



NEWSLETTER - April 2023



Congratulations to Leon Skorczewski on his rosette-winning **Cypripedium parviflorum** at the Hinckley and District OS Annual Show where the North of England took the award for **Best Society Display**



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Hinckley and District OS Annual Show 2023

Saturday 1st April February, Stoke Golding Club, Stoke Golding

Societies present: Hinckley & District, North of England, Harrogate, East Midlands, Central and Sheffield & District

Orchid traders present: Spicesotic, Phalaenopsis and More, Orchid Accessories.

North of England OS – Best Society Display



Photo: Pat Hollings

The show team is grateful to the following members for lending their plants – some 50 in total - for the Society display: Leon Skorczewski, Richard and Dorothy Rhodes, David Crook, Trevor Crook, Philippa Illsley, George Barnes and Phil Howard.
Special thanks to Lynda Crook for making all the plant labels.



North of England Orchid Society President George Barnes, accompanied by NEOS Secretary Philippa Illsley, is presented with the trophy for Best Society Display at the Hinckley and District OS Annual Show 2023

Rosettes were awarded to three individual plants: Congratulations to Leon Skorczewski for *Cypripedium parviflorum*, David Crook for *Clowesetum Creative Copper Gold* and Phil Howard for *Cymbidium King Freak x devonianum*.

In addition, several plants gained Hinckley Award of Merit certificates.



David Crook's *Clowesetum Creative Copper Gold*



George Barnes's *Dendrochilum arachnites*



Leon Skorczewski's *Bletilla striata*

Phil Howard's *Cymbidium King Freak x devonianum*



Richard and Dorothy Rhodes's *Paphiopedilum rothschildianum*



and *Paphiopedilum Lady Rothschild*



Philippa Illsley's *Dendrobium moniliforme*



Trevor Crook's *Coelogyne cristata*



The other Society displays

Our hosts: Hinckley and District



Harrogate



Sheffield & District



East Midlands



A few plants that caught the eye on other Societies' stands:

Pat Hollings's *Phragmipediums* Don Wimber



and *Don Wimber flavum*



John Gay's Miltoniopsis Gennestière



and Miltoniopsis Fauvellerie



Sarcochilus Strange 'Surprise' (Sheffield and District)



Phalaenopsis luddemanniana (East Midlands)



North of England OS Show, Saturday 8th April 2023

Hoghton Village Hall

Numbers were down at the monthly show at Hoghton – perhaps not surprising, as it was Easter Saturday; however, those present were fortunate not only to see some fine orchids but they also enjoyed a very interesting presentation given by John Gay about the Eric Young Orchid Foundation.



Congratulation to John Gay whose Class 1 Large Group was awarded a NEOS Gold Medal

In close-up: *Dendrobium pierardii*

Miltoniopsis hativels



Phil Howard's Class 3 Group of 6 orchids



In close-up: Cymbidium Magic Devon 'Maisie'



Cymbidium Arthur Medellin Padilla



Pat Hollings's Phalaenopsis Mini Mark



and Pat's Phragmipedium longifolium fma album



John Gaskell's Paphiopedilum Dalla



Philippa Illsley's *Dendrobium atroviolaceum*



Antonia Black's *Dendrobium Star Class Akatsuta*



Trevor Crook's *Encyclia cordigera* x *Epidendrum densiflorum* x *Brassavola digbyana*



Judging results from Hoghton

Class	Exhibit	Grower	Award
1	Group display 15 or more plants	John Gay	*1st
3	Group display 6 orchids	Phil Howard	1st
4	Maxillaria variabilis	Trevor Crook	1st
5	Dendrobium atrovioleaceum	Philippa Illsley	1st
7	Cymbidium Keshab Pradhan	Phil Howard	1st
8	Paphiopedilum Dalla	John Gaskell	1st
9	Phragmipedium longifolium fma album	Pat Hollings	1st
11	Brassada Orange Delight	Leon Skorczewski	1st
12	Odontoglossum crispum	Phil Howard	1st
13	Phalaenopsis Mini Mark	Pat Hollings	1st
14	Dendrobium spectabile	Sheila Yates	1st
15	Clowesetum Creative Copper Gold	David Crook	1st
17	Miltonia cuneata	Trevor Crook	1st
18	Calanthe Mummer 21362	Reg Harrison	1st
22	Dracula saulii	Phil Howard	1st
23	Cymbidium	Philippa Illsley	1st
* Gold medal awarded			

Trevor Crook's *Maxillaria variabilis*



and *Miltonia cuneata*



Reg Harrison's *Calanthe Mummer* 21362



Class 23: Philippa Illsley's *Cymbidium*



and Sheila Yates's *Zygopetalum*



David Crook's Clowesetum Creative Copper Gold



Phil Howard's *Dracula saulii*



and *Odontoglossum crispum*



Sheila Yates's *Dendrobium spectabile*



Sheila's *Prosthechea garciana*



Leon Skorczewski's *Brassada Orange Delight*



Phoenix Orchids



John Keeling Orchids



A Visit to the Eric Young Orchid Foundation, Jersey - John Gay

After lunch, John Gay, gave the first part of what will be a two-part presentation on the Eric Young Orchid Foundation (EYOF) which he knows well, his most recent visit being in December 2022 as a member of the RHS Orchid Committee. The slides included photographs taken by John himself, Chris Purver, Curator of the Foundation, and BOC's Helen Milner.

We learnt about the Foundation's location – places on Jersey have French names and these are used by the EYOF when naming orchids - and the history of the Foundation.

We also learnt that the founder, Eric Young, a wealthy businessman and orchid enthusiast, was born, somewhat surprisingly, in Derbyshire, in 1911.

When Eric died suddenly in 1984, he had had the foresight to make plans for his orchid collection for after his death.

