyas added charm to the displays, and a range of bright-coloured mini-cats and related intergenerics such as laeliocattleyas, filled corners or were features in



displays. There were several large colonies of Australian greenhood orchids, mainly *Pterostylis curta*, indicating that people are successfully growing Australian terrestrial orchids in New Zealand (although our own are a bit of a challenge).

Zygopetalums could often be found by homing in on their strongly-scented flowers, and the large containers of *Coelogyne cristata* and similar species, with their soft, starry, white flowers and fat, shining pseudobulbs, were always a delight to find. The beautifully frilly Odontiodas such as the white Odontioda Victoria Village, red Oda. Trixmahnee and

those with red spots or patterns on white, were a tribute to their growers, and the clusters of very tall spikes of odontoglossum alliance plants must have required particularly great care and ingenuity in transporting them to the Show.

The diversity of display themes and styles created an additional layer of interest for visitors. A huge amount of planning and preparation had occurred, especially for the large society displays, and the results were imaginative and effective. I admired the attention to detail, from plant labels to artificial tree trunks. The largest displays were created mostly at floor level, with height to show off plants achieved with branches, various ingenious props such as a model oil-drilling rig in the Taranaki Orchid Society display, and in the Waikato Orchid Society area a large, water tank-sized cylinder covered by a landscape mural. Some smaller sites had their display raised a bit above the floor, and the smallest, on tabletops or higher stands, provided good sites for focus on small plants such as masdevallias.

On the Wairarapa Orchid Society 'mountain range' the pots were all nestled amongst moss or other greenery, creating a very natural scene. In contrast, Villa Orchids (J & B Vance) effectively placed red cymbidiums against boldly squared black and white screens, creating an oriental impression. Regional themes such as coastal scenes by Hibiscus Coast Orchid Society and Bay of Islands Orchid Society were clever and effective.

At the official opening of the Show, Canterbury Orchid Society received a special round of applause for their display, created so soon after the devastating earthquake in their region. Fortunately, precious china and glassware and a collection of beautiful early orchid prints, together with some plants, were already out of Christchurch when the earthquake struck, and

an elegant display was made. However some members understandably had to change their plans, so there were fewer plants in the display than originally planned. Lesley Newton of the Canterbury Society also had a separate small display showing some beautiful phalaenopsis, and with an artistic touch of small stones for plant name labels. We admire the members from Canterbury for continuing with their displays despite the damage at home, and we sympathise with those disappointed to be unable to make the long trip to the Show. We heard of broken glass in greenhouses, pots fallen from benches to the floor, and clay pots smashed. This, on top of house and property damage, would be heart-breaking, and all orchid growers have warmest sympathy for those affected. We have been reminded that in New Zealand it could happen to any of us at any time. But don't give up, Canterbury growers. I'm sure some plants will be rescued, and there will be flowers in the future from 'orchids that survived the earthquake'.

As well as all the orchid displays, beautiful floral art near the main door was evidence of further artistic skill amongst some orchid growers, and they added to the visual variety. Quilters had been challenged to prepare a work with an orchid theme, and the organisers were thrilled to have so many attractive entries expertly designed and sewn. They made a colourful backdrop to the Show. Of course the sales area received a lot of interest, with visitors inspired by the display to add to their collections, or to take the opportunity to see and perhaps buy from the range of other items available.

Overall the Show was a wonderful combination of natural beauty and human artistry, well worth the effort to put on and to visit. Thanks to all the growers and supporters who contributed to its success.

The Orchid Extravaganza

Glenn Poffley (gpoffley@clear.net.nz)

Well it is all over for another 5 years and anyone who missed this show certainly missed a treat. Everyone will have different opinions on what plants won a prize and which plants missed out but I was more interested in the overall impact of the displays, which were quite amazing. The effort put into these was impressive some taking up very large areas. A trip down to the Wairarapa and Cape Palliser revived us further.

So what stood out from my perspective? These are just a few that took my eye. You would think that all the northern societies would have lots of phallies but not so, Otago I would think probably had more than many of the others put together and maybe that was the deciding factor making them overall display winner?

- The massed Cymbidiums on the Levin District display were very impressive.
- The approx. 20m long Hawkes Bay stand with mannequins stood out at one end.
- Waikato's huge mural centre piece with trees and ferns and bark floor. No wonder they needed a truck for the gear.
- The very tasteful layout from Tauranga/Bay of Plenty, another superb effort.
- The vivid colours of Hibiscus Coast.
- Tucker Orchids well thought out and impressive modernistic approach giving them first place Commercial display.
- Kevin Sherlock certainly had many prize-winning plants.

