CLIVIANI

■ QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CLIVIA SOCIETY ■





THE OBJECTIVES OF THE CLIVIA SOCIETY

- 1. To coordinate the interests, activities and objectives of constituent Clivia Clubs and associate members;
- 2. To participate in activities for the protection and conservation of the genus *Clivia* in its natural habitat, thereby advance the protection of the natural habitats and naturally occurring populations of the genus *Clivia* in accordance with the laws and practices of conservation;
- 3. To promote the cultivation, conservation and improvement of the genus *Clivia* by
 - 3.1 the exchange and mutual dissemination of information amongst Constituent Clivia Clubs and associate members:
 - 3.2 where possible, the mutual exchange of plants, seed and pollen amongst Constituent Clivia Clubs and associate members; and
 - 3.3 the mutual distribution of specialised knowledge and expertise amongst Constituent Clivia Clubs and associate members;
- 4. To promote the progress of and increase in knowledge of the genus Clivia and to advance it by enabling research to be done and by the accumulation of data and dissemination thereof amongst Constituent Clivia Clubs and associate members:
- 5. To promote interest in and knowledge of the genus Clivia amongst the general public; and
- 6. To do all such things as may be necessary and appropriate for the promotion of the abovementioned objectives.

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♣ Garden Route Piet Theron

♣ Joburg♣ KwaZulu-NatalB Fian Tarr and Francois van Rooyen

Lowveld Paul Kloek
№ New Zealand Tony Barnes

■ Northern Peter Lambert, Tino Ferero and Lena van der Merwe

Northern Free State Louis Chadinha

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The Clivia Society Newsletter started as a black on white news-sheet dated July 1992, numbered Volume 1 number 1, called 'Clivia Club'. It formed a means of communication for people interested in the plant genus *Clivia*. It was edited/written by Nick Primich with a frequency of 3, 5, 8 & 5 during the first 4 years, using the publication month in the volume.

The frequency was fixed on four annually with Vol. 5 No 1 of March 1996.

The date changed to the southern hemisphere seasons with Vol. 8 No 1 of Autumn 1999. The first three used yellow paper as cover. The name changed to 'CLIVIA CLUB NEWSLETTER' with Vol. 9 No 1 Autumn 2000 with full colour photos on the cover pages. Another name change to 'CLIVIA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER' came with Vol. 10 No 4 Summer 2000, and in 2005 reverted to a quarterly number. *CLIVIA NEWS* is the continuation of this series.

FDITORIAL

Clivia News - Synopsis of Editor's Report, 2009

(This report covers Volume 17 Number 2 through to Volume 18 number 1)

s stated in the past, I see the Newsletter of the Clivia Society as vehicle for profiling members of Clubs and their breeding results, but particularly the activities of Clubs and their members, while I consider it important to focus on Clivia in habitat and the nature of those habitats, in order to foster concern for their continued conservation and preservation.

While it was decided at the 2008 CS AGM that Clivia News would be the vehicle for publication of new Clivia cultivars for the register nothing seems to have materialised in this regard.

I shall miss the support given to the production of the Newsletter by Bossie de Kock. I value the support of the Executive of the Clivia Society, and wish to thank Lena van der Merwe in particular for her role in the production of Clivia News, and Willie and Cynthia le Roux for their contributions and support. Thanks as always to the Layout Artist, Fréda van Wyk who tackles each issue with freshness and a cheerful disposition, and the team at CPD printers for their professionalism in getting Clivia News to press.

It has been past practice to have Helen Sanders of New Zealand as unpaying recipient of Clivia News in exchange for her contributions of Clivi-Arta. This she does regularly and without prompting – a great help indeed to the Editor! I suggest that this be continued for the next year.

Clivia greetings Roger Fisher

QUADRENNIAL CLIVIA SOCIETY CONGRESS 2010

First Announcement

Theme: Heritage Clivia

he 2010 International Clivia Society Conference will be held in Cape Town, South Africa on Tuesday 21 and Wednesday 22 September 2010. It will be hosted jointly by the Clivia Society and the Cape Clivia Club. Registration will be on the evening of 20 September 2010.

The Congress will be followed by the annual CCC Clivia Show from Friday 24 to Sunday 26 September 2010. An auction of top plants will be held in conjunction with these events.

For more information visit the Cape Clivia Club website at www.miniata.co.za.

The website of the Clivia Society www.cliviasociety.org is being updated and will give further information in due course.

John van der Lind€ Cape Clivia Club

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IN MEMORIAM

n the past quarter there have been the notices of the deaths of a number of members of the Clivia circle, notably

Bertie Guillaume (NCC, Soutpansberg) Olive Brummer (NCC, Soutpansberg) Johan van Tonder (GRCC) Steve Moodie (NCC)

Our condolences to family, friends and their Clivia companions

Lena van der Merwe (Secretary to the Clivia Society)

James Dohrman

One of the few blessings in life is to meet a friend like James Dohrman.

James lived in Vermont, USA. For his work he travelled regularly to South Africa, and with his travels in South Africa - being a clivia lover - he met up with clivia growers from all around. He was such a keen clivia grower that he attended clivia meetings and shows. This was how I met Jim, as I called him. We became more than fellow clivia growers, we were partners and friends. Jim visited me regularly, sometimes for a braai, or a beer in a pub, he enjoyed his rugby and was a firm Bluebulls supporter. We watched many a game together.

Jim, collected and bought many clivias here in South Africa, which he took back with him to sell in the US. In most cases he only asked a small handling fee. This is how Jim became known world wide, he linked the USA with South Africa Clivia-wise and truly became our own clivia Ambassador.

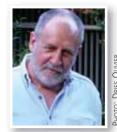
This time around Jim stayed in guesthouse in Silverlakes. We had an appointment for the Saturday afternoon. He had to collect some plants from me and of course there was a Bulls game on. When I phoned him the lady from the guest house answered, this was how I learned that Jim has passed away peacefully in his sleep.

Jim, not only were you a good husband and father to your wife Eileen and daughters Elizabeth and Robyn, but you were a great friend one of a kind, one of the best.

