



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At the recent AGM I was unexpectedly elected the new President of the MCG. I wish to thank all at the meeting for their vote of confidence and will work hard to continue the good governance of the group by previous committee members. It wasn't until I served on the MCG committee last year that I realised just how much effort goes into delivering the calendar of events and newsletters. Many thanks to the outgoing committee for all the hard work and energy put into setting the group up for this year and beyond. The minutes of the AGM are included in this newsletter.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Helen Marriott for her committed leadership as President for the past seven years. Helen has set a high benchmark for me to follow, contributing so much to promotion of the genus *Clivia*. Thanks also to Lisa Fox, Vu Dang and Lynn Rawson, all of who have ensured the MCG ran smoothly.

As not all members attend meetings and for the newer members, there are brief introductions of the new committee included in this newsletter. We are a team with a diverse range of experiences and backgrounds, but with many shared passions, beyond *Clivia*. The new committee has already convened its first meeting and had quite a number of topics to discuss. There are still a few aspects of running meetings that require members to get involved and at the April 17 meeting we will call for volunteers to fill some positions of responsibility. Also at the April meeting, we will be calling for CLIVIA EXPO sub-committee members. The committee has appointed Peter Haeusler to be the CLIVIA EXPO Convener. Peter has filled this role previously, and as we are in a new venue this year, initial planning has already started.

Some members may have overlooked paying their membership for 2015. This is the last newsletter for members who have not yet renewed. If you are in doubt, please check with our new Secretary, Roger Clarke.

I look forward to seeing many members at the April meeting where there will be a presentation on potting mediums and I will present an introduction on two *Clivia* personalities from the past.

Three aspects of the meetings I would like members to assist with making more successful are:

- 1) the display table,
- 2) the Trading Table and
- 3) the raffle.

If you have a *Clivia* to display, or a plant or seed to sell, please bring it along to make the display table and Trading Table a positive for the meeting. With raffles, please think about donating a prize and purchasing a ticket, as the money raised from the raffle goes towards covering the cost of the hall hire

I look forward to the next meeting, and hope to see you there.

Michael Barrett



Fig. 1 'Sir John Thouron' (topic at next meeting) - owner/photo Mike Riska

GENERAL MEETING

Friday 17 Apr 7.30pm

Uniting Church

Cnr Blackburn Rd &
Burwood Hwy, Burwood

Potting mixes (team presentation)
The two Sirs (Michael Barrett)

COMMITTEE

Michael Barrett - President
Peter Haeusler - Vice President
Roger Clarke - Secretary
Rae Begg - Treasurer
Mal Foster - Committee members
Steve Wright
Yvonne Hargreaves

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MEET THE NEW COMMITTEE

(Photos: G. Haeusler)

Michael Barrett – President

I have been a member of the MCG since August 2009, when I was encouraged via online chat on The Clivia Forum to come along to a MCG meeting by George Simmler and Steve Wright. I went along with Steve who lives nearby and he introduced me to a few other members. I was so thrilled that there was a group specifically for *Clivia*. It was great that a newcomer could be informed and entertained with guest speakers, and I appreciated the Trading Table for an opportunity to purchase seed and plants.



Fig. 2 Michael Barrett

I had bought small *Clivia* plants years before in Queensland at a market and thought they were great for the garden scheme. I never saw them flower before moving to Melbourne. The next time I saw a *Clivia*, it was in a nursery and not looking very well, mealybug infested, not in flower and about \$80. I forgot about the genus until I saw them in the Botanical gardens and around period houses. I was reading "The garden at Bronte" by Leo Schofield in the depths of a grey Melbourne winter, looking at so many lush, colourful pictures of subtropical colonial garden plants, that I went to Ebay and saw Linda Richards offering of hybrid seeds. I was amazed with the colours and possibilities. I was buying seeds in a flash.

Soon after that I started chatting with a lot of *Clivia* elders, including Jeanne Marten who sent some seeds and seedlings. I will always remember the kindness show to me as a new enthusiast and try to return the kindness as often as I can. I have been a member of CE sub-committees and was MCG Secretary last year. It is an honour to be elected President of the MCG. I hope I can continue the great leadership shown by Helen and other committee members in delivering an inclusive and enjoyable social group to meet, share and talk *Clivia*.

