



# Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.

October 2019  
Vol. 12.5

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**F**lowering season is upon us, being late in Melbourne this year. This is the first time since I started growing *Clivia* that I have been aware of the season being so late. No doubt the long and cool winter weather in Melbourne contributed to this.

Many of us were worried in the lead up to the Clivia Expo that we would not have enough flowers open to have a good display this year. I visited the NSW Clivia Society Show the weekend before and they had a great display of plants with the warmer weather.

Luckily, the display ended up looking spectacular with around 130 plants on display. Many members had brought their plants into the house in the weeks prior to the Expo, so the heat would speed up the flowers.

The 2019 Clivia Expo was a successful event with a steady stream of visitors all day. Mount Waverley Community Centre worked well, and we were relieved to have the sellers inside the venue and out of the weather.

There are so many people to thank for working hard to make the day a success. Your time and effort is greatly appreciated and the Expo would not have been possible without your contribution.

Di, Jules, Michael, Margaret, Allan, Ian L, Ian J, Rae, Ray B, Brenda, John M, Neville, Helen, Alan, Chee, Ray P, Terry, Paul, Geoff, John T, Gary, Andrea, John C, Kelvin, Haydn, Glen, Gerard and Kenny. Apologies if anyone was not mentioned.

This newsletter contains photos from the Clivia Expo and the People's Choice award winners. There is also an item on the floral art displays each year.

On a sadder note, we are sorry to hear of the passing of Ian Anderson from Toowoomba. His son, Greg, is a member of the Melbourne Clivia Group. Many of our members have plants with Ian's breeding in their pedigree. Several of our members have had the pleasure of meeting Ian and his lovely family. We offer our condolences to Greg and all his family and friends.

If you have any quality plants you would like to auction at the October meeting, bring them along. There should still be plants in flower in October so bring along any flowering plant, even if it is for display only.

The Christmas function this year will be at the Burvale Hotel for lunch on Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> November at 12pm. The Burvale Hotel is on the corner of Springvale Road and Burwood Highway. We do ask that you **RSVP by the 10th November**. Please email [secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au](mailto:secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au) or phone **0477 134 863** to let us know if you can attend. 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](mailto: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.

Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.  
Burwood East LPO  
PO Box 4225  
Burwood East, VIC 3151  
Ph: 0477 134 863

**RICHGRO**  
Bring your garden to life



## 2019 CALENDAR

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

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 12pm - Lunch**  
Burvale Hotel, Burwood Hwy. **RSVP by 10 Nov.**

## PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD WINNERS

- 1<sup>st</sup> - 'Best Kept Secret' owned by Alan O'Leary
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Splash owned by Michael Barrett
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Variegated Multitepal owned by Terry Edwards
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Nakamura Multitepal owned by Lisa Fox



Fig. 1 'Best Kept Secret' owned by Alan O'Leary



Fig. 2 'Best Kept Secret'



Fig. 3 Splash owned by Michael Barrett



Fig. 4 Splash



Fig. 5 Variegated Multitepal owned by Terry Edwards





Fig. 6 *Variegated Multitepal*



Fig. 7 *Nakamura Multitepal* owned by Lisa Fox



Fig. 8 *Nakamura Multitepal*

## RAFFLE PRIZES



Fig. 9 Raffle prizes

The raffle prizes numbered eight with a selection of lovely flowering *C. miniata*, a variegate and an Interspecific plus an original artwork. Raffle prizes were kindly donated by Ray and Chee Perks, Di Mathews, Ray and Rae Begg, Gerard van Buuren and the MCG.



Fig. 10 Andrea with her raffle prizes

## 2019 CLIVIA EXPO PHOTO GALLERY

Now live on the website is 800 photos from the 2019 Clivia EXPO – photo credit John Mackenzie.

<http://www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au/gallery/gallery-2019-clivia-expo/>



## Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.

October 2019  
Vol. 12.5

### OCTOBER SPEAKER - MARGARET RACKHAM

Margaret was a founding member and continues to be a member of the Nunawading Community Gardens, established in 1977, the first of this type of garden. She continues to grow her own vegetables. She has also been a member of the Vermont Garden Club since 1978 and is a member of the Victorian Bulb Society and the Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria.

Margaret has been a member of the Melbourne Clivia Group for a number of years and attending the Clivia Expo for some years prior. She is a passionate grower of the Gloriosa Lily and has been for around 20 years.