We will all dearly miss you. &

Rudo Lotter Rudo's Clivia's Pretoria, South Africa. rudo@rudosclivias.co.za Mail from Paul who met Jim a few time at the airport in New York.

I am greatly saddened by the passing of Jim Dohrman. Jim was a good friend, and very helpful in getting my collection and interest in Clivia moving along. He was always generous with his time and knowledge, and we shared many pleasant chats over



Jim Dohrman

the phone. He unselfishly acted as perhaps the world's longest personal Clivia conduit – from South Africa all the way to the United States.

I only had the pleasure to meet Jim twice, the first time, in an attempt to pick up plants at the airport when he's just returned from South Africa. The plants were delayed by customs, so we both drove away, somewhat frustrated and empty handed.

The second meeting was much nicer, we met and had a long talk over breakfast. I got a much better sense of his wonderful, somewhat mischievous humor. After a long relaxed meal, we went to his truck to retrieve the plants that had been cleared through the airport by an expeditor. Jim made the drive down from Vermont just to pick up this box of beloved Clivia, most of which he would be sending out to enrich the lives and collections of Clivia lovers all across the country.

I wish Jim blessed peace, and my condolences to his family and many friends. He will be missed by many. &

Paul Michael diMeglio Brooklyn, NYC, USA

CLIVIA SOCIETY AGM 2009

Awarding of honorary life membership of the Clivia Society, 2009

he Northern Clivia Club nominated and the Eastern Province Clivia Club seconded the nomination of Chris Vlok and Bossie de Kock (postuum) as honorary members of the Clivia Society and were unanimously elected by the meeting. Peter Lambert handed the honorary membership certificate to Chris who accepted the honour bestowed on him and Bossie and he gave a brief over-view of his term serving the Clivia Society in various positions.

Citations for Honourary Membership of the Clivia Society

CHRIS VI OK

hris Vlok has been a very active and enthusiastic member of the Clivia fraternity since 1998 when he joined the Northern branch of the then Clivia Club. His exceptional leadership skills were soon recognized and later that year he was as elected chairman of the Northern branch of the then Clivia Club. In 1999 at the first AGM of the Clivia Society held in Cape Town, Chris Vlok was elected to the Central Committee together with John Winter (Chairman), Ian Brown (Treasurer), Meg Hart (Newsletter Editor), Sean Chubb, Sarel Naude and Brian Tarr.

HOTO: MARIENE TOPHAM

Chris Vlak

The year 2000 saw Chris Vlok elected as Public Relations Officer of the Clivia Society and it was at this time that Chris began appealing to all members to assist the investigation of a web page for the Clivia Club. This dream of a web page would in later years materialise and Chris still continues to help

with this very important task. As Public Relations Officer, Chris was one of the driving forces behind the publication of the very successful booklet "Hints on Growing Clivia" that became available in September of 2000. In 2002 Chris Vlok took over as Chairman of the Clivia Society from John Winter and he held this position until 2007, when he handed over the reins to Prof. Johan Spies During all this time the Clivia Society grew from strength to strength and this was largely due to Chris's enthusiasm, unending endurance, amazing work ethic and very hard work. The continued growth and expansion of the Clivia Society is testimony to the very important and significant role that Chris Vlok played in the Society with his extraordinary enthusiasm and leadership skills. Chris Vlok was also an integral part of the organizing committee of the 2006 International Clivia Conference. His enthusiasm and skills helped make the Conference the success that it turned out to be. The historical visit of the delegation from China was one of the memorable events of the Conference and Chris Vlok was a key member of the team that ensured that the visit took place.

Peter Lambert

Chairperson, Northern Clivia Club

(The contribution of Lena van der Merwe is hereby acknowledged).

BOSSIE DE KOCK

he passing away of Bossie de Kock in February 2009 after a short illness left a huge gap in the upper echelons of the Clivia Society (CS), and also the Northern Clivia Club (NCC. Bossie was elected as treasurer of the Clivia Society in 2002, a position he cherished and worked extremely



Rossie de Kock

hard and diligently at, and which he held until his untimely passing in early 2009. During this time he also served as treasurer of the Northern Clivia Club. Bossie took great pride in taking care of the financial matters of the NCK and the CS.

But this is not where Bossie's contribution to the Clivia fraternity ended. Bossie willingly and diligently assisted Lena van der Merwe (the secretary of the CS) with all the administrative matters of the NCK and CS by meeting once a month (or more frequently when needed), sorting out payments made, updating membership lists, coordinating orders of publications, etc. and the posting of all publications – newsletters, yearbooks and Cultivation of Clivias – to clubs, the public in general and to enthusiasts all over the world.

Bossie was also co-author of "Cultivation of Clivias" and had the responsible task of ensuring that the content of the book was written for non-scientific persons, as both the other two authors were scientists and could easily get lost in scientific jargon. As the finance man he had to find advertisements for the publication and the finance to publish the book. This task he did extremely well and to date over 5000 copies of the book have been sold.

During the planning and hosting of the 4th International Clivia Conference held in Pretoria during September 2006 Bossie played a huge role and it was largely due to his excellent handling of the finances the conference turned out to be the success that it proved to be.

Bossie has served the Clivia Society and all its constituent members with distinction and I trust that the Clivia Society will share our view that Bossie de Kock has played an important role in the Clivia movement and that the huge contribution Bossie made to the Clivia movement will be recognized by the Clivia Society by posthumously awarding him with honorary life membership of the Clivia Society. &

Peter Lambert
Chairperson, Northern Clivia Club
(The contribution of Long your dor Manua is

(The contribution of Lena van der Merwe is hereby acknowledged).

CHAIR - ANNUAL REPORT, 2009

he executive committee consisted of Johan Spies (Chairperson), Christo Topham (Vice chairperson), Lena van der Merwe (Secretary), Bossie de Kock (Treasurer) and Ken Smith (Additional member). It was a quiet year and the committee met once. The rest of the time they communicated through e-mail.