My collection is split between a small number of plants in Melbourne and the majority at my place in the Otways. They are all grown under cover to control watering, especially in winter as it is very wet down in the South West of Victoria. I have all the species except *C. mirabilis*. I love variegated plants and have a few nice examples now. Luckily some of the original seeds have started to flower last year, so the "water is flowing out the pipe" finally and I look forward to seeing what comes of the hopes I have for the crosses. I have seedlings of my own crosses, but they are a little away from flowering. I hope to begin the process of refining my "accumulation" of *Clivia* to be a more thought-out collection, culling the average plants and also assessing if something is just a space filler or an elite specimen, regardless of being named or unnamed. It will be a tough process but vital as I don't have unlimited growing space and want every mature plant to be there for a reason.

If any member wishes to contact me please do on 0488998327.

Peter Haeusler – Vice-President

As a keen gardener I have always valued *Clivia* as understory plants that flourish in dry, shady conditions. Gradually I've become more

interested in *Clivia*, buying my first yellow and some Nakamura oranges from David Bearlin of Burwood Clivia Nursery when he was located down the road from where I live in Burwood. Along the way I also got to know Geoff Wilson who sells *Clivia* and other plants at various Melbourne markets, obtaining from him a good foundation of largely Nakamura Vico-derived large oranges and creams, plus Chubb peaches and some Belgian-type variegates.



Fig. 3 Peter Haeusler

In 2009 I built my first dedicated *Clivia* shadehouse, and the rest is history as I have since then squeezed more and more structures among our suburban garden, sorely testing my wife's patience and understanding. I have bought seed from a diverse range of people in Australia and internationally, with a good deal of success in terms of germination and in the last couple of years, the flowering results as the first of these seedlings have reached maturity. The main people or groups I have bought seed from are Shigetake Sasaki in Japan, plus Cliviamart and KZN *Clivia* breeders in South Africa. While *Clivia* are easy to grow decades of gardening experience has served me well as I have had great results with germination and getting seedlings off to a flying start. I have been helped greatly by the willingness of people to share their experiences...and their patience as one email or phone call followed another in the early days.



So far I've been a bit like a kid in a lolly shop buying a bit of everything, but with the aim of establishing a broad-based collection. In terms of getting into breeding, my real interests lie with bronzes, green types (especially in interspecifics), versicolours and the ghosts/particolours. All my gardening life I've had a fascination with the darkest of flowers and with green flowers. I also find the spider-shaped flowers very appealing, but I mean those with long, relatively narrow, very reflexed petals and not simply the star forms which some people label spiders. My longer term aim with spiders is to get strong colours and the big throated bi-colour pattern into them. I am also excited by the prospect of getting multiple colours into the one flower, such as we are seeing with some versicolours, but also in some of the best Euro-type peaches (such as are being bred by Harry Erasmus of Clivia Classiques fame in Perth). Hopefully I have enough *Clivia* generations in me to get some way towards these goals!

Roger Clarke – Secretary

I have been a member of the MCG for about 3 years, but have grown and sold *Clivia* at markets around Boroondara for approximately 18 years. About 10 years ago I started to grow more *Clivia* cultivars and more recently since joining the MCG, have been able to source more desirable cultivars.

I am also interested in and grow South African bulbs, ornamental gingers, canna lilies and evergreen daylilies which I have haphazardly hybridised. My backyard in Glen Iris is my nursery, or more aptly... 'controlled jungle'.



Figure 4 Roger Clarke

Rae Begg – Treasurer

I have grown *Clivia* for many years but not as a collector until a trip to Toowoomba in 2006. Ray and I were introduced to some of the members of the Toowoomba Clivia Society. After an extreme learning curve as to the huge variations within the *Clivia* species, we were hooked.



Fig. 5 Rae Begg

Most of my plants come from good Australian-bred stock. They seem to tolerate the extremes of weather where I live. I don't have any particular favourites but prefer plants with broad leaves and large heads of flowers with wider petals. I hand-pollinate my stock plants so I can produce seed from plants with characteristics I like. Waiting so long to see the results and hoping for something spectacular is a test of patience.

