



The New Zealand Orchid Society Inc.

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Nov 2017 - Jan 2018

FEBRUARY MEETING/BBQ/SOCIAL:

WHEN? SATURDAY 17 February 2018

WHERE? Tucker's Laboratory & growing area, 53 Bayswater Ave, Bayswater

TIME? Get-together and viewing from 4.00pm

WHAT? BBQ, and chance to view their new growing area, and the laboratory from which many of their plants start their lives

As outlined in our earlier email, our first meeting of the year for the NZOS is usually a get-together and BBQ. This time around we are going to see something a little different. The Tuckers are going to open their other premises located in Bayswater (address above) for viewing.

This will be a chance to see some of the new growing areas, and the new techniques they are using, to grow their plants at this location.

The Bayswater site is also the location of their orchid laboratory where plants are being flaked and deflaked, which will also be opened for viewing.

The NZOS will provide drinks and sausages. Members, could you please bring a plate of salad or a dessert to share.

Note: there is no refrigerator and no oven to heat anything up at this location.

And, the house at the property is tenanted, so to respect the tenant's privacy, please park on the road, and make your way on foot, down the driveway to the alleyway between the two garages.

The lunchroom is the first door on your right.

This is an opportunity to see a different part of a commercial orchid growing operation, not usually open to the public.

Notes from the President

A hot start to the New Year with our first meeting being a barbecue at an unusual venue – Tucker's at Bayswater, the large outdoor growing area for our orchids. We will have the usual barbecue staples including sausages and juice supplied by the NZOS, so please bring a plate, either salad or dessert, enough so that no one goes home hungry.

Note: there is no refrigerator or oven available.

At our last meeting, Mike & Leigh Leaity gave an interesting talk on growing *Sarcochilus*, as well as some observations on trying to breed new colours.

Our monster auction at the November meeting went well, with the profits going to help support the yearbook, and also the speaker fund. Thanks to all those who contributed plants.

I hope to see you all of you on Saturday at the BBQ.

Ross

Vale: Ross Mervyn Crabb

Sadly, we have to report the recent passing of one of our long-time members, Ross Crabb, in late December.

Ross was a big supporter of our shows, almost exclusively growing and showing his well grown *Cymbidiums*, even exhibiting at our last Spring Show, despite being unwell at the time.

Ross had several of his plants awarded over the years, and was well known in the orchid world for his enthusiasm for the mighty *Cymbidium*.

In honour of Ross's achievements, one of his *Cymbidium* seedlings exhibited at our last show, has been registered in remembrance of him.



**Cym. Memoria Ross Crabb 'Sue'
(Valley Splash x Julie Hawkes)**

Our thoughts go out to his wife Sue, and their family at this time.

Report from the November meeting

This meeting was busy with a variety of events.

There were two prizes of different sorts to be given out. Most importantly, at this meeting, Martin Bonham was also awarded the **John Easton Award**.

This is an annual award given out by the Hawkes Bay Orchid Society for "the most outstanding contribution to the culture or promotion of Orchids in New Zealand".

The South Auckland Orchid Society and our club jointly nominated Martin in recognition of his many years of support with the computerized judging system used by both our club and the OCNZ, and in the case of the OCNZ, with Martin travelling to different parts of the country at times, to enable it to be used by them.

It was pleasing to see Martin selected for this award. Congratulations Martin.

Roy Neale, on behalf of the Hawkes Bay club, presented the award to Martin at the meeting.



Martin Bonham being presented with the John Easton Award.

It was then on to the handing out of the cups won at our Spring Show. This job was ably handled by Martin on this occasion. Ross Tucker also handed over the job of presenting recent NZOS award certificates to Martin, ensuring he was kept busy on the night.





Mike & Leigh spoke about their experiences with *Sarcochilus*, with some useful insights into the genus *Sarcochilus*, now becoming an increasingly popular group of orchids to grow, with a large number of new colours coming through, along with increasing flower size and shape. Their relatively quick growing into flowering size, and their general ease of culture being other attributes for this particular genus.



Thanks to Mike & Leigh for their talk, and also congratulations to those cup and award winners, and special congratulations again to Martin Bonham on his well-deserved award.

Noel

NZOS Ratified Awards

There are no new awards to report, given the lack of shows and meetings since the last newsletter, but the judges have been busy deciding which plant will be the recipient of this year's **Geoff Laird Orchid of the Year**, from those plants awarded during 2017. The winner will be announced at a future meeting.

2017/18 FUTURE PROGRAMME AND UPCOMING EVENTS

17 February 2018 (Saturday) – NZOS social/meeting/orchid viewing and BBQ at the Tucker’s in Bayswater. Details above.

10 March 2018 – Waitakere Ribbon Show, Whenuapai Hall – details in newsletter

21 March 2018 – NZOS main meeting. Our guest speaker will be talking on some of the more unusual and interesting orchids around. More details in the next newsletter.

Waitakere Show

Waitakere Ribbon Show (10 March 2018) are having a BBQ lunch along with the show. The cost of the lunch is \$6.00 per person and people attending the lunch are asked to bring a salad or dessert to share. The Waitakere Orchid club will supply the meat and soft drinks. Anyone wishing to attend the BBQ please let Glenys know by Wednesday 7th March. Contact her at: macraeg@gmail.com or leave a message on her phone – (09) 8351216.

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A sampling of plants on display at the last meeting.

PLANTS ON DISPLAY 20th September 2017



Pholidota chinensis
S. Sidnam



Masd. Lyn Sherlock 'Superba'
William & Man Lo



Sarco. Melba 'Grahame'
Grahame Leafberg



Coel. lawrenceana
Roly McKinlay



Phal. Ching Hua Magic x Taisuco Kochdian
R & S Tucker



Den. Silky White 'Yukiko'
Kevin & Kitty Yong

Thought for the day

**People in glasshouses, should pull
the blinds, before removing their
trousers.**

Spike Milligan