The committee was stunned with the passing away of Bossie. For many years he acted as extremely committed treasurer of the Society. We are deeply saddened by his death. At the same time we are thankful to Sakkie Nel, who temporarily took over this job and Chisto and Marlene Topham for their help in getting our systems running again. I also want to thank Lena for doing double duty for some time during Bossie's illness.

I want to use this opportunity to thank Roger

Fisher and his team for producing high quality Newsletters and the yearbook. Thank you for the hard work put into this effort.

I want to thank all the people willing to organise the activities of the different Clivia Clubs. Your enthusiasm through shows and other activities keep the interest in Clivia alive.

The problems with association with the Chinese Clivia Clubs were addressed as followed: individual members may join the Clivia Society by paying their membership fees and they will receive the Newsletters and Yearbook. They may select a person to represent them (in other words – they will be treated in the same way as Europeans joining the Society).

In my previous report I mentioned that the Clivia Society has reached a crossroad in its existence. On one hand you have to cultivate a love and

interest for Clivia. On the other you have to act against unscrupulous sellers and collectors.

The only way to act against this growing number of deceitful sellers is by ending or suspending their membership. You cannot be a Society trying to promote a love for a specific plant and at the same time enforce strict rules on your members. In creating love for Clivia you encourage the enthusiast with a few plants to join: people with no need to belong to a society with strict rules for ethical behaviour.

Has the time come to form a new additional Society, which will act as watchdog for Clivia sales?

To sell Clivia plants you get a certificate from "Watchdog" and any complaints are send to "Watchdog" that will investigate the case and consider proper action. The Clivia Society encourages people to buy only from people with a "Watchdog" certificate.

Lastly I want to thank the Committee members for their contributions throughout the year. A special word of thanks to Lena, Bossie and Sakkie, who did the majority of work for the Society. Without them we could not have functioned.

Johan Spies Chair – Clivia Society

Research Committee - Annual Report, 2009

esearch continued at the University of the Free State and progress was made on Clivia diseases, genes responsible for colour formation in Clivia, phylogenetic relationships in Clivia and genetic diversity in Clivia.

The virus identified in natural populations of Clivia caulescens near Graskop in Mpumalanga is a very slow progressing virus. Due to this slow infestation period, the virus could not be verified by Koch's postulates. In addition the virus concentration is too low to be detected in a leaf with the diagnostic kit.

Four genes responsible for colour formation (anthocyanin pathway) are being studied. These

genes have already been isolated and the DNA sequence studied. No variation in these structural genes appears to be present in the different colour forms. Approximately R150 000 were obtained to continue with this work. In this process the whole Clivia genome will be sequenced, but money constraints will only allow analyses of the "colour genes".

Microsatellite work progress well and 13 sets of markers have been identified. The time-consuming task of getting enough profiles to make meaningful deductions is now in progress.

Johan Spies

Public Relations - Annual Report, 2009

irstly I would like to say thank you to all Office bearers of the different clubs who helped me to get their Shows, Displays, Expo's and Exhibitions publicized in *Clivia News* Volume 17 number 1 of January - March 2008. This helped members worldwide to plan their trips and visits and in doing so, to make the most of all flowering seasons around the globe.

2010 International Conference Cape Town

Having our Fifth International Clivia Conference

next year in Cape Town will mean that we all need to pull together so that the same list with dates and venues for 2010 can to be published in the July - September 2009 *Clivia News*. I hope we can publish the list of "Events & Activities" for 2010 in the same *Clivia News* so that our overseas visitors have maximum time to consider their itineraries about what they can or cannot include into their travelling plan.

The habitat tour to *C. mirabilis* country, I believe, will be well attended and even oversub-

scribed. Please supply your Club's particulars to the new PRO before 2009-07-31 so that it can reach the Publisher in good time.

Newporter per Club

The Pro still needs the name and contact details of a nominated person per club, who can feed the Pro with info about interesting clivia events happening in their part of the country. The Publisher is always short of readymade articles for publication and some of what you will be reporting may be used in an article in our *Clivia News*

Heritage Clivia Collections

In *Clivia News* Volume 1 number 2 of April - June 2006, Sean Chubb told us about his wonderful Heritage Collection and how he grows every plant and specie in its original form to keep it a noble plant. I think it is time that more clubs and members start such Heritage Collections, preferably in or very near to the natural habitat where the specie is endemic.

By taking *C. mirabilis*, for instance to Cape Town, Pretoria or KwaZulu-Natal and grow it there is to my mind, not doing the plant any favour. Members can donate selected habitat plants to the keepers of each different collection and afterwards all the Heritage collections can belong to the Clivia Society.

Surplus material sold can be divided on a 60 - 40% basis between the keeper of the collection and The Society. Funds that the Society obtains may be used for Research as well as for curtailing costs of our quadrennial Conferences.

The Society's donation for Research has finally urged the Government to also supply funds for Clivia Research. This may well happen again if we have some established Heritage Collections. The Government sometimes gladly help those who firstly start helping themselves! Members and Clubs must not only think about this, but please start doing something about it.

Dr. Lena van der Merwe suggested that the theme for next year's Conference may well be 'Heritage Clivia". I gladly support this idea.

Code of Conduct

From time to time you hear about scaly clivia deals on e-bay and members talk about it on the "chat group", while others can give first hand information about fraudulent transactions normally at exuberant prices.

At the February Exco meeting Johan Spies mentioned that we surely should do something about this problem, which has the potential of destroying our lovely hobby altogether. In 2007 in Bloemfontein, John van der Linde put it very beautifully: "We join the clubs, because of the beautiful plant, and then we stay because of the beautiful people"

Greed for money, however, is destroying all of that. By having rules means that you must have penalties for when the rules are broken. Having a code of conduct, between all clubs and their members, might be a departing point.

Members must apply for accreditation and get a number or license to trade in clivias so that his/her client knows that by advertising this number, the seller is a trustworthy and honest person and not a peddler or "fly by night chancer".

Please give us your ideas about this matter and how we can safe guard our members and public in general.