Now I continue to introduce others to

the same learning curve that we experienced.

Mal Foster – Committee

My interest in *Clivia* goes back many years when we owned Jerd Seeds – a wholesale importer of mainly cut flower, palm and other sundry bulk seed supplies. This included selling *C. miniata* 'Twins' and 'Mammoth' sourced from Case Sahin in the Netherlands (and various others), to growers primarily in the wholesale Nursery industry. As a legacy, my garden is now crowded with many advanced plants that I grew over 20 years ago. They make a great show along with the others I have collected along the way. I'll miss them soon as I'm selling the property.



Fig. 6 Mal Foster

My background training is strongly focused on Marketing, though I have also dabbled in Sales, Horticulture (VCAH Burnley), Export, Commerce, Apiculture, Teaching, Art and Winemaking over the years and I'm still wondering what I'll do when I grow up. Most people think I've retired but I like to think that I'm just between jobs.

Steve Wright – Committee

I started to get interested in *Clivia* in 1992 when I moved into my new abode in Camberwell. It already had orange *Clivia* in the garden and I liked them so I got a few



more from the nursery. I had a lot of oranges in the front yard so my wife put me onto Ebay and when I saw all the different colours available, that was the start of my downfall. My wife says I spend more money and time on the *Clivia* than I do on her. I thought I had my priorities right.



Fig. 7 Steve Wright

I joined the MCG in 2008 and started buying seeds from overseas but grow my own now. I'm too scared to count them but I think I have over 2000 plants now at various stages. I feel sorry for *Clivia* addicts, may god forgive them.

Yvonne Hargreaves - Committee

I have been growing *Clivia* for some 15 years and love all types—with a special penchant for variegated forms and interspecifics. All my plants are grown in two large double-covered shadehouses as my conditions here in North Eastern Victoria are less than ideal, being very hot in the summer and quite cold in the winter.



Fig. 8 Yvonne Hargreaves

It's lot of work for just the one person but a labour of love that I enjoy.

I first noticed the vivid oranges of *Clivia* in nurseries and slowly gathered up a few. Once I found the different pendulous forms and species I became quite addicted ... the rest is history.

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Lisa - 0417 087 667
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MOLASSES USE UPDATE - Yvonne Hargreaves

Some time back I brought the idea of using molasses on *Clivia* to a MCG meeting, after having it shared with me by a prolific *Clivia* grower I much admired. It is easy to do—low cost—effective and best of all free of toxic chemicals. I would much rather have molasses falling on my arms as I poke the spray head in between plants than the likes of Confidor. The plants seem to like it and are looking nice and deep green in their foliage.

However, it has to be sprayed on regularly to maintain its effectiveness. In recent months I had become totally engrossed in some patchwork I was doing and my *Clivia*, whilst not being neglected, did not receive my full attention and were watered but not always sprayed with the molasses mixture for a few watering. I noted one day a few white fuzzies in amongst the plants and decided to take particular note over the next few weeks as to how often a

spray was needed to control the mealybugs.

After watching for them and keeping track I have come to the conclusion that in the warmer weather the spraying needs to be done every 2 - 3 weeks to stay on top of them. I buy my animal feed quality molasses from Produce stores for around \$32 for a 20 litre bucket. (Health Food stores molasses is not the same thing) The molasses is mixed at the rate of a half a cup to 20 litres water (Note reduced rate of molasses used to what I originally suggested)

I have found that it mixes more easily if you do it separately into warmish water and then add it to your spray drum or knapsack. It does put a slightly brownish hue to the leaves but that will wash off with the next fresh water watering.

I was speaking with another *Clivia* grower recently and he had been discussing the problem with a (micro-biologist and they proposed the idea that the molasses caused a tiny growth on the leaves that is toxic to mealybug). Others seem to think it just changes the pH or the environment on the plants. What I do know is that when maintained appropriately IT WORKS WELL.

The molasses is suitable to use on all your outer gardens as well and I can guarantee wonderful Rhubarb plants if you throw the left over spray onto them. Several other *Clivia* growers/friends have used this method with quite a lot of success.

