



NEWSLETTER - June 2023

Malvern Gold!



Our Gold Medal-winning display at the Malvern Orchid Show.

Congratulations to the show team and members who lent plants for the display!

In this issue:

- **NEOS June show at Rixton**
- **Malvern Orchid Show**

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 8th July 2023

Please note: Build-up starts Friday 7th July

North of England OS Annual Show

BARTON - LANCASHIRE - BARTON VILLAGE HALL

Barton, A6 north of Preston

**The show team requests plants for our Society display
and we need helpers generally to make the show run smoothly**

We are expecting:

East Midlands Orchid Society

Harrogate Orchid Society

Helen Millner display

Hinckley Orchid Society

Scottish Orchid Society

Sheffield & District Orchid Society

Traders and Orchid Nurseries:

Burnham Nurseries

Phoenix Orchids

John Keeling Orchid Nursery

Orchid Alchemy

Orchid Accessories

Thursday 17th – Sunday 20th August 2023 - Southport Flower Show
(Build-up starts Wednesday 16th August)



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.

September 9th 2023 HOGHTON LANCASHIRE

HOGHTON VILLAGE HALL
Blackburn Old Road, Hoghton Nr. Preston

Speaker: Jean Barker

North of England OS Show, Saturday 13rd June 2023

Hoghton Village Hall

(Report and photos by Trevor Crook)

Events on the day conspired against us. **Injuries and ill health**, (our best wishes for a speedy recovery) **Holidays, FA cup on TV**, a **splendid sunny day** and **babysitting**, all contributed to the lowest turnout of members I can remember. The members who did attend still found the day enjoyable, thanks mainly to a trip to the pub for lunch and an excellent talk in the afternoon from **our guest speaker, Mr. Arthur Deakin**. There were some fine examples amongst the few plants on the table display. The judges (including Arthur) were able to complete their deliberations in record time.

Judging results, Class Winners

| Class | Exhibit | Grower | Award |
|-------|--------------------------|------------------|-------|
| 4 | Dryadella zebrina | David Crook | 1st |
| 5 | Barkeria spectabilis | David Crook | 1st |
| 6 | Cymbidium Vacura | Philippa Illsley | 1st |
| 8 | Paph. Dalla | John Gaskell | 1st |
| 10 | SLC Jewel Box | Trevor Crook | 1st |
| 13 | Phal. equestris | Ian Eastwood | 1st |
| 14 | Dendrobium atroviolaceum | Philippa Illsley | 1st |
| 15 | Lycaste Sarfield | David Crook | 1st |
| 18 | Dactyloriza Fuschii | Trevor Crook | 1st |
| 22 | Dryadella zebrina | Trevor Crook | 1st |