Promoting your shows by displaying flowering plants

As a tip to members and Clubs, we found it a very good practise to display clean flowering plants a week or two before the show in your local Doctor's practice, your local Pharmacy or maybe Hardware store. A small note, giving particulars of the date and venue of your show or display works wonders with the general public.

Some of our churches now request that we display flowering plants every Sunday during September. Please try it, it works!

Thank you to all the other members of the Committee for your help and support throughout 2008. &

Sakkie Nel

PRO - CS

Clivia cultivar checklist and register - Registrar's Report, 2009

he year 2008 saw a continued increase in the number of completed applications for naming a Clivia. There were 25 applications submitted. As usual, the internet forums and club and private seed lists saw many more new names

I would like to restate my request, through this AGM forum, that clubs and interest groups encourage discussion about the "named" Clivias that their members have growing in their collections. Make it part of the regular meetings or programme workshop events. Please send any details to me, no matter how small, for adding to the CHECKLIST.

The Clivia Society Yearbook remains a valuable

vehicle for getting information about "named" Clivia to the membership. The majority of people want colour images so it is important that all members help the Society achieve this by sending in registrations. The main hurdle to getting images published is not having any submitted. I certainly feel as though I am letting the editorial committee down by not having sufficient data to publish.

The CHECKLIST number stands at 1200 names. I would like to extend my thanks to all the members who have completed the application and registered their plant names with me. & Kenneth R Smith

Registrar - Clivia Register

Standards and Judging

he judges of the NCC had had several meetings. They are busy compiling a guide. The idea is that this will be a loose-leaf file so that updating of the document will be easy done by just replacing a leaf with a new one. They are busy taking photos to illustrate this guide. This guide will not be prescriptive and

each club may use what they what in the guide. The NCC has compiled an adjudicating manual in which they do point out what have to be look for when judging a plant. A request was made that this also be made available on DVD.

Koos Geldenhuvs

Convenor – Judaina Committee



NCC Judging Committee

Clivia Society Website

Gideon Scheepers was nominated and elected as Webmaster for the Clivia Society Website. &

SOME NOTES ON THE DISCUSSIONS AT THE 2009 CS AGM

The issue of the naming of Clivia plants was raised for discussion.

One can call a plant anything one wishes. However if you wish to breed or trade the plant the name should be registered with the Registrar of the Clivia Society.

A plant is only registered once its name is published in hard print.

The *Clivia News* has been charged with the publishing of plants for registration.

It is necessary that if anyone wishes to register a name they check of the name on Ken Smith's list of named and registered plants.

If it is not there, fill in the forms and send the material to Ken Smith.

There is no point in registering a plant if you do not intend breeding with it or trading it or its clones

Remember the PROGENY OF SELFED PLANTS ARE NOT THE PLANT AND DO NOT CARRY THE NAME

Offsets carry the name of the REGISTERED plant but ENSURE THAT IT IS AN OFFSET and not, for example, a stray germination between the roots of the named plant.

It was previously decided that the breeder would pay page fees for the publishing of registered plants.

There is a fund started for the publishing of a Register of named Clivia plants and this is in the pipeline for the future.

Guaranteeing Clivia seeds, seedlings and plants

The issue of a watchdog role for the Clivia Society was raised, particularly as regards sharp

practice or trading of illegally obtained habitat material

It was decided that the free market sifts out the crooked dealers and that the law is protection enough for illegal practice, hence not a role needed for the Clivia Society.

However, Francois van Rooyen of the KZNCC did raise the issue that because of unprotected pollination much by way of traded material could not be guaranteed and suggested that if persons breeding wished to guarantee the material traded there would need to be greater care taken in protecting pollinated plants from stray pollination by, for example, isolating plants, emasculating the anthers to prevent self pollination and protecting the stigmas, as Willie le Roux of the ECCC does by way of a "chastity condom" made of a section of sealed plastic straw which he places over the stigma once pollinated.

Code of Fthics

It was thought necessary that the Clivia Society and its affiliated Clubs draw up a Code of Ethics to which the membership subscribe. This should be derived from the objectives of the Clivia Society.

Nomination by Clubs and Enthusiast Groups of Correspondents

Each Club and Group is meant to identify one or more correspondents to liaise with the various officers of the Clivia Society, namely the Registrar for registration of Clivia, the PRO and the Editor of the Newsletter.

PLEASE BE PROACTIVE IN THIS MATTER! &

Roger Fisher

CORRESPONDENCE

CLIVIA BLUFS CONTINUF!

Emerald Sapphire no more!

Hi Roger

Thanks for the latest News Letter. I was most interested to read Ian Coates' little story about the blue Civia. I felt that I could no longer remain silent regarding my clandestine involvement with his blue beauty, so I am sending you this little note of confession and the evidence of my underhand behaviour

I found the blue flower five years before lan and horror of horrors, took one berry which yielded the exquisite broad petalled, green throated Clivia I called Emerald and Saphire Silk. However, when I read lan's article, I was overcome with guilt and felt I had no alternative but to destroy the plant, which I did. But, like him, I still have the photo! v

Kindest regards, Gordon Fraser



Emerald Sapphire

Ian Coates's follow-on

I have had several e-mails regarding my article in the current Clivia Society Newsletter [Clivia News Vol. 18 no 1 p6] on Blue Clivia. I didn't mention in that article that I found another one later.

However, this one had pink spots on but I did not have time to photograph it before I woke up. Thankfully, most people realised the very serious intent behind my not too serious article. Clivia habitat sites are being gravely interfered with by man after tens of millions of years of looking after themselves. Please do all you can to honour these plants and habitats. &

Ian Coates

England

The 'Sacred Relationship'

hen it comes to conservation, I have always been somewhat of a moaning minnie, commenting facetiously on such things as the inability of most people to keep their own DNA under control, and so on. However I have also used my time to better define my concerns in the area of conservation. The most valuable of reasons why I believe in in situ conservation, as opposed to 'conservation through cultivation', is because of what I call the 'sacred relationship'.

The distribution ranges of plant species as found published in the literature often show bizarre characteristics such as large gaps in the range. Interpreting distribution maps requires one to take into consideration the intensity of botanical collection within the general area of distribution and various other factors, and in many cases there is still insufficient data available to draw any definitive conclusions.