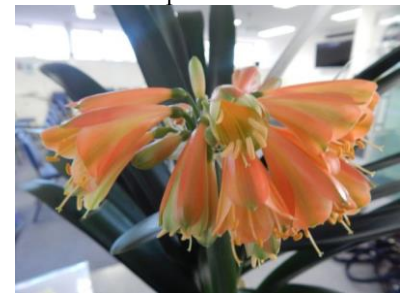


Fig. 9 Interspecific owned by Helen Marriott on display at the AGM (photo: L Fox)



DISTANCE NO BARRIER TO COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

– John Craigie

Hugh Bollinger from the USA and John Craigie of Pine Mountain Nursery have been collaborating their *Clivia* breeding efforts now for a few years short of two decades. During this time Hugh has spent more than two weeks actively engaged in all areas involving *clivia* at Pine Mountain Nursery from over five visits. Hugh will again be returning to the nursery in 2015.

The collaboration has extended over a range of *Clivia* including picotee, particolours, peaches and green flowering plants. One major focus has been continuing the fine work of the late Dave Conway in breeding particolours. In September 2006 Pine Mountain Nursery bloomed plants of a cross made by Hugh back in 2000 between David Conway's 'Cynthia Ann' and a Nakamura pale yellow (See Fig 10). Also shown in Fig 11 is another 'Cynthia Ann' cross with 'Aussie Dawn'.



Fig. 10 'Cynthia Ann' x Japanese Pale Yellow



Fig. 11 'Cynthia Ann' x 'Aussie Dawn'

Since then Pine Mountain Nursery has been progressing particolour breeding efforts and produced some beautiful new particolours.



Fig. 12 Particolour



Fig. 13 Particolour

Hugh has also been working with Paul Kay and Harry Erasmus of Clivia Classiques with particolour breeding. Clivia Classiques has produced and progressed the breeding of beautiful new cultivars from the original crosses made by Hugh. In 2012 a number of new flowering cultivars from Clivia Classiques were added to Pine Mountain Nursery's breeding collection. The collection is enhanced each year through continued exchanges of seed crosses with Hugh. Hugh would co-ordinate his visits to the nursery to coincide with the harvesting of thousands of seed crosses.

Today Pine Mountain Nursery has over 80 individually selected

particolour stock breeding plants in 200mm to 330mm pots and thousands of sibling crosses. Each year pollen from only the best plants are used for selfing, inter-crossing, back-crossing over parent plants, out-crossing to picotee, yellows, peaches, variegates and more recently to polyploids. New flowering cultivars are either kept or sold at the annual display days held over the 2nd weekend of September each year.

Clivia are generally diploid, with one set of chromosomes passed on from the maternal parent and one set from the paternal parent. Polyploids are *clivia* with more than two sets of chromosomes. Pine Mountain Nursery has collaborated with Aart van Voorst with the exchange of pollen and seed of tetraploids (four sets of chromosomes) and triploids (three sets of chromosomes) for a number of years now. The aim is to produce new and more flowering colours, assuming that the increased number of chromosomes creates increased opportunities for these new colours to occur.

Hugh is passionate about international collaboration on *Clivia* breeding. He said "International collaborations in *Clivia* has been one of the key reasons the rate of new cultivar creation (and interest in the plants) has grown so rapidly since the days of the original/isolated breeders like Dave Conway and Joe Solomone who created the very first particular/watercolor (sic) forms, the interchangeable names both Dave and Joe gave to their creations."



Fig. 14 Hugh Bollinger



Fig. 15 An 'Aussie Dawn' cross

Another area of focus with Hugh has been on picotee types using 'Cameron's Candy', 'Ramona' and 'Aussie Dawn' crosses. Two recent outcomes are shown in Fig. 16 and Fig. 17.



