



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The flowering season is almost upon us and this means EXPO time is only a few weeks away. Hopefully you all have many budding plants that will be blooming at just the right time to bring them along to the Expo. Every year since we began hosting the Expo in 2011, we have worried about not having enough plants in bloom for the display. Many of us have brought the pots into the house in the weeks preceding the Expo, hoping the warmth would speed up the spike elongation or flowers open, only to take them back outside in the cold when the flower opens too quickly.

We do hope you will support the Expo, whether it be volunteering to help on the day, bringing along plants to display, offering a raffle prize, or simply just coming along to view the beautiful display, and bringing friends. It is our big event of the year and its success is vital to the Club moving forward.

This newsletter is mostly focused on the Expo, with the last few pages including the Expo guidelines, instructions for plant cards, plant card examples, trading table form and volunteer member application form. We did find a bit of room for spring cultivation notes written by Di Mathews, a small report on our three speakers for June, July and August, plus a few photos of plants in flower now.

The Melbourne Clivia Group has a new website. I encourage you to have a look at it and let us know your thoughts. The photo galleries are being re-created so we can view the photos in a larger size. They are not complete yet. The MCG also has a Facebook page and an Instagram account for those that like to dabble in social media. Please feel free to share photos or information via the social media channels

www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au.

www.facebook.com/melbournecliviagroup/

www.instagram.com/melbournecliviagroup/

We look forward to our October meeting where Margaret Rackham will present the Gloriosa Lily, followed by a mini-auction of quality plants. There should still be plants in flower in October so bring along any flowering plant, even if it is for display only.

Our Christmas function this year will be at the Burvale Hotel for lunch on Sunday the 24th November. We do ask that you **RSVP by the 10th November**. We would love to see you there. Partners are most welcome.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any ideas for the club, whether for speakers, topics, member offers or improvements. I can be contacted by email: lisa.fox@gmail.com or phone: 0417 087 667.

Lisa Fox

NEXT MEETING

General Meeting

Friday 18 October 7.30pm

Presentation by Margaret Rackham
(Gloriosa Lily)

plus a mini-auction of quality plants

Uniting Church
Cnr Blackburn Rd &
Burwood Hwy, Burwood

The Melbourne Clivia Group holds regular meetings at the Burwood Heights Uniting Church Fellowship Room. Meetings start 7.30 p.m. unless stated otherwise.

OUR ADDRESS

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

RICHGRO
Bring your garden to life



2019 CALENDAR

Saturday 21 September- CLIVIA EXPO

Friday 18 October 7.30pm - General Meeting
Speaker: Margaret Rackham plus a mini-auction

Sunday 24th November 12pm - Lunch
Burvale Hotel, Burwood Hwy. RSVP by 10 Nov.



Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.
presents:

CLIVIA EXPO 2019

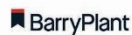
Saturday 21st September
10am - 4pm

Displays • Demonstrations • Sales

\$5 entry / \$4 Seniors card holders
Mount Waverley Community Centre
47 Miller Crescent, Mount Waverley
Enquiries: 0477 134 863

www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au

Thank you to our sponsors:



THREE SPEAKERS - THREE MONTHS

In June, July and August of 2019, we were extremely fortunate to have three outstanding speakers attend our meetings.

Despite the cold wintery conditions of each of the three meetings, we were pleased to see regular members, new faces and visitors attend and learn

from these knowledgeable people, as well as enjoy the beautiful and rare plants/bulbs on offer.



Fig. 1 Lisa Fox and Jane Tonkin

Jane Tonkin from Tonkin Bulbs discussed winter and spring plants and bulbs and their best growing conditions. We can add a sneak announcement that Jane has agreed to be guest speaker for us at our Annual General Meeting in February 2020 where she will discuss summer and autumn bulbs.



Fig. 2 Dr Randall W. Robinson and Di Mathews

Member numbers were a little down for this meeting, and the weather on the July Saturday afternoon would not have helped people to leave their warm houses, but for those who attended this meeting, it was a lovely afternoon with a very knowledgeable speaker. Dr Robinson presented a slide show of his travels to China searching for rare Cymbidium orchids. Beautiful scenery and magnificent plants. I am sure most people present left the meeting wanting to increase their collection of Cymbidium orchids.



Fig. 3 Lisa Fox and Peter Hey

Back to a Friday night for the August meeting, our speaker was Peter Hey from NSW. Peter is an enthusiastic speaker and covered a range of topics on Clivia, rare plants and fungi – symbiotic relationships.

CULTIVATION NOTES

Di Mathews

Spring is finally arriving after what has been a fairly cold and wet winter. Many *Clivia* will now be showing signs of flowering, either with flower buds visible deep within the leaves, or with flower spikes starting to emerge.