(Photos below by Glenn Poffley)



A selection of photos from the International Orchid Extravaganza, Palmerston North

Note, photographic conditions at shows may be difficult, and it was not possible to ascertain the names of some growers so, in general, growers names have not been shown. (Photos, Nick Miller)



Unobtrusive labelling, very effective



Potinara Flash Point



Wardian Case in display



Den. Vicstu 'Dawn'



Lyc. Rokuhoku 'Omega'



Rhyncattleathe ((Bc. Mt. Hood x Lc. Yellow Jacket) x Rth. Emerald Bay)



Odcdm. Black Beauty



Masd.
Fraserii
'Madison'



Paph Izoyoi
Magic



Cym. goeringii var
longibracteatum
'Yu Zhou Mei'



Cym. Sim's Vision



Cym. First Step x
Coraki 'Smoke'

Go to shows!

Andrew Foster (gfos1111@bigpond.net.au)
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As I write this, Christchurch has suffered massive earthquakes, and here in Victoria, we have had possibly the wettest winter for 20 years, with major flooding in the North East of the State. We have also enjoyed the best snow fall for 20 years. So much for Global Warming! As a result of all this precipitation, our water restrictions have been eased!

We were very fortunate in August to have the Orchid Societies Club of Victoria (OSCOV), hold a 3 day Orchid Show, which was supported by over 20 Orchid Clubs. The Club displays were fantastic, the number and variety of retailers were superb, and the In-ternational Speakers day on the Saturday was extremely informative! The talks by Hendrik Vorster from South Africa; Pepe Portilla from Eucador; Bill Thoms and Fred Clarke from the USA, were very inspiring!

I would encourage all Orchid growers (and hobbyists) to attend any of these events held in your local area. Talk to the dealers, ask questions of them and Club representatives on how to grow and flower your orchids. How much light do they need, how often should I water, how of-ten do I feed them, do they require a “drying off period”, if so when? What temperatures do they require to flower? All dealers want you to succeed with your orchids, so they can sell you more!

Now back to basics! Us mere mortals require food (which is turned into energy in our bodies) and water to survive, breed and grow! We also require a rest period (called sleep). Orchids also require food, water and rest! However without sufficient sunlight they cannot process the food supplied into energy (via photosynthesis) to grow and flower. They also require a suitable bed to rest and grow in. This might be a bark or coco fibre mix, a mount either cork, a hardwood plank or tree fern slab. Their only reason to flower is to attract pollinators, so they can breed!

Those flowers also attract us! They make really great house plants when in flower, and when you consider the cost spread over the 6-8 weeks of their flowering time, are cost effective. How often have you purchased an Orchid in flower, and the next year it doesn't flower? It all comes back to the basics. Water, food and sunlight.

Attached are some photos from the OSCOV weekend (next page) showing displays, dealers and patrons, OSCOV show, 20-22 August at Keysborough, Vic. The tree (bottom right) was 10ft. tall, and held together with many bolts!



Doctor Watson – I presume - Christmas Star?

Ron Maunder (ronmaunder@paradise.net.nz)

In Issue 10 (Dec 2009) page 7 Alan Watson wrote of how he and his mate Cyril Whittaker of New Plymouth had had fun identifying an orchid plant which Cyril had been given. It was not in flower and the label was on an old piece of venetian blind and had badly faded. Alan's article was illustrated by a painting borrowed from Wikipedia and showed a long spiked *Oncidium wentworthianum* which he deduced was their plant. I think the pseudobulbs helped identify it. However on the label they made out the words Honolulu wentworthianum.

When I read that I wondered if there was actually more to their discovery or success in naming the plant. Why did it have Honolulu on the label? I immediately looked up Honolulu as I knew it to be an old *Oncidium* hybrid of Goodale Moir in Hawaii. Yes, Honolulu was registered by Moir in 1970 as *altissimum* x *leucochilum* – both species. I then checked the RHS website

<http://apps.rhs.org.uk/horticulturaldatabase/orchidregister/orchidregister.asp>

The new(ish!) RHS International Orchid Register database version has recently produced a valuable addition. (I suggest you bookmark the above. It's a great resource!) You only have to type in one parent –

Under PARENTAGE SEARCH - then

SEED PARENT – GENUS I typed *Oncidium*. Under GREX I typed wentworthianum

Under -POLLEN PARENT – GENUS I typed in just *Oncidium* and got answers....
(If I left out *Oncidium* it would tell me ALL parents of whatever genus had been used!!!)