On a micro-distribution level, when visiting a locality where a particular species occurs, it is

difficult to understand why one plant is found growing at one particular spot, whereas another apparently equivalent spot nearby is vacant.

Some years ago I attempted to list all the environmental factors that one would need to quantify in order to define a narrow range of natural growth requirements applicable to a particular species; eg. light, temperature, moisture, etc. Such a list, however, becomes rather long and cumbersome. More importantly, such a rigid view of environmental requirements fails to take into consideration the natural genetic variability inherent within a species.

I have subsequently shifted my point of view to one which I hope is more realistic. I now see every spot or place within the environment as different to the next in some regard or to some degree. This is a reversal of my original position, one where I looked for commonality. Seeds deposited within an environment vary genetically and have differing potential tolerances to various environmental factors.

When one encounters a plant growing in a particular spot, this only came about because the genetically-correct seed fell at the correct time on the correct spot – this is what I call the 'Sacred Relationship'. If a seed with different genetics had fallen on that particular spot at that particular time, it may not have grown to adulthood. If the seed which had given rise to our original plant had fallen somewhere else, even a few centimetres away from where it fell, it may not have been able to grow into a mature plant. As I see it, the chances of the 'sacred relationship' ever being established are statistically fairly low, hence the need of plants to produce a much larger crop of seed than is

required for simple replacement. When we see a plant growing in nature, it is the closest thing to a miracle that most of us are ever likely to encounter. Here is something so wonderful and special that nobody has the right to disturb or disrupt it. Anyone whose religious experience includes reverence to Mother Earth could only see that collecting any plant out of a safe natural environment amounts to sacrilege.

Taking this further, one can appreciate that the variability in space offered by the environment is crucial for the maintenance of genetic diversity within a plant species. It is ultimately the amount and quality of variation that is maintained that will allow for the sure continuation of any species. So removal of one plant from one particular location, even if there are many other plants of the same species to be seen, can in effect remove that one particular specimen that is crucial to the future history of the species: how can anyone know for sure that this is not the case? The only ethical and logical way to bring a new line of plants into cultivation, with the smallest threat to the species, is via the collection of the seed, and not all of them, from the desired naturally-occurring plants.

An advantage to this approach is that one automatically begins with the selection of seedlings that have some sort of a 'sacred relationship' with one's growing area, rather than beginning with a plant that had developed to grow somewhere else – the place from which it was stolen.

Greig Russell grussell@absamail.co.za Kommetjie, Western Cape, Republic of South Africa

Peacehaven Botanic Park plan for a living collection of clivias

Peacehaven Botanic Park is a collection of native flora endemic to South East Queensland and is still in development.

Davidson's is a collection of cool climate plants mostly exotic. We are currently in the process of raising funds to construct a lockable greenhouse at Davidson's Arboretum so we can display a living collection of exotic clivias. Plans of the greenhouse will be accessible in the future.

For more information please contact Robert Campbell on 0419 658 388 or email robert.campbell@toowoombaRC.qld.gov.au &

READER'S OPINIONS

There is definitely no Kaffir Lily on my stoep

n the United States, China and some other parts of the world, the term 'Kaffir Lily' is often offered as the common name of plants of the genus Clivia. Lately there has been a movement amongst Clivia enthusiasts in this country as well as elsewhere to attempt to 'educate' those who use the term against its use – the only reason given being that the term 'kaffir' is offensive to South Africans of African origin.

The word 'kaffir' has quite inoffensive roots. Arabs who had been trading up and down the east coast of Africa from about the 8th century CE had had much influence of the peoples of this region to the extent that Islam had been adopted by many in the coastal areas of Kenya

and Tanganyika, and on the island of Zanzibar. Further south Arab influence was diluted through distance, although Mozambique is said to owe its name to Sheik Musa bin Mbiki, the Muslim Sultan of Sofala. South of this, the people were largely non-Muslim and thus 'non-believers'. The Arabic word for such 'non-believers' would transliterate as 'kafir', so when the Portuguese were in need of a specific word to describe the peoples populating the coastal areas of what is now eastern South Africa, the word 'Kafir' or 'Kaffir' was adopted.

To my mind there is a sort of arbitrariness about the almost pathological rejection of the word 'Kaffir', and yet whole-hearted acceptance of



Schyzostylis coccinea

the word 'Black' to describe South Africans of African origin. To my mind there are also far worse words available. Take 'Azanian', for example. To me, the word itself is beautiful and sonorous, and beats the name 'South Africa' for our country hands down, the latter sounding to me more like a curse than a country. However 'Azania' is derived from the Latinised version of the Dravidian name 'Azabar' which appears to mean 'Land of Slaves' or 'Land of Disease'; 'Azanian' is thus not a word which I would ever dignify by self-application.

I feel that by marking a word as derogatory, people are giving their detractors another weapon to use against them and are thereby moving to a position of weakness. This was something recognised by homosexuals in America in the 1980's and in consequence, a decision was made to actively embrace any derogatory word used against them – thus the advent of 'queer' and 'dyke' for use in everyday parlance; and hence eg. the 'Mother City Queer Project'. This sort of movement does require a certain level of sophistication, and we are not vet at that point in South Africa.

So, in any and all cases the word 'Kaffir' can never, ever be applied to any person in South Africa – that must be seen as an inviolable rule. To say that the word itself may never be used is a different matter. It is a valid word adopted into English, and as such offers itself for use. One good example would be to say that that the War of the Axe of 1847-1848, also known as the 7th Anglo-Xhosa War, was known as the

7th Kaffir (or Kafir) War during the 19th century. The Arabic equivalent of 'kafir' appears in a number of places in the Holy Quran.

Finally getting back to our original topic, I must say that I like the term 'Kaffir Lily': it has an old-fashioned charm and innocence about it. However I think that is it being misapplied.

At no time during the 19th century was 'Kaffir Lily' ever applied to a clivia, but rather it was used as the common name of the South African irid, Schizostylis coccinea [Photo source http://farm4.static.flickr.com/3172/2860155023_714f17bd1a.jpg?v=0. Ed.]