Clivia are gross feeders, so if you have not fed your plants for some time, now is the time to do it. Many prefer to use a slow release fertiliser, but young plants will also greatly benefit from liquid feeding at this time as well. Use a fertiliser with plenty of potassium (K) in it to boost flowering.

We have had some significant rainfall over recent weeks, and if your plants are container grown and under shadecloth or under trees etc. check that the pots have not become too wet. Often the first sign of a waterlogged pot is that the plant wobbles slightly in the pot when touched.

If this happens, it's a good idea to pull the plant gently out of the pot and check the roots for any signs of rot. If you find rot, remove any soggy or rotting roots and repot into a drier mix.

Many people have also had outbreaks of mealybug in the last few months. Keep a watchful eye out for

these and treat at the first sign. Mealybugs can decimate a plant very quickly by causing damage to the leaves deep down in the base. The damage to the leaf surface then allows the entry of fungi and bacteria, and the plant can quickly succumb to rot.

Keep a lookout for other chewing pests, such as snails, slugs, and cockroaches, and treat accordingly. The change in seasons also means more sunshine, so ensure your plants are well protected from the sun. Early morning dappled light is fine but do protect from the sun's rays during the day.

Lastly, enjoy your flowers. I hope we all have a wonderful flowering season, and it is very exciting to see the first flowering of a seed-grown plant. There will be the inevitable disappointments if a flower is not as good as expected, but also hopefully many happy surprises.



Fig. 4 Margaret Rackham - October speaker

CONGRATULATIONS Vu and Elyn on the safe arrival of Eloise, born at 7.20am on July 24.





FLOWERING NOW



Fig. 5 *Chubb Peach* x *C. gardenii* sibling cross



Fig. 8 'Green Imp'



Fig. 6 'Flame' bred by Bill Morris



Fig. 9 *Buff* x *Ngome Yellow Gardenii*



Fig. 7 *C. nobilis* hybrid



Fig. 10 *Nakamura Interspecific*

2019 MCG CLIVIA EXPO

Guidelines

DISPLAY

- Set-up of venue: Friday 20th September 4:00-8:00pm. Please lend a hand with set-up.
- Delivery of plants for the display: Friday 6:00-8:00pm, otherwise Saturday 8:00-9:15am.
- **Only members on duty are to enter the display area of the hall before 10:00am on the Saturday.** Members bringing plants for the display will be asked to leave their plants at the tables which will be set up inside the hall entrance to receive these plants.
- All plants *must* be healthy, and free of diseases and pests. The MCG reserves the right to exclude any plant from display or sales which shows signs of disease or pests.
- Plants and pots *must* be clean and well presented. Saucers will not be used in the display therefore, plants should not be watered for at least the 3 days prior to the day.
- Exhibitors are asked to provide the Registrar, Paul Smith (gizellea666@gmail.com; ph. 03 95475561) with details of the number of plants they anticipate bringing for the display on Wednesday 18th or Thursday 19th. This information helps the stewards plan the allocation of space for the display. At the time that plants are brought in to be benched for the display, exhibitors will be assigned a (consecutive) number for each plant and provided with two stickers (bearing the same number), one of which is to be placed on the plant card and the other on the pot. This enables the plants to be tracked for eventual return to the owner. In addition, the numbers will be used in voting for the People's Choice award.
- Display plants **MUST** be accompanied by the MCG's plant card affixed to a card holder (available at the time plants are brought in for the display). The card holder is to be placed in the pot to the front of the plant. Plant cards and paper will be available at the **August meeting**. A template for the plant card can be downloadable from our website and typed out in advance. It is preferred that plant cards are typed, but if that is not possible then please print the required details clearly, using black pen (only).

The details to be included on the plant card are:

cultivar name (if there is one) and/or cross (if known),
exhibitor, breeder (if known), and,
any information of interest.

Download the plant card template from <http://www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au/mcg-expo-2019/>

You can also download an instruction sheet on how to use the template.

- Plants on display are not to be handled nor pollen or berries removed by anyone.
- Members, particularly those who are officiating, are asked to wear their MCG name tags.
- The People's Choice Award is open to MCG members and members of the public who have the opportunity to select their favourite *Clivia*. Owners of the three plants receiving the most votes will receive a People's Choice Award (rosette and framed certificate) with the winner name being engraved on the MCG trophy.
- Members are needed to assist with various tasks throughout the day so a roster will be set up to cover a variety of functions. We hope that all members will make themselves available for rostered duties. If family members or friends of members are also available to help on the day, they will need to complete an *Application for Volunteer Membership*, preferably in advance

of the event, or on the day if necessary. A committee member will coordinate the roster and volunteer applications. The roster will be released on or about the 18th of September.