Plants judged 1st in class



Dryadella zebrina



Barkeria spectabilis



Cymbidium Vacaru



Dactylorhiza Fuschii



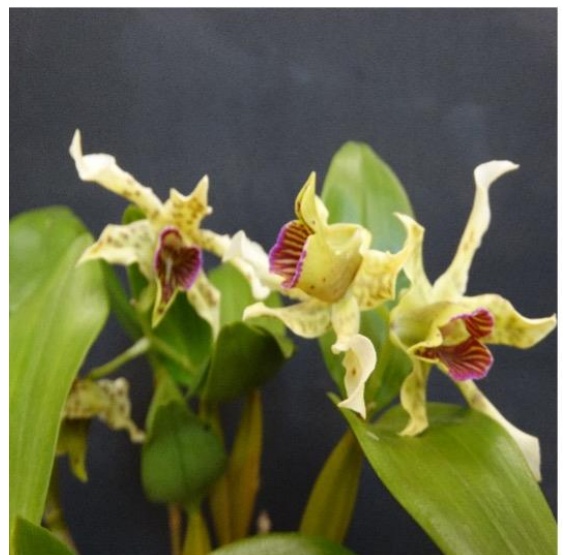
Paphiopedilum Dalla



Slc Jewel Box



Phalaenopsis equestris



Dendrobium atroviolaceum

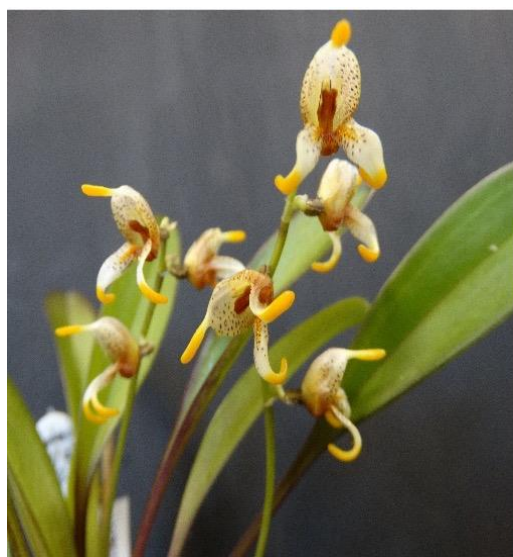


Lycaste Sarfield

More members' plants on display:



Lycaste Groganii



Masdevallia pachyura



Lycaste Deppei



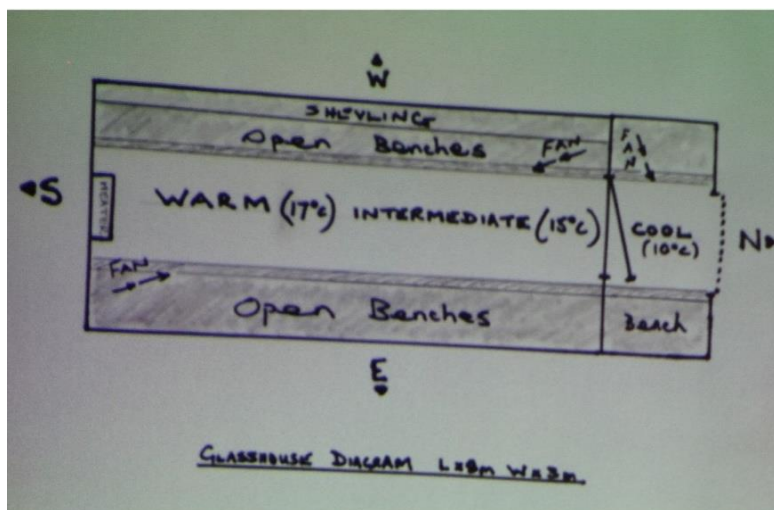


Judges Arthur and David
(David photobombing)

Following the traditional pub lunch members gathered to listen to a talk by Arthur Deakin entitled “**The challenges and rewards of growing a mixed orchid collection**”. In my experience, most of our members have mixed collections and so this topic is of particular interest; it’s just a pity that, on the day, more of us couldn’t be there to hear the talk.

Arthur’s talk was supported with slides showing the greenhouse layout and the range of different plants in his collection. He covered issues relating to light levels, atmosphere, water, food, compost, pests and diseases. He spoke of the compromises we must make in a mixed house and some solutions to problems we’ve all experienced.

This sketch of Arthur’s greenhouse (10ft x 25ft) shows the temperature ranges. The North end is sectioned off for cool growing plants, mainly Masdevallia.



I had to end with this one (- Thanks, John.)



Arthur looked totally dumbfounded!
He had obviously never previously been asked a question on balanced flues!

We congratulate Arthur on receiving two RHS Cultural Commendations at Malvern, for his *Paphiopedilum* St. Swithin and *Bulbophyllum eberhardtii*.



Malvern Orchid Show
Three Counties Showground
14th-16th June 2023

Members of the show team headed to Malvern on the Wednesday and Thursday (set-up day) with the 70 plants that had been gathered earlier in the week. As last year, the Orchid Show - the largest UK Orchid show of the year- took place in the hall and not a marquee, which was much appreciated given the warm weather over the three days and the very heavy rain which fell towards the end of the show and which made packing up the display a bit of a challenge.