The first application to Clivia that I can trace dates to its use in Harmsworth's Household Encyclopedia, an English publication from 1920. Then there was a long hiatus, followed by a small flurry of its use in the 1950's. Thereafter its use was patchy up to the advent of the 21st century, when suddenly the use of 'Kaffir Lily' for clivias became commonplace. And I think that this use is completely incorrect, the epithet being now applied to the wrong plant entirely. So I recommend that members continue to lobby for the discontinuation of the use of 'Kaffir Lily' for Clivia species and hybrids - but do not offer an incorrect reason for this

And, for goodness sake, stop being so precious about this all! &

Greig Russell,

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HABITAT CLIVIA

Songimvelo - A cross-over habitat for C. miniata & C. caulescens

Songimvelo falls within the so-called Barberton Mountain land, with the typical 'greenstone' rocks dating back to the dawn of time – 3 600 million year-old fossil evidence of primitive algal life forms suggest that these mountains are among the most ancient landforms on Earth.

Songimvelo Game Reserve, extending over an area of 49 000 hectares, is the largest provincial game reserve in South Africa and one of its best kept secrets. Songimvelo is located inside a quarter degree grid with the highest known plant diversity for the Mpumalanga Province. The list of more than 1400 known species of



plants recorded for the reserve includes several recently discovered species new to science as well as of the last wild population of the Woolly Cycad (*E. lanatus*).

The cool highlands are regularly invaded by banks of mist and prone to crisp breezes making it an ideal Clivia habitat. In fact the two species, *C. miniata* and *C. caulescens* are both found



PHOTO SOURCE http://www.plantzafrica.com/plantefg/plimagesefg/encephlanat.jpg



Stand of Clivia miniata in habitat, Sonaimvelo



Stand of Clivia caulescens in habitat, Songimvelo.

here [see above].

PHOTOS: ROGER DIXON

The broad Komati River winds through the valley floor before flowing out of the reserve and into Swaziland on its way to the sea. The diverse landscapes of grasslands, mountains and forested ravines are home to a variety of game. More than twenty species of large herbivores have been introduced to the reserve since it was established in 1986.

The area has been inhabited for hundreds of years and archaeological sites comprised of circular random ashlar walls and ruins of small houses and structures, perhaps some dating back to as far as 400 BCE. &

http://www.mpumalanga.com/parks/songimvelo.asp

http://www.barbertonmanor.com/ mountainland.html

STORIES BEHIND THE COVERS

oger Dixon photographed Clivia populations in Songimvelo in 2006. It is one of the crossover habitats of *Clivia miniata* and *Clivia caulescens*, the other being the Bearded Man Mountain which is proximate to the area. He notes that, as is the case at Bearded Man, while both species are to be found they form distinct populations and are not mixed. The naturally occurring hybrid *Clivia x nimbicola* has not yet been recorded here. The *C. miniata* are generally of the larger flower forms with a distinctly star-shaped eye.



PHOTO: ROGER DIXON



Flower of a C. miniata (above and below) and C. caulescens (left) form in the Songimvelo complex.



CLIVIA PERSONALITIES

Christo Lotter - My second meeting

he Annual Show of the Garden Route Clivia Club in 2008, was the 6th event of it's kind and our aim is truly, to stage this as our absolute Showcase.

We've had the pleasure of many Clivia personages and personalities attending this special occasion and last year was no exception, with several such people being seen and introduced to our members and officials as they moved around and enjoyed the beautiful presentation of plants.



PHOTO: PIET THERON

C. miniata var citrina 'SS Lotter'. Best in Yellow Class, Garden Route Clivia
Club Show 2008.



PHOTO: ROGER FISHER

Christo Lotter discussing with Piet Theron the Lotter hybrid Yellow, winner in section, Garden Route Clivia Club Show 2008.

What a pleasant surprise to notice amongst them Christo Lotter, accompanied by his wife and son, Riel Lotter, who is a well known breeder in his own right.

Watching Christo as he meticulously observed every plant – analyzing, studying, perhaps even thinking about its breeding potential, maybe visualizing the end product in 5-6 years time (who knows?) – but for us was surely a joy and indeed, it was a highlight of the day!

In the Large Yellow to Cream section, I was fortunate to be awarded the First Prize

This particular plant was given to me in 2002 by lan Vermaak, as a sucker of SS Lotter and was pollinated with a Bill Morris Yellow.

The name 'SS* Lotter' originated with lan and has remained the same through the years.

'SS Lotter' was a Fred Gibello Yellow which lan had bought in 1996 which he again pollinated with a Lotter Yellow, hence the name, SS Lotter. To behold the joy and the pride on his face will remain a memory forever as he was shown the plant and gave me all the detail of the background of my First Prize Winner!

Certainly, a very, very special moment to me, which I shall treasure and nurture for many years to come and has surely furthered my motivation to improve my breeding efforts.

Piet Theron

Chair - GRCC * "Specially Selected" [?]

A NOTE ON GIBELLO YELLOW

At the first show of the Clivia Club held in 1994 in Pretoria, Mr Fred Gibello exhibited a magnificent yellow flowering Clivia. In literature and in personal conversations among members there was quite often referred to this plant as Gibello Yellow. Suckers of the plant were exchanged with several breeders, amongst others Dr Bing Wiese and Mr Ammie Grobler of Pretoria. As interest in clivias grew and members' knowledge increased, it was noted that there was a striking similarity between the so called Giddy Yellow and Gibello Yellow in terms of appearance and breeding characteristics. This should not come as a surprise since Fred Gibello obtained his original mother plant from – Guess who? – Mrs Lettie Höll of Swellendam! A colour picture of the Natal Yellow appears on page 10 of *Yearbook* number 2. (Vlok, Chris. 2001. 'Comment'. *Clivia Club Newsletter* Vol 10 No 1, pp. 12-13.)