- After the hall is closed at 4:00pm, exhibitors are to assemble their own plants in a section and be responsible for checking off their own plants. Following a closing announcement by Brenda Girdlestone, the Chief Steward, plants may be removed. Finally, the furniture will be dismantled, and the hall cleaned.
- When transporting display plants, secure the pots well and stake the flowering stem as these can be easily damaged. Generally, the stake should be removed when on display. If a flower is accidentally broken off during transit, it can be displayed on the pot or in a suitable container next to it. It is permissible to stake a stem of berries, and, if you wish, cover this with plastic netting for protection.
- While utmost care will be taken with the plants on display, the MCG cannot be held responsible for unforeseen events and any damage or losses.
- To maximise visitor parking, we request that members move their cars away from the immediate hall area after unloading plants and equipment. In addition to the carpark adjoining the main hall, there is plenty of parking in side streets and the train station car park.
- All monies received should be passed to the Treasurer on the day. Evidence of expenses to be claimed as expenditure (with prior approval received from the Committee) are to be submitted on the day or within one week.

PLANT & SEED SALES

- All current members of the MCG are offered the opportunity to sell their *Clivia* plants and seed through the club's Trading Table, by Auction *or* to sell their plants & seed as independent sellers. The Trading Table and Independent Sellers will be located inside a room to the right of the front entrance.
- A commission of 15% is payable to the MCG for all plants and seed sold at the Expo. Each seller must complete a Trading Table form, recording details of plants offered for sale. Sales will then be recorded against this and the commission payable calculated at the end of the Expo.
- Every member who elects to offer for sale their plants and/or seeds at the Expo, whether through the Trading Table, auction or via the Independent Sellers arrangement, is expected to contribute a minimum of two hours to assisting with the roster, as well as donate a plant for the raffle or bring plants for the display tables.
- Plant limits. The number of plants that a member may sell through the Trading Table is 50. Independent Sellers have no limit. There are no limits relating to the amount of seed offered for sale. It is expected sellers will, if needed, be able to store excess stock in their vehicles.
- In the case of Independent Sellers, the members concerned are wholly responsible for staffing their stall (note that any non-members assisting a member with their sales will be required to complete before the Expo day an *Application for Volunteer Membership*). More than one member may share a given stall site.
- Any member wishing to sell plants as an Independent Seller is required to register their intention to do so with **the Sales Coordinator Rae Begg (0407510273) no later than the 6th September and pay a non-refundable deposit of \$50** at that time (deposits paid will be deducted from commission owing on sales, however if the member does not proceed with plant sales the deposit is forfeited). A ballot will be conducted at an appropriate time to determine the order in which Independent Sellers can choose their stall site from among the designated spaces.

- All Trading Table sellers are asked **to advise the Sales coordinator, Rae Begg (0407510273) on Wednesday 18th Sept or Thursday 19th Sept** of the approximate number of pots that they will bring for sale. Information regarding pot sizes would also be of assistance.
- The sales areas will be prepared on Saturday morning with seller expected to assist with set up. Sellers are to bring their sale plants & seed in on the Saturday morning (8:00 am). A completed Trading Table form must be lodged at the time plants are brought to the venue in order that staff can check stock received against the form.
- When purchasing plants and/or seed from the Trading Table purchasers will pay the designated person at the Trading Table for those items. In the case of Independent Sellers, purchasers will be required to pay the Independent seller at point of purchase. Purchasers should be encouraged to place purchased plants in their own vehicles and exit via the door in the sales area.

SALES STOCK PREPARATION

- For the Trading Table, it will be the responsibility of the seller to ensure each plant is clearly identified with the seller' ID (initials) and the sales price. Stickers are available if required.
- The Trading Table form, which needs to be prepared in advance, is to list the number of items for sale, showing the total number at each price. Independent plant details are not required. This form will be available at the August meeting. It can also be downloaded from the MCG website at <http://www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au/mcg-expo-2019/>.
- It is expected that plants will be presented in sound, clean pots. Examination will also be made for any obvious sign of disease or insect infestation. Any problem plants will be rejected and the Trading Table form noted to this effect.