Fig. 16 Picotee

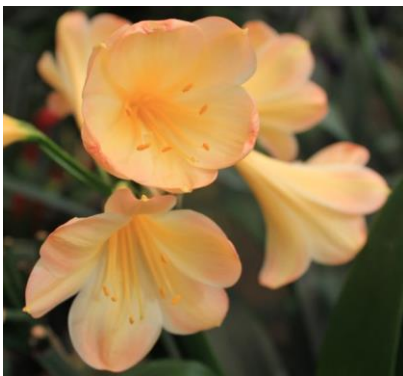


Fig. 17 Picotee

In recent years some beautiful peaches have emerged out of crosses with 'Tessa', 'Helen' and 'Sunrise Sunset' but both Hugh and John look forward to seeing the flowering of the sibling crosses involving 'PMN Green Dream', 'Hirao Green' and 'Jerry's Green'.



Fig. 18 'PMN Green Dream'

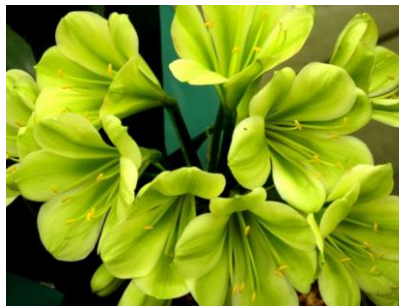


Fig. 19 'Jerry's Green'

All photos supplied by John Craigie.

SUMMER GROWTH - QUITE A NOVELTY - Yvonne Hargreaves

The much milder summer experienced here at Taminick in the summer of 2014/5 has allowed the *Clivia* to continue to grow all summer long instead of cringing in their pots and going into a similar type of dormancy as they do in the very cold winters endured here—down to -6C. This is extremely pleasing as it takes so much longer to grow a plant to flowering size when your good growth periods are so restricted. I look on with considerable admiration at the growth on the plants belonging to other growers who live in more temperate climates and see the much more rapid rate of growth they experience.

I love to grow my *Clivia* and enjoy sharing their beauty with others so I continue to hold annual DISPLAY DAYS here. The most recent events of DISPLAY DAYS 2014 were once

more a wonderful success with hundreds of visitors coming to view the flowering *Clivia*. It has become a "must see" for many people in a radius of 150km and there is a large amount of interest in growing *Clivia* within the local community.

We raised \$5,042.80 in 2014 for the Breast Cancer Network of Australia bringing the grand total over the last four years to beyond \$10,000.

With happy, willing helpers from the local Go Girls, the breast cancer survivors group, along with my patchwork pals, personal friends and my daughter Kylie (also a survivor) all buzzing about, we just had so much fun over the three weekends. I don't normally open for that long but I had followed on the earlier date of the MCG Expo as I do each year without taking into consideration the fact my flowers are much later here. The publicity had gone out so I had to continue on!

The first weekend there were only three or four *C. miniata* out in bloom, but there were about 30+ interspecifics of varying types flowering. These are something the regular visitors never see as they are normally over and done by the Display Days time. Terry Edwards was heading up to the Sydney Show and responded to my plea for the loan of a yellow *C. miniata* in flower, which he kindly obliged. He also brought along another glorious bi-coloured *C. miniata* with two umbels in full flower. It was very quickly dubbed 'Werribee Show Stopper'. It could have been sold hundreds of times as everybody loved it and wanted it.

This was sufficient to create a nice display, and to save me. A wonderfully generous and much appreciated help.

The public were amazed and enthralled to see the range of shades and shapes in the interspecifics and seemed more than satisfied with their



visit. All were invited to put their names on a "paid" list to come back the next weekend without further cost. A great many of the first weekend visitors came back for all three weekends and no one asked to be checked off the "paid" list—so they must have been happy. One only has to read through their comments in the Visitors Book to know they were.

It was heart-warming to see fellow members of the MCG arrive here to see the plants and enjoy a social time. Rae and Ray Begg rescued me early on the Sunday of the last weekend when I completely ran out of voice. Although I have a happy band of wonderful helpers there is no one else among them with sufficient *Clivia* knowledge to answer the questions, so Rae and Ray's help was of incredible value to the event.

Sincere thanks must go to other growers who donated plants to sell for the BCNA tin—Peter Haeusler and John Trotter and to Rae and Ray Begg who supplied a great many yellow and orange seedlings to be sold—all this support is just so helpful, and much appreciated. The *C. miniata* came out in force on the second and third weekend and I was thrilled to see pastels, some with pinker tones, peaches and several great bronzes.