CLUBS & INTEREST GROUPS

Lowveld Clivia Club

The Lowveld Clivia Interest Group made application to the 2009 AGM of the Clivia Society to become a constituent Club of the Clivia Society with the associated voting rights.

Peter Lambert, chairman of NCC, put forward the application. The meeting approved the application (proposed by Willie le Roux and seconded by Sakkie Nel). The Lowveld Clivia Club therefore becomes the tenth constituent Clivia Club of the Clivia Society.

KZNCC - Highway Clivia Interest Group

o enable the Kloof, Hillcrest, Westville, Waterfall members of the KZNCC to meet at a venue within a reasonable driving distance of their homes, Mike Callaghan undertook to host a get-together at his home at

Alverstone on Saturday 16 May 2009 at 9.00am. He subsequently contacted members whom he thought would be interested in attending and to also bring along any other friends interested to hear about clivia plants.

Mike, had meanwhile, arranged with Nico van der Westhuis, the Regional Manager of Efekto, to give a talk on his products which would assist clivia growers in dealing with insects and diseases that attacked this particular plant. Mike opened the meeting by welcoming the 22 people in attendance. He explained that there was a need to have a venue within easy traveling distance to enable both members and any other people interested in clivia, living in the Highway area and surrounds to "get together" on a more regular basis to discuss matters pertaining to clivia.

He said that the re-formed cell group would in future be known as the Highway Clivia Interest Group and regular meetings would be held and invited all existing KZNCC members and other Clivia enthusiasts.

Mike said that we needed to advertise the existence of The Highway Clivia Interest Group to encourage more people to participate and become enthusiastic and aware of the Genus Clivia which is indigenous to the area and other parts of our country. It was decided to circulate a flier to the various garden clubs, nurseries and schools in the area, the cost of which was in the region of R300-00 for a 1000 copies. Mike requested permission to 'hand the hat around' for donations – the required amount was immediately raised. Thanks to all who made a donation!

Mike then introduced Nico, of Efekto, who discussed a variety of Efekto products that would be of benefit to clivia enthusiasts. After being contacted by Mike, Nico did some research and then prepared and printed "Clivia-

Protection Guide" hand-outs on clivia diseases and how they could be controlled (copies can be obtained from Mike – 0836510937). Nico brought along his laptop with pictures of some of the "bugs" that feast on and also destroy our beautiful plants. He was exceptionally professional and informative, and, with equal ability handled various questions put to him. The members really appreciated his talk and also enjoyed chatting with him about the problems they were experiencing with their plants. Nico donated a gift parcel of Efekto – the lucky winner of the draw was Elsabe Anderson

After the tea- break, Andrew van der Hoven gave a brief talk on how he was experimenting with the growing of Clivia in water treated with various blends of carbon based liquid fertilizers. He brought plants to show members the growth and condition of seedlings that have been standing in water for about 18 months.

Thanks must go to Ken Rosling for the plants he generously handed out to various people.

Special thanks to Mike for his determination, and success, in getting so many members to attend.

Before closing the meeting, Mike conducted a tour of his lovely garden and plant-filled shade houses. Elsabe Anderson, a local guest, reported that her husband Andy was really impressed by what he heard and saw at Mike's meeting – the Clivia bug has bitten him, and he has now become a Clivia supporter to her.

The next meeting is scheduled for 18th July at the home of Jack Wortman.

Val Thurston

CLIVIA SOCIETY ACTIVITIES IN AUSTRALIA 2008

The membership in Australia remains just over the 200 mark.

Attendance at the Kiwi2008 Conference in September was well covered by a large Aussie contingent, mostly from the members of the Toowoomba Clivia Society. What a fantastic time we all had in New Zealand! The flowers we

saw were first class, the tour was exceptional, and the friendship shown by the NZ hosts made the time a very pleasant experience for all. The range of visits and activities had something for everyone. People are still talking about the trip.

The formation of the Melbourne Clivia Group has been a wonderful opportunity for members

in Victoria to get together and discuss all things Clivia. Meetings are now held regularly and the Group has a website for members. The membership of the Toowoomba Clivia Society, Inc., continues to increase the awareness of Clivia via their show during the Carnival of Flowers in Toowoomba, as well as their newsletters, which now includes members in other states. The Perth Clivia Show put on by "Clivia Classiques" in September continues to highlight our favourite plant on the western side of the continent. The Sydney Group appears to have slowed in their formation. Time will tell whether there is sufficient interest in local Sydney members to organise meetings.

The sales of seed from overseas Clivia Clubs still holds the attention of members as everyone seeks that elusive "special plant" and the bulk order for Chinese Clivia seeds still attracts orders from over 50 members. The talks to local garden groups that I give, as well as those talks given by other members, is helping to focus the development that is occurring worldwide with Clivia breeding. New plants are showing up in collections each spring, much to the delight of the owners. Clivia continue to amaze us and intrigue us. Each new season brings forth unexpected treasures. &

Kenneth R Smith
Contact Person for the Australian members

FPCC

Promoting the cultivation of Clivia

aniel J Van Vuuren, Customer Relationships Manager of Neutrog S.A. and a member of the Cape Clivia Club, when invited by the Algoa Floral and Garden Club Port Elizabeth to give a talk on fertilizers, thought

it wise to combine it with a talk on cultivating Clivia by myself. The meeting was attended by 73 ladies who very eagerly absorbed all that Daniel explained and demonstrated in the slide show of the various fertilizers manufactured.



The attentive members of the Algoa Floral Club.

by Neutrog and for what purposes each may be used. This was followed by a slide show of Clivia flowers and a talk on cultivating Clivia from seed to flowers. It was a real pleasure to experience the interest shown in the use of fertilizers as well as growing Clivia. Those attending were pleasantly surprised by a lucky draw of yellow Clivia and numerous gift parcels of fertilizers

The meeting was held in the St Johns Church Hall and the residents of their retirement village was very appreciative when a few days later I delivered 5 bags of adult orange and yellow Clivia plants for their gardens. A big thank you to Anna and Botha Zwiegelaar who donated all the plants.

