



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear members,  
I hope all members have had a very happy start to 2017. Perhaps you have enjoyed some out of season *C. miniata* blooms, or summer flowering, *C. caulescens*, as I did recently. It is amazing to think how the fabulous pendulous interspecific hybrids we enjoy have such small scale flowering species in their background.

The last time I saw many MCG members was at our annual Christmas party, held last November. Our hosts, Lorry and Terry Edwards, once again went all out to make a most wonderful afternoon for members and partners. Surprise attendees were interstate member Kerrie McElroy and her husband Steve. It was great to catch up in a relaxed and pleasant setting, thank you Lorry and Terry.



MCG Christmas party 2016

By the time you receive this newsletter we will be into February, and getting ready to meet up again for our first meeting for the year, the Annual General Meeting. This is an important meeting to attend as it is when reports are read out, acknowledgements made, and members get to express thanks to the outgoing committee. The other significant part of the AGM is the election of the new committee. I am aware some current committee members will not be standing for a role again, so sincerely ask all members to consider taking an active role in the organization of the group. There will be some wonderful raffle

prizes to be won, so please come early and buy a few lucky tickets. I also strongly encourage all members to renew before the AGM, either with the membership form at end of newsletter, or if possible please try the online application on the MCG website.

<http://www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au/membership/>



Our fabulous hosts, Terry and Lorry



Steve and Kerrie McElroy, with their lucky door prize.

I look forward to seeing you at the AGM at the Uniting Church, corner of Burwood Highway and Blackburn Road, Burwood and bring anything

for display, Trading Table, or supper. I hope we have a good night with catch up conversations after the meeting and the topic presentation. Visitors are also most welcome.

Michael Barrett

**NEXT MEETING**

**Annual General Meeting**

**With special raffle**

To follow a presentation on *Victorian era obsession with ferns, and Ripponlea Estate by Michael Barrett*

Friday 19 February 7.30pm

Uniting Church

Cnr Blackburn Rd & Burwood Hwy, Burwood

**COMMITTEE**

- Michael Barrett- President
- Steve Wright- Vice President
- Roger Clarke- Secretary
- Rae Begg- Treasurer
- Haydn Lomas
- John Trotter- Committee members

Melbourne Clivia Group Phone Number - Michael 0488998327

Deadline for next issue - 15 May, 2017

**OUR ADDRESS**

Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.  
Burwood East LPO  
PO Box 4225  
Burwood East, VIC 3151

[www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au](http://www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au)  
[secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au](mailto:secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au)



<https://www.facebook.com/Melbourne-Clivia-Group-Inc-130556943692834/>



**Calander of Meetings for 2017**

Meeting commence at 7.30 pm unless otherwise stated. **Please note the two Saturday daytime meetings.** If you would like a topic to be discussed or would like to present a talk please contact a member of the committee.

April Friday 21st TBC

June Saturday 17th 2 pm

*A closer look at botanical illustration, by Helen Burrows*

July Saturday 15th 2 pm

*Some observations of Clivia in the USA, by Helen Marriott* followed by a Christmas in July Afternoon Tea

August Friday 18th TBC

September Saturday 23rd CLIVIA EXPO 2017 10 am to 4 pm at St Scholastica's Community Centre

October Friday 20th TBC

**Clivia collection - visit opportunity**

Last year Terry Edwards very kindly made his home available for members to come along and see his *Clivia* collection, and talk about all aspects of *Clivia* cultivation.

This year Peter Haeusler has agreed to make his collection available. This is aimed primarily at newer members (i.e. those who have joined in the last couple of years), however all members are welcome to come along and chat over morning tea! Please note that partners are also welcome.

- When - Sunday 19th March, between 10 am and 12 noon
- Where - 33 Roslyn Street, Burwood
- Contact - for catering purposes please let Peter know if you are planning on attending (Mobile 0447360524; or email [phaeusler99@gmail.com](mailto:phaeusler99@gmail.com)).

**Clivia auction**

The Melbourne Clivia Group will conduct an auction of high quality *Clivia* at its CLIVIA EXPO 2017 this coming September. Our first such auction in 2015 was very successful, with select plants from some of Australia's best growers going under the hammer.

This year we want to give potential sellers more advance notice to allow time for making decisions about plants they may wish to offer, removal of offsets, and so forth. Already, however, we have commitments from several leading growers.

