

THE ORCHID COLLECTION, PUKEKURA PARK, 1975

The first orchids introduced appear to have been several large specimen plants of the slipper orchid, Paphiopedilum insigne from the Newton King property, Brooklands. This property was handed into the care of the Borough Council in 1934 and the glasshouse was shifted to the Ferneries (1939) where it was the heated display house (No.4) until its removal and replacement with the Kibby House in 1968-69.

1951:

Clem Stokel, a well known pioneer orchid grower from Christchurch is recorded as donating orchids, including Cymbidium tracyanum and C.giganteum, two species which are a feature of the orchid display in May.

1956-62:

Percy Johnson, a local enthusiast donated a collection of orchids which no longer exist except for Cymbidium grandiflorum.

1961:

Plants were obtained from Harrisons of Palmerston North. The only one traceable is Coelogyme cristata var. Lemoniana.

1962:

Mr. L. Jury donated plants of Zygopetalum crinitum x Cymbidium GUELDA, a cross made in Australia in an effort to produce blue cymbidiums but a phenomenon known as apomixis excludes any cymbidium influence.

1962-63:

Tom French donated a group of plants including Epiphronitis VEITCHII and Epicattleya NEBO.

Just prior to 1965 Mr. E. Needham donated a collection of Indian species to the park.

1965:

Mr. Fred Parker announced that he would donate his extensive collection into the care of the City of New Plymouth as a memorial to his wife, Agnes, if it could be housed and tended to his satisfaction. This coincided with the return from 17 years overseas (6 studying orchids) of George Fuller who joined the staff of the Parks & Recreation Department.

Mr. Parker contributed to the construction of a growing house for Cymbidiums and remodelling of an existing one (No.2) for display and actually assisted in the work, beginning in April.

Detailed records of the orchid collection were started in April and these record that at that time there were a 'few hundred plants involved mainly cymbidiums and Paphiopedilum insigne', the former in poor condition.

In November the first of Mr. Parker's plants were handed over, having just been repotted. There were 122 cymbidiums, mostly in 12" square redwood tubs and they were located in the new shadehouse.

1966:

Mr. Parker's generosity had been well publicised and the gesture began a snowball effect. Miss R.F. Jagger of Auckland donated a very fine collection of paphiopedilum hybrids.

A mixed collection was purchased from Monsell and Hatchers of England.

1967:

Mr. Parker donated further plants, mainly cattleya and odontoglossum.

1968:

A selection of cymbidium seedlings purchased from McBeans, also several from the newly developed technique of mericlone.

Fifty seedlings of the odontoglossum alliance purchased from Charlesworths, England.

Mixed collection purchased from Black and Flory, England.

1969:

Mrs N. Page of Auckland donated a very fine collection of miniature cymbidium hybrids at that time not common in New Zealand and many which she had purchased direct from the breeders while in the United States.

1970:

Mr. John Hannah of Auckland donated plants of a new breeding line in cymbidium.

A collection purchased from Mr. D. Gapper of Levin, mainly species of dendrobium.

1971:

Mrs Page of Auckland donated the remainder of her collection of miniature cymbidium making our collection unique in the country.

A collection of McBean's cymbidium hybrids purchased from Paradise Orchids of Tauranga.

1972:

Paradise Orchids of Tauranga donated a collection of cymbidium hybrids.

Mr. Parker donated the last of his cymbidium hybrids and a special collection of odontoglossum alliance hybrids which he had specially imported from Charlesworths in England.

1973:

A collection of cymbidium hybrids purchased from Blacks of Levin.

SUPPLEMENT OF MAJOR ADDITIONS TO THE

A mixed collection, notably yellow odontoglossum hybrids and paphiopedilum species purchased from BEALL'S of the United States.

- 1973 A collection of cymbidium hybrids donated by Paradise Orchids of Tauranga.

1977 Purchase from F.A. BURKE of cymbidiums \$250. Paraneke
1974: Orchid Society donation.

A further donation of cymbidium hybrids donated by Paradise Orchids.

Twelve special phalaenopsis seedlings donated by Hans Thomale of Germany.

Donation from R. Bickerstaff - mixed collection.
1975:

Mrs M. Meyer of Marton donated a particularly fine collection of mixed orchids collected together by herself and her late husband during 30 years.

Mr. B. Millard of Hawera donated a range of choice species from the collection of the late Denis Coe who over the years had made many direct donations to the park collection.

- 1976 An importation of species was made from Indonesia, the paphiopedilum group being particularly well represented.

Donation from L. Hobbs - mixed collection.

In addition to the foregoing major donations there have been great numbers of smaller donations over the years and these, together with the purchases and exchange of plants has resulted in the collection now representing just over 1000 clones of all types, both hybrids and species, with the total number of plants in the 2500 range. This ensure a continuity of public display throughout the year and a source of reference for the specialist enthusiast.

1981 Donation from W. Ross-Taylor - Miltonias.

Donation from K. Goodwin - mixed collection.

Donation from C. Vogelpeel, South Africa - 19 plants of disa.

Donation from R. Bickerstaff - mixed collection.

Maunders, Paradise Orchids - cymbidiums.

1983 Donation from R. Hutton - mixed collection, mostly masdevallias.

1984 Purchase from Parva Plants - a collection of calanthe species.

1985 Purchase from R. Hutton - mixed collection.

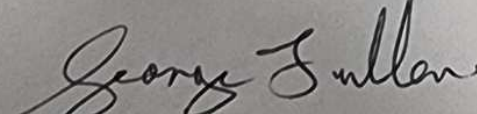
Purchase from J. Hannah - cymbidiums.

George Fuller

GEORGE FULLER.
Curator Pukekura Park

SUPPLEMENT OF MAJOR ADDITIONS TO THE
PUKEKURA PARK ORCHID COLLECTION, 1975-1985

- 1975 Donation from R. Hutton - mixed collection.
- 1977 Purchase from F.A. BURKE of cymbidiums \$250. Taranaki
 Orchid Society donation.
 Donation from R. Reichenbuch - mixed collection.
 Donation from J. Campbell - mixed collection.
 Donation from J. Parker - mixed collection.
 Donation from R. Bickerstaff - mixed collection.
- 1978 Purchases of a range of species, particularly vandas and
 paphiopedilums from firms in Thailand.
 Donation from J. Forrest.
 Donation from R. Bickerstaff - mixed collection.
 Donation from J. Campbell - mixed collection.
- 1979 Donation from R. Maunder, Paradise Orchids - mixed collection
 plus several cymbidium mericlones.
 Donation from I. Robins - mixed collection.
 Donation from M. Clements, Canberra Botanic Gardens - mostly
 Australian species ex flasks.
 Donation from R. Bickerstaff - mixed collection.
- 1980 Donation from Auckland City Council - Paphiopedilums.
 Purchase from K. Goodwin - mixed collection.
- 1981 Donation from W. Ross-Taylor - Miltonias.
 Donation from K. Goodwin - mixed collection.
 Donation from L. Vogelpoel, South Africa - 19 plants of disa.
- 1982 Donation from R. Bickerstaff - mixed collection.
 Donation from R. Maunder, Paradise Orchids - cymbidiums.
- 1983 Donation from R. Hutton - mixed collection, mostly masdevallias.
- 1984 Purchase from Parva Plants - a collection of calanthe species.
- 1985 Purchase from R. Hutton - mixed collection.
 Purchase from J. Hannah - cymbidiums.


GEORGE FULLER.
Curator Pukekura Park