In this case there were two hybrids.....

Oncidium Bee Hive (wentworthianum x *Lululeu*) (*Lululeu* is Honolulu x *leucochilum*)

Oncidium June Sunshine (wentworthianum x *sarcodes*)

By starting again and typing in

SEEDPARENT – GENUS *Oncidium* and GREX Honolulu I finally got

CHRISTMAS STAR! (Honolulu x wentworthianum) (The order Alan deciphered on the label too)

ORIGINATOR – Bealls, REGISTERED – by D. Bonham

Now that is very revealing because Professor Dennis Bonham of Auckland was a New Zealander famous for early work with “test tube” babies, a NZOS Judge etc etc and the cross was registered in 1990 in time for the 13th World Orchid Conference in Auckland.

Its possible that Cyril's plant was remade by someone else but I'm guessing that Dennis imported or bought his seedling plant from Bealls – then a famous orchid nursery on Vashon Island in Puget Sound, Seattle, Washington, USA. A number of us Kiwis imported plants from Bealls in the 80's before they closed.

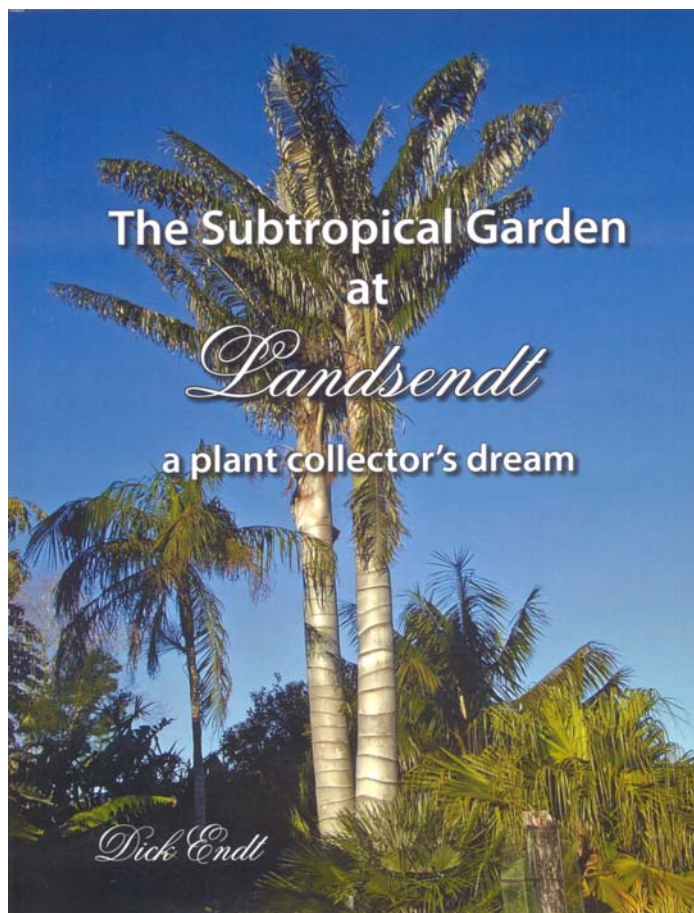
So Alan and Cyril if you want to take this further its possible the NZOS Awards archivist has a photo of Onc. Christmas Star - if Dennis's plant was awarded, or it may be pictured in the Proceedings of the 13th WOC book or even the yearbook? I haven't checked. Maybe Cyril can ask his source where their plant came from? There should still be pieces of Onc. Christmas Star around Auckland today. Better still you could see if Martin Bonham in Auckland still has a record, photo or even a piece of his father's plant. Sorry I couldn't find a picture of it on GOOGLE or GOOGLE IMAGES.

Good growing. Ron Maunder (Sherlock Holmes)

Book Review

The Subtropical Garden at Landsendt: a plant collectors dream.

By Dick Endt. ISBN 978-0-473-15869-9



Dick and Annemarie Endt are names well known to many Auckland gardeners, and those members of the wider subtropical plants- and fruit-growing fraternity. For many years they have gardened in a secluded valley at Oratia, in the foothills of the Waitakere Ranges. This recently published (2009) volume tells the story of their gardening and plant-hunting adventures. Much of the book recounts plant hunting in Equador, Chile, Argentina and Bolivia, searching for fruits such as babacos and tamarillos and ornamentals such as a variety of palms, Cecropias, bromeliads, the amazing *Schefflera* 'Condor' and numerous other treasures. Other sections tell of the development of their garden/orchard/nursery Landsendt.