I did open on a fourth weekend but that was for ladies going through chemotherapy and radiation. They need to be careful of infections and I felt would enjoy some space and time to gently peruse the plants and flowers in peace. It's very rewarding to see my passion for *Clivia* give so much pleasure to others. A joy shared is a joy doubled and in this case several hundred times!

Some of my own hybridised plants flowered for the first time which was very exciting but nothing outstanding, still lovely to my eyes.

I am looking forward to the next flowering season and the Display Days which will be held for just the one weekend this year on the last weekend in September, making it the fourth *Clivia* event on the Australian Calendar for the year.

2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

17 April

GENERAL MEETING

Potting mixes (team presentation);
The two Sirs (Michael Barrett)

19 June

GENERAL MEETING

Breeding with 'Anderson Peach'
(Greg Anderson)

17 July

GENERAL MEETING

The 2014 KZN Clivia Show and
associated events (Helen Marriott)

21 August

GENERAL MEETING

Preparation for CLIVIA EXPO

19 September

CLIVIA EXPO

16 October

GENERAL MEETING

Cultivating *Clivia*: from seed to
seedling (Peter Haeusler)



Fig. 20 New committee (photo: G Haeusler)



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Minutes of Melbourne Clivia Group Annual General Meeting Friday 20th February 2015

Venue: Uniting Church, cnr Burwood H'way and Blackburn Rd, Burwood

1. **Opening** The President, Helen Marriott opened the meeting at 7.40PM

Apologies accepted from Coral Aalbers, Ray Argent, Gary Reale, Andrea Whitty, Pam Dryden, Haydn Lomas, Laurens and Ester Rijke, and Erika Van der Spuy.

Accept minutes of last AGM (distributed in March 2014 newsletter, vol.7.2) Helen Marriott asked the motion that the minutes of the AGM 2014 be received.

Moved Di Mathews, CARRIED 14 in favour.

Announcements: Gardenii offset from Nick Powell could be ordered at Trading Table

Unfortunately none of the unsold mirabilis seedlings have survived, thus no auction could take place.

2. **Reports**

President's report Move to accept: Lynn Rawson For: 18 Aga: 0

Secretary's report Move to accept: Steve Wright For: 18 Aga: 0

Treasurer's report Move to accept: Peter Haeusler For: 18 Aga: 0

3. **Introduction of Special Resolution:**

"Up to three ordinary members be elected to the 2015 MCG Committee"

Discussion. Helen Marriott outlined the requirement of the model rules for individual organisations to nominate annual the number of ordinary committee members to serve on the committee in addition to the mandatory four executive positions. Rae Begg sought clarity on the procedure to carry a special resolution, particularly whether it was the entire membership or members present at meeting, and the percentage. Helen Marriott referred to the model rules that state the special resolution required $\frac{3}{4}$ of members present to accept the motion for it to be carried. Helen Marriott then asked a member to move the motion for the special resolution.

Move to accept: Yvonne Hargreaves For: 19 Aga: 0

4. **Election of 2015 office bearers**

Helen Marriott stepped down from chairing the meeting and Vice President Lisa Fox declared all committee positions vacant.

Lisa Fox called for nomination for the position of **President**.

Di Mathews nominated Michael Barrett for President, Carried.

Michael Barrett thanked Helen Marriott, Lisa Fox and the members for the honour of being President and took the chair.



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Michael Barrett called for nominations for **Vice President**.
Di Mathews nominated Peter Haeusler for Vice President, Carried.

Michael Barrett called for nominations for **Secretary**
Di Mathews nominated Roger Clarke for Secretary, Carried.

Michael Barrett called for nominations for **Treasurer**
Michael Barrett nominated Rae Begg for Treasurer, Carried.

Michael Barrett then called for Nominations for Ordinary Committee Members
Steve Wright nominated Mal Foster
Di Mathews nominated Steve Wright
Peter Haeusler nominated Yvonne Hargreaves
Carried.

Michael Barrett then thanked Helen Marriott and the outgoing committee for their outstanding effort and good governance of the MCG.

5. **Main topic: Clivia shows in Sydney and South Africa**

The presentation of slide shows was postponed to another meeting, due to time constraints and technical difficulties.