Peter Haeusler has again offered to co-ordinate our Expo auction. Members who wish to make plants available for the auction are asked to communicate details (including anticipated reserves) to him as soon as possible. (Mobile 0447360524; or email [phaeusler99@gmail.com](mailto:phaeusler99@gmail.com)). Please note that we will be capping the number of lots offered for auction.

**Seller conditions:**

- Sellers to pay a commission of 15% of the hammer price (i.e. if a plant sells for \$100 then the MCG receives \$15 out of that amount);
- Sellers to bear any costs associated with getting plants to Peter;
- The determination of which plants will be offered for auction will be made by Peter in liaison as necessary with the MCG committee.

In due course further details about the auction will be publicised in the MCG newsletter and promulgated on our website.

**Which yellow caulescens?**

Michael Barrett

The purpose of this brief article is to collate various pieces of information regarding yellow *Clivia caulescens* into one document. Perhaps some information is not entirely accurate and can be improved upon at a later stage.



*C. caulescens* (yellow)  
Photo by Laurens Rijke

The discovery of yellow flowers within the *Clivia* species has always created excitement. While the yellow form of *C. miniata* was discovered in late 19th century, it would be close to another 100 years for the discoveries of yellow forms of *C. caulescens*. Those unfamiliar with *C. caulescens* may be surprised by how small the individual flowers are compared to other species. Primarily, there are two different habitat plants that, via offsets are held in collections across the globe. In different places each of these two plants are known by different names. Another important aspect to the yellow *C. caulescens*, as opposed to other species is its ability to produce yellow interspecific *Clivia*, in the first cross (McLeman, Erasmus).

In Australia and New Zealand yellow *C. caulescens* are commonly referred to as being either, 'Harry's yellow Colly' or for short called 'Colly', and the other plant referred to as 'Zoutpansberg' or 'Bertie's yellow'. In South Africa, Paul Kloeck of *Clivia Kingdom* refers to these plants by the province or regions from where they originated, Mpumalanga and Limpopo, respectively. Paul has crossed the two original habitat



plants with the result being intraspecific unpigmented seedlings. Much of the information contained in this article is from email correspondence with Harry, Paul, the Yahoo Clivia enthusiast site and Clivia NZ newsletters.

The yellow *C. caulescens* referred to as 'Harry's Colly' is from the province of Mpumalanga. Its story of survival is intriguing. The use of plants for medical and ceremonial purposes by the indigenous people of South Africa has been a practice for centuries. However, the illegal collection or poaching of plants from protected areas has become a significant threat to biodiversity. The plant later to be called 'Harry's Colly' was one of a number of non-flowering plants illegally taken out of habitat but luckily confiscated by the Mpumalanga Parks Board (MPB). There is some conjecture as to where precisely the plant originally came from, ranging from God's Window to Pilgrims' Rest (Yahoo CE post/Miles). After the court case the MPB sold the entire collection of confiscated plants to the Nelspruit Clivia Enthusiasts. (Yahoo, CEpost/Erasmus). When this one special plant flowered for Francois du Toit and Ertjies Rohm, enquires were made with other members who had bought plants from the seized plants, but no other yellow *C. caulescens* plants were identified. Harry legally imported into Australia his plant in 2004, the first offset off the mother plant. Subsequently it increased and there are now offsets across Australia. An offset was offered for auction by Harry at the MCG CLIVIA EXPO 2015. It is referred to as 'Mpumalanga clone' by Paul at *Clivia Kingdom*. Harry has made interspecific crosses with both group one and two yellow plants. Harry found, for him, the yellow *C. caulescens* produces very little seed, so prefers to use its pollen onto suitable berry plants. There have been both unpigmented and pigmented seedlings, the later resulting in

orange coloured flowers, where the berry plant was a group two yellow.



Yellow interspecific bred by Harry Erasmus. 'Giddy's Yellow' x *C. caulescens* (yellow). Photo H. Erasmus

The yellow *C. caulescens* referred to by some as 'Zoutpansberg yellow' is also known as 'Limpopo clone' or 'Bertie's yellow'. It was discovered near Louis Trichardt, an area that was the home of the late Bertie Guillaume, located at the foot of the Soutpansberg mountain range, in the province of Limpopo. This *Clivia* is famed for the price it sold for at the 2002 Clivia Society conference. Joe Dana from California was the successful bidder with a hammer price of R10000. Subsequently, in 2006 an offset from South Africa was imported into New Zealand by some NZ Clivia Club members including Alick McLeman (McLeman, 2011). Rex Williams from *Cosmic Clivias* has been offering seeds for sale from this plant, where the plant was used as the berry plant in recent years. Another offset of this plant has been displayed at MCG meetings some years ago, by Laurens Rijke. Laurens' impressive, large and healthy plant displayed a number of suckers around the base of the mother plant, but has also sent out rhizome offsets. Laurens has created interspecific seedlings from this plant, using its pollen.