Margaret is obsessed with growing plants from seeds. She loves to learn new things and learn the 'how' and 'why' things are done.

We look forward to hearing more from Margaret and to welcoming our new members from the Expo as well as visitors.



Fig. 11 Margaret Rackham - October speaker

### VALE IAN ANDERSON

*It is with much sadness that I have to inform you of the passing of our distinguished member Mr. Ian Anderson.*

*Ian was a very valued member of the Toowoomba Clivia Society and those who knew him will agree with me in saying that he was a true gentleman with a real passion for growing clivias.*

*Along with his wife Claire he was a long serving and hard working member of the Society until he moved to Brisbane a few years ago for health reasons. Fondly known for his "Andersons*

© 2008-2019 Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.

*Peach" amongst others he has remained a member of the Society and delighted in hearing club news from his son Greg.*

*He will be sadly missed by so many. May he rest in Peace.*

Kind Regards  
Kerry Robinson  
President

The above was posted on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019 to the Toowoomba Clivia Society Facebook page.



Fig. 12 Ian Anderson

### 2020 MCG CLIVIA CALENDAR

For sale at the October meeting and the Christmas function, or contact Rae Begg - Ph: 0407 510 273 or email: bbrigade1@hotmail.com.

**\$22 members \$25 public**







#### VICTORIAN ASSOCIATION OF MINIATURE ENTHUSIASTS

**W**e were delighted at the 2019 Clivia Expo to meet some members of VAME (Victorian Association of Miniature Enthusiasts) who also had a room booked at the Mount Waverley Community Centre on the day of the Expo.

Madeleine sent us a photo of a miniature Clivia that the group had created. It is approximately 1/12<sup>th</sup> of the size of a normal Clivia plant and took around two days to complete with each petal being individually attached.

How lovely to see VAME ladies leaving the sales room with newly purchased Clivia tucked under their arm. Perhaps we will see some new colours in miniature Clivia in the future.

The VAME website - <https://www.vame.org.au/>



#### 2019 FLORAL ART DISPLAY

**W**e are very fortunate to have the talented Michael Barrett in our club. His floral art each year at the annual Expo is amazing and an incredible backdrop to the *Clivia* display. He has outdone himself once again, especially considering there was a shortage of flowers.

You can view each year of his sensational floral art in our website gallery with this link

- <http://www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au/gallery/gallery-floral-art/>





## CULTIVATION NOTES

Di Mathews

Spring has finally arrived after a long and cool winter, which has delayed flowering for many of us. It is an exciting time in the garden, and for *Clivia* growers, it can be very rewarding seeing new flowers resulting from crossings made in the distant past.

*Clivia* are very heavy feeders, so if you are not up to date with your fertilising, now is the time to do it. The quality and health of both flowers and leaves will be greatly improved with regular feeding. Pot grown plants are especially reliant on fertilisers as composted bark has little in the way of available nutrients.

New applications of slow release fertilisers are perfect if you have a lot of plants or are time poor. Growers with fewer plants may prefer to use a liquid fertiliser, but whichever type you use, ensure that it has a good amount of potassium in the mix. Young seedlings will respond very well to regular doses of half strength fertiliser, and older plants can be easily fed with a slow release type.

Plants are reliant on nitrogen for good leaf growth, phosphorus for good root growth, and potassium for strong stems. Ensure the fertilisers are also complete in the micro-nutrients to provide overall feeding for pot grown plants.

Fertiliser salts can also build up over time, so if you see a whitish crust on the bottom of the pots flush the pot with clean water to prevent damage to the roots from excess salts.

You may now water your plants with increasing frequency depending on the weather and their requirements, but still be careful not to over-water.

The new green growth is also a great enticement to chewing pests, so perform a regular inspection and do a regular spray with your pesticide of choice to prevent damage to young leaves.

The sun's rays are also getting much stronger, so positions for your pots that may have been suitable for winter may no longer give them sufficient protection in the warmer months. Observe how much protection

your plants are receiving from the sun and move if necessary.

Lastly, enjoy your flowers that you have spent years cultivating. A *Clivia* in full bloom with a big head of flowers is a truly beautiful sight.

## 2019 CLIVIA EXPO PHOTOS







# Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.

October 2019  
Vol. 12.5