There is little about orchids, as such, in this book, but the sections

describing the topography, climate, environment and vegetation of areas that have provided many of our favourite cultivated orchids (not to mention ferns, bromeliads, aroids gesneriads...) is both instructive and fascinating. There are many fine photographs, mostly of South American localities, landscapes and plants (including a few orchids), together with various human activities, such as collecting palm seeds from a long ladder balanced on top of a Land Cruiser!

The last chapter consists of a photo essay on the Landsendt Subtropical Garden, showing garden scenes and selected plants which are bound to be of great interest to those in warmer climates, including the northern and coastal North Island of NZ and maybe selected

microclimates further south. The author makes the point, very well, that such areas have a remarkably similar climate to the high-altitude tropics above approximately 2500 metres elevation – quite a large portion of South America (and parts of Asia). There are many ideas in this book which should inspire gardeners fortunate enough to live in warmer areas (even this writer living in the ‘Cool Subtropics’ at Lake Rotoiti).

Perhaps the saddest sentence in this book is found on page 25:

“During the period 1960 to 1980 the importation of plant material was encouraged by the New Zealand government to enable this country to maintain its lead in horticultural innovation.”

Coupled with this is the title for Chapter 11 – ‘The end of an era of plant introduction’. In the mid 1990s new legislation was brought in, and plant importation collapsed. In this chapter Dick makes a strong case for the need for us to import new plant material – something that we have been starved of for well over a decade. You have only to look at our collapsing nursery industry and the decline of gardening and specialised horticulture to see the results.

Without future plant explorers such as Dick Endt, it is hard to see any encouraging way forward for future generations of gardeners and plant-lovers, if such there be. However, for a reminder of more enterprising and imaginative days, I recommend that you read this book. Perhaps copies should be sent to every politician and ‘biosecurity’ official in the land. Much of the text is by Dick Endt, but I suspect that Annemarie has also had a hand in it.

Price for our readers \$60 incl. p&p (regardless of the new GST rate) from Touchwood Books.

Nick Miller

Guilty

Glenn Poffley (gpoffley@clear.net.nz)

It is time for some admissions on my early attempts and prowess (or lack of) at growing orchids. The problems started when John Hannah Orchids (Takanini, Auckland) advertised a closing down sale many years ago. Always with an eye for bargains this seemed like a good place to go shopping for some more orchids to join my rather miserable collection.

At that stage the extent of my orchid growing and knowledge in this field was a few Cymbidiums given to me sitting in the back garden in pots under a great big pepper tree. Entering Hannah’s nursery my first impression was, ‘What are all these funny looking things?’ none of which looked like a Cymbidium.

Catching my eye, the foliage of an Aussie Dendrobium looked like a miniature palm tree and I reckoned this would look good as an indoor plant. Back then not knowing or even caring whether they flowered or not, it was in fact some years before this was confirmed more by good luck than good management. Clever sales talk saw a few other oddities going to a new home as salesmen are able to manage when they see a sucker come in with no idea of what he is doing or buying.

Intrigued with what was now in my possession and with only rudimentary information available in the general garden guides, I was surprised at the diversity of plants now in my hot hands. Another week passed and that alluring ad appeared once again. Living not far away the

urge to go and get some more bargains was too much to resist so the next trip out there saw even more unknown (to me) orchid plants finding their way into the car.

Somewhere in the depths of my mind was the idea that orchids came from the tropics so required heat and lots of it, so the lounge was the ideal place for them.

I'm sure the right cultural advice was forthcoming from the salesman at the time but we all know better than them anyway. It probably went in one ear and out the other being so engrossed with the new purchases and apparent bargains now at home.

Falling into the same trap as the early English nurserymen with their stove houses and trying to grow a plant with absolutely no idea of where it came from or its cultural requirements was inevitable. Winter arrived and a recently installed Kent fire in the old open fire-place was working to maximum efficiency. With access to plenty of free firewood the lounge was almost unbearable to sit in by about 9pm. and with large north facing windows, the heat was sustained during the day even in winter. It's a pity Hannah wasn't selling cacti as this was the ideal environment.

Another purchase, a glass display shelf placed directly in front of the window was where, it could be loosely stated my orchids lived or more aptly sweated it out (for a while anyway). On reflection it's certain they were not thriving or flowering for that matter. A *Cattleya* did manage to flower in a last ditch attempt to reproduce but then it too threw in the towel probably suffering from heat stroke and sunburn.

