

Peterborough International Orchid Show

THE SECOND PIOS was held at the East of England Showground, 14–15 June. More than 70 exhibitors from 11 countries outside the UK took part, ranging from Japan, Malaya and Taiwan, to Columbia, Ecuador and Brazil, as well as many European countries. Plant quality was wonderfully high as was the standard of the displays. Gold, Silver and Bronze medal display judging was introduced with Clare and Johan Hermans joining Dick Hartley and Brian Woodward in this difficult task. Six Gold medals were awarded, to East Midlands Orchid Society, Bournemouth Orchid Society, Foxdale Orchids, North of England Orchid Society, Dave Parkinson Orchids and Rynne Orchidée.

The major trophy winners were,

■ **Best Display Amateur:**

East Midlands Orchid Society

■ **Best Display Trade:** Rynne Orchidée

■ **Best Species Amateur:** *Eulophia*

guineensis 'Weymouth Bay', Roger Russell, Bournemouth Orchid Society

■ **Best Hybrid Amateur:** *Doritaenopsis*

Happy Valentine x Coral Harbor (exhibited as a *Phalaenopsis*), Maureen Fryer, East Midlands Orchid Society

■ **Best Species Trade:** *Vanda cristata*

'Akerne', Akerne Orchids

■ **Best Hybrid Trade:** *Paphiopedilum*

Prince Edward of York, In-Charm Orchids

In addition, the new **Ray Bilton Trophy** was inaugurated, and awarded for the best phalaenopsis by an amateur grower. It went to Maureen Fryer of East Midlands Orchid Society for *Doritaenopsis* Happy Valentine x Coral Harbor. This will be an annual award.

The trophies were presented by the

President of the East of England Agricultural Society, Baroness Byford. She too received a souvenir of the occasion – the newly named and registered *Paphiopedilum* Baroness Byford (Stone Lovely x In-Charm White) presented by Yuan-Chuan Hsiao, creator and proprietor of In-Charm Orchids.

Welcome guests included Muneatzu Ejiri (a director of the Japan Orchid Growers Association), and the President of the International Phalaenopsis Alliance, John Stubbings and his wife Sandy. The IPA will be holding their Symposium at PIOS next year – only the second time it will have been held outside the USA.

Interesting features included the chance to win the right to name a recently created and flowering masdevallia hybrid, *Masdevallia cyclotega* x *M. vellifera* – by Ellis Eyre. The winners were a couple from the North East, and this hybrid is being named and registered *Masdevallia* Grace Emily.

The RHS Orchid Committee met at the show and judged 31 plants (see p292), and a BOC Judging Symposium was hosted. Once again, a higher than average number of judges and trainee judges attended.

The economic climate, rapidly escalating petrol prices and alarmist publicity about possible petrol shortages did not help attendances and other events reported a downturn. Nevertheless, some traders reported outstanding levels of business and the cheerful, happy atmosphere established last year was reinforced, helped by a barbecue which raised over £200 for a cancer charity. Altogether a very successful and enjoyable weekend and an outstanding orchid show.

Brian Woodward



Sarah Brooks



Chris Barker



Jason Gearing

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Chris Barker

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Jason Gearing

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Chris Barker

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1 The beautiful East Midlands Orchid Society stand won the Best Display Amateur trophy, and also featured numerous award-winning plants.
2 *Doritaenopsis* Happy Valentine x Coral Harbor won Best Hybrid Amateur for Maureen Fryer of East Midlands Orchid Society, and the new Ray Bilton Trophy.
3 and 4 *Vanda cristata* 'Akerne' (syn. *Trudelia cristata* 'Akerne') won the Best Species Trade award for Akerne Orchids of Belgium. It also gained a Certificate of Cultural Commendation in the RHS Awards (pp297-298).
5 *Disa* Carime Blanc shone out on the

Thames Valley Orchid Society stand.
6 Rynne Orchidées won Best Display Trade with a nautically-themed stand.
7 *Eulophia guineensis* 'Weymouth Bay' won Best Species Amateur for Roger Russell of Bournemouth Orchid Society, and also an RHS Certificate of Cultural Commendation (pp295-7).
8 Yuan-Chuan Hsiao, the creator and proprietor of In-Charm Orchids of Taiwan, presenting a delighted Baroness Byford and her husband with the newly named and registered *Paphiopedilum* Baroness Byford (Stone Lovely x In-Charm White).



Chris Barker

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Chris Barker

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