6. **Meeting Closed at 8.55PM.**

Next meeting 17th April, 7:30 PM on Potting mixes (team presentation); The two Sirs (Michael Barrett)

7. **Supper and conversation**

REPORTS

President's report, AGM 2015

There are various legal requirements that the MCG Inc. is required to fulfil as reflected in the Model Rules adopted by the club, but over and above these, I believe that the MCG has made a lot of progress. This is primarily due to the commitment of a small number of individuals who have volunteered their time, commitment and expertise to serve on the committee over the whole year. I sincerely thank Lisa Fox as Vice-President, Lynn Rawson as Treasurer, Michael Barrett as Secretary and Vu Dang as ordinary member. It has been a pleasure to cooperate with such a dedicated and capable small group who have worked hard on behalf of the club.

The club has now completed its move to full electronic financial management, in addition to online banking (thanks to Lynn Rawson), and upon systematisation of all documentation of the committee and club, the employment of Dropbox as a file sharing and storage solution has been an important achievement for 2015 and has positively facilitated the work of committee members, as well as making the pass over to a new committee much more efficient than in the past (thanks to Lisa Fox and Lynn Rawson). These new features of the club management, along with a website, Facebook page, a regular newsletter (all managed by Lisa Fox) as well as various methods of membership payment including online and PayPal, should place the MCG up high in any ranking of Garden Clubs or even Clivia Clubs.

The fourth CLIVIA EXPO witnessed some changes in 2014 and, as usual, there was a five-month preparation period leading up to it. We thank the extra members, Di Mathews and Isabel Collins (and well as Ray and Chee



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Perks during the early planning stage), who supported the MCG committee members to undertake the detailed preparatory work, as well as all the other club members and volunteers who assisted in various ways, especially on the main day. Vu Dang designed the smart postcard for publicity, and despite holding the event one week earlier, members contributed a sufficiently good display of plants and these were supplemented by improved plant labels. Use of a PA system enhanced the smooth functioning of events in the main hall, and splendid refreshments were available during the day. We also moved the plant sales into the second hall and endeavoured to centralise sales through the Trading Table model. Most things, though not everything, went as planned on the day, and furthermore, visitor numbers were considerably down, which was rather disappointing.

The MCG website is a very important dimension enabling the club to present itself to the world. Between February 2014 and February 2015 there were 3,923 visits to the website, with approximately three pages viewed per visit. Of these, 71% of viewers used a computer to access the website, 18% a tablet and 10% a mobile phone. Interestingly, the CLIVIA EXPO gallery attracted the most views. Facebook currently has 155 likes.

The club continued to offer members a range of initiatives and events throughout the year to meet the interests of our mixed membership. These included an invitation to Mark Cant from interstate to speak on his breeding and growing practices, a workshop on photography, and the opportunity to purchase a seed of *C. mirabilis* (organised by Vu Dang). The club also engaged in a collaborative seed swap with the Cape Clivia Club (coordinated by Lisa). Our own members also led interesting nights on relevant topics, such as growing spaces for *Clivia*, new breeding trends in *Clivia* and variegation, amongst others. We are also very grateful to everyone who wrote up texts for inclusion in the newsletter or who supplied photos.

The outgoing committee thanks all those members who helped at meetings by fulfilling specific roles, including the Trading Table (Terry Edwards and Steve Wright), Librarian (Haydn Lomas), and managing the attendance list (Andrea Whitty).

Perhaps it is human nature for certain individuals to complain when in social groups, but I think the MCG has achieved quite a lot in a relatively short period of time, and that this is mainly due to the work of a smallish number of dedicated members. It is important for clubs to be fully supported by its members in a positive manner and this includes participation on committees, particularly by those who benefit from their club membership. Some of the outgoing committee members will not accept nomination in 2015 and so there are a number of important positions which will need to be filled.

MCG Secretary's Report 2014

Membership

Prior to CLIVIA EXPO2014 the group had 100 members. At that event, five new members joined the group and two lapsed members renewed membership that carries over to 2015. There were 9 Volunteer members who assisted with Clivia Expo activities.

As at 17/2 /2015 membership is 54, so I hope many members have renewed.