As can be seen at the start of this newsletter, the team - which consisted of George, David and Lynda, Ian, Philippa and Pete (and Phil at the breakdown on Sunday) – used the tropical jungle backdrop effectively across the top of the stand with black cloth below, thus adding seeming depth to the display.

There had been talk beforehand that the RHS might not be judging the displays but they did, and BOC judged the individual plants. We exceeded our 2022 Silver-Gilt, gaining a Gold Medal this time. Two plants on the NEOS stand gained rosettes.

There were fine Society displays – see the photos below. As for the Trade, Burnhams took a number of awards for individual plants as well as best Trade display overall.

The RHS Orchid Committee met on the Saturday afternoon.

Chris Purver, Curator of the Eric Young Orchid Foundation, who brought pre-orders and some additional plants for sale for the first time at Malvern, had to endure 12 hours in Customs after taking the ferry from Jersey. It's to be hoped that the experience will not discourage Chris from bringing plants in the future.

The future of the Malvern Show had been in doubt since Show Secretary Chris Barker announced he would be stepping down after this year's show. Chris had wished to step down last year but was persuaded to continue for another year assisted by Mel Stephens of the East Midlands Society.

To general relief and joy, Clive Lloyd, Secretary of the Devon OS, announced that he has agreed to take over as Show Secretary for the Malvern Show. Chris Barker and Mel Stephens were warmly thanked and roundly applauded for their services. Everyone was further delighted when Chris announced that he was not disappearing from the scene and would be around next year.

Two rosette winners on the North of England stand:



2nd place Amateur Phragmipedium:
Hilary Hobbs's Phrag Mont Fallu



1st place in Any Other Hybrid (Amateur) class:
Phil Howard's Cymbidium Kuranda 'Arthur Dawson'

Some of the plants in the North of England display



David Crook's *Dendrobium hercoglossum*



and *Cattleya aelandiae*



Richard and Dorothy Rhodes's *Aeranthes ramosa*



and *Paphiopedilum tigrinum*



George Barnes's Vanda Blue Magic



and Clowsetum Creative Copper Gold



Bacchus Paulescu's Phal I-Hsin Dalmation



Philippa Illsley's Vanda Crownfox Red Delicious



John Gay's Miltoniopsis Houblonerie



Ian Eastwood's Phalaenopsis



Applause for retiring Show Secretary Chris Barker and Assistant Mel Stephens.



Clive Lloyd announces he has agreed to take on the role of Malvern Show Secretary.

Orchid Society Displays

Cornwall



Orchid Society of Great Britain



Bournemouth



Darlington & District



Wessex



Sheffield & District



Cheshire & North Wales



Central



Hinckley & District



North East of England



Scottish



Devon



East Midlands – Best Society display



Thames Valley



Cheltenham & District



British Paphiopedilum Society



Burnham Nurseries – Best Trade display



Helen Millner’s display – ‘Life as an Epiphyte’



Two more RHS Cultural Commendations at Malvern



Bulbophyllum infundibuliforme subsp. *infundibuliforme* 'Elite's 1st' also gained a botanical certificate for Mark Turner of Elite Orchids



Jean Barker's (Darlington) *Masdevallia* Brian Charles.

Please note: Jean will be the guest speaker at our September monthly meeting at Hoghton.

Sales area at Malvern



And finally....

The North of England Orchid Society currently has 89 individual members (62 households) spread over a wide area from Cumbria to Herefordshire and from North Wales to North Yorkshire.

We would like to see as many members as possible attending our shows and exhibiting their orchids. Four venues are used throughout the year for our monthly meetings: Barton, Hoghton, Rixton and Plumley.

If you would like to attend a show but, for one reason or another, you require a lift, do let a member of the Committee know. There may be another member of the Society who may be able to help.



Sometimes an orchid doesn't make it to a show, such as this one:
Barry Openshaw's Zygolycaste.



Photos and other items for the newsletter should be sent to: neosubmissions@gmail.com