The *Dendrobiums* by this stage were drier than a dead dingo's donga (to use an Aussie colloquialism) and all the other purchases were suffering from most of the above afflictions. Not content with just physiological stress the orchids also had to contend with the population explosion of insects, which were by now lapping up the Aussie outback conditions I had carefully provided.

In a word my first attempt at other genera was disastrous and those bargains had by now turned into dud Lotto tickets. Its possible a couple of *Dends* survived the onslaught; they are tough those Aussies, (I was once given a huge *D. speciosum* that the owner's large dog played with on the back lawn) but everything else was only fit for dried arrangements.

With my tail between my legs it was prudent to return to growing *Cyms*, they were in vogue, easy to get and surviving well outside, even flowering. Those other fancy ones could be viewed from a distance at the many popular large Orchid shows held at that time and the experts left to grow them

In true Kiwi fashion the pepper tree was eventually pruned to ground level (the roots by now had invaded the neighbour's sewer pipe and it would at least provide more heat for the lounge) so a better position was needed for the *Cyms*. Some old lengths of galvanized one inch pipe and some clamps were ideal for a frame with some used Nova roof bolted to the top.

There was not even any need for No. 8 wire! Then on reflection maybe just a little was used. Regular weekend jaunts to the then many commercial growers around South Auckland saw the number of *Cyms* increase dramatically over the next few years. By now they were conveniently located just outside the kitchen window with water from the washing machine being thrown over the orchids dutifully every Saturday and not a bug was to be seen. The only fertiliser was chopped banana skins and they thrived, flowering regularly.

It was a long time before I had the courage to join a club and try my hand at those other oddities again. But that's another story. The annoying part is that I can't seem to grow *Cymbidiums* very well any more, maybe a return to the old non detergent washing powders and eating more bananas is the answer. The old adage 'a little knowledge is dangerous' is surely true but maybe too much can also be a problem?

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 December 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 still 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, 8 to 12 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.*

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

Bay of Islands Orchid Society meet 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) at 12.30 pm. (Auckland) 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

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

Meets 2nd Sunday each month except Jan. (no meeting) and Oct. 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 Oct at the above venue. Set up Friday 8th Oct.

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

WANTED: A source of Calanthes, including *Calanthe sieboldii* var. *striata* .
Agnes Betschart (Agnes Betschart)

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.
Thanks, Melanie Brigden,

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

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

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 RJO orchids@gmx.ch
Rudolf Jenny

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

I would like to know if there are any growers who may have any *Diuris* tubers for sale.
David Hutchins - dphutchins@xtra.co.nz

Orchid collection for sale.

Due to my current disability, I am reluctantly forced to dispose of my very choice mixed Orchid collection. The accompanying photo is of some of my Disas. Because most of the genera are one offs, the choice is my selection.

Miltoniopsis 100cm pots= \$10 120cm pots = \$15.

Odont alliance "" "" "" ""

Disa all \$15.

Dendrobiums Baskets: \$12---\$25 Terracota-pot: \$30.(Kuniku)

Encyclia \$15

Freight and packing at cost.

All these Orchids are not junk, most are genuine divisions of carefully chosen show-plants.

Ewen Perrott. (perrtuita@xtra.co.nz)
253 Tui Crescent.
Te Awamutu 3800



ALSO

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 perrtuita@xtra.co.nz

or Mr Ewen Perrott

253 Tui Crescent

Te Awamutu.



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

Webpage: 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, carnosa, red buttons, carnosa 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.

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



Sunvale Orchids
31 Sunvale Crescent
Gisborne
New Zealand



D S & P R Hutchins

Phone 06 867 2567

027 640 4109

Email dphutchins@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.



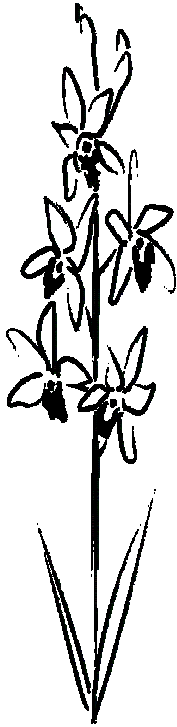
Nutriflow slow release fertilizing system.



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

Please visit www.orchidtrays.com.au

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 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 it you can be sure that it is there waiting for you

Contacts:

Russell Hutton (09) 236 8392
lrorchids@xtra.co.nz

Joe & Betty Vance (09) 236 0225
jborchids@xtra.co.nz

Ross & Susan Tucker (09) 473 8629
orchids@clear.net.nz

Bill Liddy (06) 836 6735
wflid@xtra.co.nz

Ron Maunder (07) 552 5570
paradiseorchids@paradise.net.nz