Paul Kloeck has not only both of these habitat plants, but another plant with yellow flowers, with the location

of the mother plant being a heavily guarded secret. Paul has for some years transferred pollen from Mpumalanga clone onto Limpopo clone, and vice versa. Only a small amount of seed is produced. The result was 100% unpigmented seedlings. Paul advised that in the past, the majority of the seeds from this cross have gone to Japan, although Michael Loh in NZ has a number of near flowering-size plants, and he eagerly awaits their flowering. Paul has also crossed Mpumalanga pollen onto group one yellows and African peaches with the result being unpigmented seedlings. Paul finds the pollen of Mpumalanga to be more viable than Limpopo.

With both intraspecific and interspecific crosses from the habitat plants increasing, there will be much excitement to see how the shape, size and flowering time of the hybrids will enhance our overall enjoyment of *Clivia*.

#### References

NZ Clivia Club Newsletter Vol 9.1 summer 2011

<http://www.nzclivia.org/Newsletters/9.1.2011NewsletterSummer.pdf>

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/clivia-enthusiast/conversations/messages/37572>

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/clivia-enthusiast/conversations/messages/37553>

#### Further reading

<http://www.nzclivia.org/Newsletters/11.3.2013NewsletterWinter>

Colour Compatibility between the *Clivia* species



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## ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS Nomination form 2017

The election of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and ordinary members of the Committee will take place at the AGM on Friday 17 February 2017.

Following the Model Rules (49-55) of the Association, nominations should be sent to the Secretary on the form below or else presented at the AGM. Please note the following:

- All positions on the Committee will be declared vacant at the AGM. Committee members may be re-elected.
- An eligible member of the MCG Inc. may (a) nominate him/herself; or (b) with the member's consent, be nominated by another member.
- If only one member is nominated for the position of President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer, the member will be declared elected to that position.  
If more than one member is nominated, a ballot must be held.
- The AGM must by resolution decide the number of ordinary members of the Committee it wishes to hold office for the next year. A single election may be held to fill all of those positions. If the number of members nominated exceeds the number to be elected, a ballot must be held.
- A member who is nominated for a position and fails to be elected to that position at the meeting may be nominated for any other position for which an election is yet to be held.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ being a financial member of the Melbourne  
Clivia Group Inc, nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for the position of  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Nomination accepted:      Signature: \_\_\_\_\_      Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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## APPOINTMENT OF PROXY 2017

The process for the appointment of a proxy as found in the Model Rules (34) of the Association is summarised here and includes an appointment of proxy form.

Any member unable to attend the AGM is entitled to appoint another member as proxy by submitting to the Secretary (at the address given above) a nomination form no less than 24 hours before the time of the meeting in respect of which the proxy is appointed.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
(name) (address)

being a member of the Melbourne Clivia Group Inc. appoint \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
(name of proxy holder) (address of proxy holder)

being a member of that Incorporated Association, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the annual general meeting of the Association to be held on Friday, 17 February 2017 and at any adjournment of that meeting.

My proxy is authorised to vote in the case that a ballot is held for the election of a Committee member.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY USE ONLY: Date & time received:



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## **APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL OF THE MELBOURNE CLIVIA GROUP INC. 2017**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

- I wish to become a member of the Melbourne Clivia Group Inc. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to support the purposes of the MCG Inc. and to comply with the rules of the group.
- I wish to renew my membership.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Membership options:**

- Single Membership 2017 (electronic newsletter) \$20
- OR**
- Single Membership 2017 (hard copy newsletter) \$35
- Each additional family member \$15

### **Payment options:**

- Cash (at meetings)
- Cheque (*payable to Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.*)
- Direct Deposit (BSB 083657; Acc. 829745477)

**Additional family members:** (\*please add all names & signatures)

Name	Signature

***Please note that payment of the appropriate amount must accompany the completed application form. Please send to the above address or give in person to the Treasurer***