END OF SALES

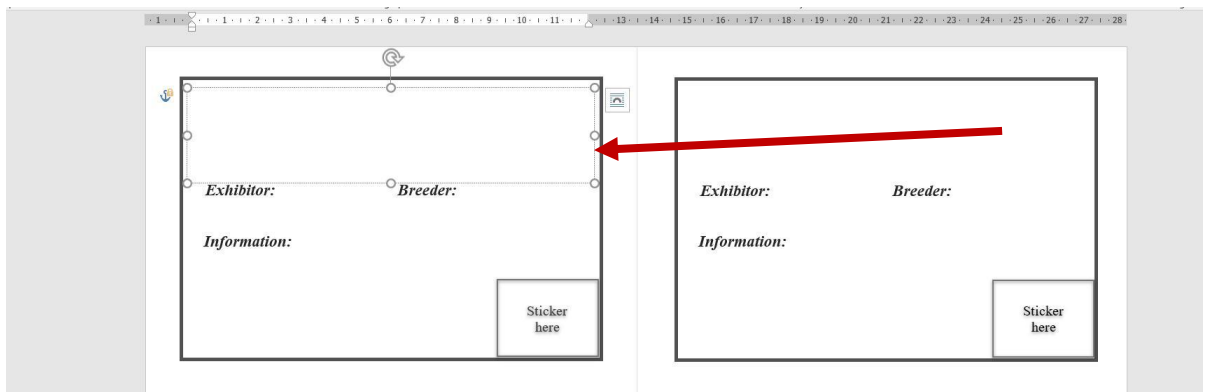
- At the end of the sales period or at 4.00pm, a check is to be made of remaining stock. Each plant is to be counted and recorded by price on the Trading Table form provided by the seller. Rae Begg, Treasurer will calculate the total value of the remaining plants which will be deducted from the total value of plants provided for sale.
- In the case of Independent Sellers, the calculated commission is to be paid to the Treasurer at the conclusion of the Expo. For those selling through the Trading Table, a commission of 15% payable to the MCG will be deducted and the balance paid to the seller either at the conclusion of the Expo or within one week thereof.
- Sellers are expected to remove their remaining plants as soon as possible after 4.00pm

DISPLAY PLANT CARDS

- All plants on display at the Expo **MUST** be accompanied by a plant card, which will be placed in a fork in the pot at the front of the plant.
- Plant cards (approx. **200gsm satin white paper**) will be available at the August meeting, as will stock of the paper for those wishing to print off their own cards.
- Exhibitors are strongly encouraged to use the plant card template to print out the card. Download from the MCG website.
- Hand-written cards will be accepted if written clearly and neatly using **BLACK PEN**.
- The details to be included on the plant card are:
 - o cultivar name (if there is one) and/or cross (if known);
 - o exhibitor;
 - o breeder (if known); and,
 - o any information of interest.

HOW TO USE THE PLANT CARD TEMPLATE

- Download the plant card template from the MCG website and save it to your Desktop.
- Place the cursor where the name is to appear and mouse-click. You will note a box appear.



- Type the plant name or cross. You **DO NOT** need to change font or size. It is automatically set to the right size. If you do not know the name or the cross, type the botanical name such as *Clivia miniata* or *Clivia nobilis* etc.
- Hold your cursor under the Exhibitor field and click. A box will appear. Type your name.
- Hold your cursor under the Breeder field and click. A box will appear. Type the breeder. If the breeder is not known, leave this blank.
- Hold your cursor under the Information field and click. A box will appear. Type some information about the plant such as what colour it is, how you obtained it or any other interesting fact that the public will enjoy reading.

EXAMPLES

‘Lall’

Exhibitor:
Lisa Fox

Breeder:
Rudo Lotter

Information:

This Interspecific was grown from South African seed. The cross is Bi-colour x Chanel. It was named after my grandfather’s nickname.

Orange

Exhibitor:
Lisa Fox

Breeder:
Unknown

Information:

This plant of unknown breeding was a lucky find at a market at Tootgarook. I liked the vivid colouring and the green throat.



Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.

TRADING TABLE - APPLICATION TO SELL ITEMS

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Number of items to be sold	Type of sale item (seed, plant, seedling, pollen, other)	Description (include botanical name, breeding or any other relevant information)	Price each	No. sold	Value Sold	Commission Meeting TT 10% Expo 15%

Total

I give consent to the Melbourne Clivia Group Inc. to sell my plant/seed/pollen and agree to pay above commission on the sale.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return this completed form to the TT co-ordinator _____



Melbourne
Clivia Group Inc.

Burwood East LPO
PO Box 4225,
Burwood East 3151
Ph: 0477 134 863
www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au
secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au

***APPLICATION
FOR VOLUNTEER MEMBERSHIP OF THE
MELBOURNE CLIVIA GROUP INC.***

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.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Note: This form is specifically for non-members who will be assisting at the 2019 Clivia EXPO, and needs to be completed to ensure that such volunteers are adequately covered from a public liability viewpoint. All such volunteers are required to complete this form and lodge it prior to the Expo.