Lapsed members numbered 24.

The membership register is maintained with Microsoft Excel, and I am grateful to Lynn Rawson for her constant assistance and one to one help to me with maintaining the register in good order.

General Meetings

The general meetings have been well attended. In June, member and interstate speaker, Mark Cant drew a large audience to hear him speak about his nursery and European Peaches. Another highlight was the July meeting with an excellent display of variegated Clivia. It is always great to have members bring plants for display to add to the meetings. Raffles have also been popular and thanks go to Vu Dang and Lynn Rawson for coordinating the raffle prizes and ticket sales. I wrote to Hugh Williams on two occasions to express thanks for his donations of seeds and seedlings of *C. robusta* x *C. miniata*. The Trading Table has either had very little activity or been extremely busy. Many thanks go to Terry Edwards and Steve Wright for staffing the Trading Table.

Newsletter



Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.

Burwood East LPO
PO Box 4225,
Burwood East 3151
Ph: 0410 929 510
www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au
secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au

There were six newsletters for 2014. The newsletters are especially enjoyed by members who are unable to attend meetings. I wish to thank contributors and the committee, but especially Lisa Fox for her outstanding presentation and punctuality in making the newsletter publishable. The majority of members receive the newsletter via email. I appreciate that some members find it easier to enlarge, access and read printed material. In 2014 23 members received hard copy newsletters and I am grateful to Brenda Girdlestone for printing and posting these newsletters.

Garden Club Presentations

In 2014 presentations were given at San Remo, Ringwood and Upper Yarra Valley Garden Clubs. The promotion of Clivia is important to raise interest in the Clivia Expo. I thank Lisa Fox and Helen Marriott for spending their time representing the group so well. There are two presentations so far for 2015.

Enquiries from the Public

I receive phone and email enquiries from time to time. Mostly the information request relates to the cultivation of Clivia, such as feeding and propagation. I did have one lady convinced her Clivia was white and not cream, while another was after a Conway red, and lamented how slow the plants are to grow to flowering size.

Thanks to the committee for their assistance and support throughout the year in my first year as Secretary
Michael Barrett
Secretary

Melbourne Clivia Group - Treasurer's Report 2014

MCG income for 2014 was lower than the preceding year in most areas.

Nett Income

Item	Nett 2014	Nett 2013
Raffle	\$ 975.00	\$ 1030.00
Advertising	\$ 263.10	\$ 30.00
Membership	\$ 1756.48	\$ 1905.00
Trading Table	\$ 1028.45	\$ 2717.00
Donations	\$ 117.85	\$ 1067.45
Other	\$ 1115.35	\$ 696.39

Gross total income for the 2014 year was \$13,327.23

Nett Expenses

Item	Nett 2014	Nett 2013
Hall Hire	\$ 1470.00	\$ 1220.00
Newsletter	\$ 163.00	\$ 152.05
Website	\$ 289.49	\$ 0.00
RHSV/Consumer Aff	\$ 321.40	\$ 275.10
Stationery	\$ 296.05	\$ 324.05
Phone	\$ 289.00	\$ 110.00

Gross total expenditure for the 2014 year was \$13,922.54

Nett loss for 2014 was \$595.31

Asset Purchase

To assist with presentations at MCG meetings and other garden clubs, it was agreed to purchase a major asset in the Public Address system:

Asset purchase - PA system - \$975.00

Bank Balances

	EOY 2014	EOY 2013
NAB cheque	\$ 4025.49	\$ 9860.18
NAB Term Deposit	\$ 5000.00	\$ 0.00
Petty Cash	\$ 75.20	\$ 80.40
PayPal	\$ 251.76	\$ 7.18



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Total	\$ 9352.45	\$ 9947.76



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APPLICATION

FOR MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL OF THE MELBOURNE CLIVIA GROUP INC. 2015

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 2015 (electronic newsletter) \$20
- OR**
- ☐ Single Membership 2015 (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)
- ☐ PayPal (Please send to accounts@melbournecliviagroup.org.au or request an invoice)

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

Name	Signature

Membership CANNOT be accepted without the submission of this form. In the case of an electronic payment, please send a completed form to the above address or give in person to the secretary.