The Foundation is a charitable trust whose trustees are orchid experts.

There is a show house, which is open to the public nearly every day of the year, a growing area comprising 8 greenhouses and a laboratory, and a library.

Eric Young established one of the finest private libraries in the world, containing such rarities as Bateman's Orchids of Mexico and Guatemala and Lindenia. The library also houses the history of all the Foundation's plants and their paintings.

The second part of John's presentation will focus on the Foundation's growing area and, to whet our appetites, John closed this first part with a teaser.

It was a photograph, taken in the Foundation's growing area, of a new Phragmipedium: Phragmipedium Teighmore, and it had Phrag lovers in the audience drooling. Apparently only 6 plants resulted from the cross of Phrag Jersey x Phrag Fremont Point. It was a beauty – with amazing colour, and shapely too. Poor Pat Hollings was quite overcome!



Photo copyright Eric Young Orchid Foundation

RHS Orchid Show at RHS Garden Wisley, Surrey

17th – 19th March 2023

Report by John Gay, photography by Helen Milner, Chair of BOC

I recently had the pleasure of attending what was originally the London Orchid Show, now renamed the Wisley Orchid Show, which was, of course, held at RHS Wisley, in the new Hilltop Centre. This is a purpose-built Exhibition Hall with lecture facilities, meeting rooms and a cafeteria.

This year, the show was held over the period from Friday 17th March to Sunday 19th March. Prior to the show, I attended a training day on the Thursday, which was designed as a refresher day for some 60 RHS Floral/Garden judges.

In an early start on the first day of the show, I joined together with four other judges to judge the ten exhibits in the Hall. We gave four Gold medals which went to Burnham Nurseries, The Mathers Foundation, Helen Milner and Elite Orchids for outstanding exhibits, with the Mathers Foundation taking best overall display.

There were three Orchid Societies exhibiting; namely, Bournemouth Orchid Society (Silver-Gilt), Thames Valley Orchid Society (Silver) and the Orchid Society of Great Britain (Silver), plus an exhibit by Writhlington School (Silver-Gilt).

There were a number of great talks over the period of the show. After the judging was completed, I gave a talk to the public entitled 'An Introduction to Orchids'.

The following day, Saturday, I sat on the RHS Orchid Committee to judge 39 plants, which, I think, was a record number for me and took over four hours; to say the least, a mammoth task, especially since I had to drive home afterwards in time for a meeting and AGM of the Harrogate Orchid Society on the Sunday.

The Mathers Foundation – Gold Medal and Best Overall Display



Elite Orchids – Gold Medal



Burnham Nurseries – Gold Medal



Helen Milner – Gold Medal



Bournemouth OS – Silver-Gilt Medal



Thames Valley OS – Silver Medal



Orchid Society of Great Britain – Silver Medal



Writhlington School's Orchid Project - Silver-Gilt Medal



Forthcoming events

Please note: Where we are invited to attend **shows other than our own NEOS monthly shows**, we request that you support your society by lending your plants for our North of England displays at these shows. The show team will carefully look after your plants and will, if necessary, collect plants from you where possible, but it makes life easier if you could deliver them to one of our addresses or perhaps bring them to the show in time for setting up.

***Saturday 13th MAY 2023 - North of England monthly show**

Community Hall Rixton with Glazebrook .

Hollins Green Warrington. WA3 6JZ.

SPEAKER: PHILIPPA ILLSLEY

‘Orchids as house plants (things I haven’t killed)’

This show coincides with the **Orchid Fair hosted by the Scottish Orchid Society*

which takes place in the Glasgow Botanic Gardens over the weekend of the 13th - 14th May. Our President George Barnes and Vice-President David Crooks are hoping to represent us, staging a North of England OS display at this event.

NB. If George and David do go to Glasgow, Philippa Illsley and Ian Eastwood will be overseeing the Rixton show.

Please inform George and David if you have any plants you can lend for the North of England display in Glasgow.

Sunday 28th MAY 2023 - Sheffield & District Annual Show

St. John’s Church Hall, Abbeydale Road South,

Sheffield, S17 3LE

Saturday 3rd JUNE 2023 – North of England monthly show

HOGHTON VILLAGE HALL

Blackburn Old Road, Hoghton Nr. Preston

SPEAKER : ARTHUR DEAKIN

‘The challenges and rewards of growing a mixed orchid collection’

The full list of speakers and events at this year’s monthly meetings can be found, along with directions to each venue, on the North of England Orchid Society website: www.orchid.org.uk

Friday 16th to Sunday 18th June 2023 - Malvern Orchid Show, Malvern Showground

Saturday 8th JULY 2023 - North of England OS Annual Show

(Please note: Build-up starts Friday 7th JULY)

BARTON - LANCASHIRE - BARTON VILLAGE HALL

Barton, A6 north of Preston

Thursday 17th – Sunday 20th AUGUST 2023 - Southport Flower Show

(Build-up starts Wednesday 16th AUGUST)



Malvern International Orchid Show

**Fri. 16th, Sat. 17th & Sun. 18th
June 2023**

The Show is part of the
Royal Three Counties Show
Three Counties Showground
Malvern, Worcestershire, WR13 6NW

Over 30 Specialist Exhibitors

For more information contact

Chris Barker, Tel: 01642 654748

email: cjbandjb@ntlworld.com

Or visit the website at -

www.malvern-ios.org

The showground is 10 miles from the M5
(Junctions 7 and 8)



Our thanks to Chris and Jenny Burrows for hosting a meeting of the show team who are planning the displays for the Southport and Malvern shows.



And finally:

An extract from the well-loved poem 'I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud' by William Wordsworth:

*The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:*

Wordsworth was writing about daffodils, of course, and not a meeting of the North of England Orchid Society.....nor *Dracula saulii*!