In our striving to preserve the Clvia plant for future generations we have, during the past number of years, distributed over 5 000 Clivia plants to retirement villages, churches, schools, hospitals and hospice complexes in Port Elizabeth, the latest being 4 bags of adult plants to the Park Drive Retirement Village Port Elizabeth, all donated by Wimpie Maass.

Thank you, Wimpie. To the E.P. Clivia Club members a great thank you for supporting a very good cause.

Willie Le Roux

FPCC

Tel: 041 360 3480

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Affiliation of the Chinese Clivia Society

It was resolved at the 2009 AGM that in China individual persons may join the Clivia Society. If enough individuals joined they may be represented through and elected representative at the Clivia Society.

GROWERS' & BREEDERS' NOTES

POST-APOCALYPTIC CLIVIA

nce upon a time in the era of the Cold War the fear was of overkill, since humanity has the weapon capacity to nuke itself into extinction. In the era of political thaw there is now a more insidious threat, that of Slow Fry as we eek up the temperature dial of the planet. With global warming has come the idea of vast seed banks to tide us back to normality, should some of us survive the apocalypse.

Clivia produce recalcitrant seeds, also known as non-orthodox seeds, which are seeds that survive neither drying nor freezing temperatures since they can neither resist the effects of metabolic damage caused by desiccation nor the cell damage caused by temperatures of below freezing. Thus they cannot be stored for long periods since they lose viability. With the advent of seed banking there is a need to circumvent the nature of recalcitrant seeds.

Prof Patricia Berjak of the School of Biological and Conservation Sciences (SBSC) at the University of KwaZulu-Natal with her team, since 1982, has been studying the problems posed by storing such seeds.

"Not only are many of the plants used for traditional medicine harvested in the wild, but their recalcitrant seeds are short-lived and hard to store", she says, noting the dependence by 70% of South Africans on such traditional medicinal plants while having lost the associated knowledge of sustainable harvesting of material, thereby putting many of these species on the rare, endangered or extinct red data list. Species of the genus Clivia are not yet considered endangered but the great genetic variability is a trait of the genus and many endemic populations are lost to deforestation, urbanization, agriculture and over-harvesting,

either by the muthi trade or unscrupulous collectors

Berjak and her team are endeavouring to create, through artificial means, ways of storing the seed germs of such plants. It requires sophisticated technologies and techniques, as well as technically well equipped laboratories and skilled staff

The viable embryo is excised from the seed and flash-dried through a device developed by the team, so desiccating the plant material without the usual associated cell damage.

Thereafter the embryo is subjected to cryostorage, the material being taken rapidly to temperatures below that of freezing at which ice-crystals would normally form and cause damage. Once frozen, the embryos are stored in liquid nitrogen vessels, where they theoretically should remain viable for a long period of time.

The next tricky bit is to revive and propagate the frozen embryos. They must be rapidly thawed to between 37-40°C.

Advice that assisted in this came from a colleague, Prof David Mycock, at the University of the Witwatersrand who recommended a solution of calcium and magnesium be used for thawing and re-hydrating. The re-hydrated embryos are then placed in a germination medium and once germinated, transferred to sterile soil

At present experimentation is with the development of a synthetic seed, whereby the embryo is delivered to a nutrient rich gel bead which can be planted directly in the soil.

As yet they have not experimented with Clivia. Note: Prof Patricia Berjak is an A-rated researcher. She was instated as the President of the International Society of Seed Science in July, 2008. She is recipient of the Order of Mapungubwe in Silver for her contribution to

[Source: Joubert, Robyn. 2009. Cracking the code of recalcitrant seeds. In Farmer's Weekly, 29 May: pp. 20-21.]

the understanding of seed science. &

WHAT A PLEASANT (GIANT) SURPRISE!



hen it comes to multipetals many of us haven't had such wonderful experiences with plants bought as 100% multipetals. Well, when Kotie v/d Wat, one of our members, bought a young multipetal bred by Johan Mostert – a well known grower in Port Elizabeth – he never for a moment thought that this could be the real Mac Coy. When it flowered for the first time with not one but two gigantic umbels covered with 100% multipetal flowers Kotie could not believe his eyes. He was as proud as a father who witnessed the birth of his first-born child and even transported the plant around to his friends as proof that he



He later properly pollinated all flowers with itself and waited patiently on the fruits to develop. When checking on the fruits sometime later he realized that something extra-ordinary was happening.

was not exaggerating.







One of the fruits developed much faster and much larger than the rest. Come harvesting time Kotie was in for yet another surprise. This giant fruit produced 26 monster seeds.

Needless to say everybody wanted some babies of this magnificent multipetal.

Congratulations Kotie! & Willie I e Roux

FPCC

E-mail: girly@telkomsa.net

ADVERTISEMENTS

Tariffs for advertising in the Clivia Society Newsletter:

 Smalls (1 to 6 lines):
 R25.00
 Full Page:
 R250.00

 Smalls (7 to 10 lines):
 R30.00
 A5 separate page insert:
 R600.00

 Quarter page:
 R70.00
 A4 separate page insert:
 R800.00

 Half page:
 R125.00

(You will be sent an account from the treasurer for the appropriate amount.)

PRIVATE ADVERTISEMENTS

- Thurlow Flora: We have on offer a large variety of carefully bred seedlings and mature plants for sale. We specialise in pastel colours, oddities, species and original wild collected and named clones of clivia. Mail order and visitors welcome. For our latest plant list please contact Sean and Terri Chubb. Tel: 031 781 1978 e-mail: terric@iafrica. com. We also have available a few hundred different named daylily clones.
- *Clivia miniata* seed R200 per kg plants from R2 each. Roly's Special Pastels seed R500 per kg plant price on application. Roly Strachan, Box 57, Highflats, 3360 or Tel. 039-8350085 evenings only.
- Clivian Plant Sale Nylstroom/Modimolle: Due to space constraints there are 500 Clivia plants to clear for R15 000 (Price is negotiable). The plants can be viewed by appointment. Ans Jacobs: Tel 014 717 3674 or 082 372 0765.

CLIVI-ARTA

Helen Sanders



CLIVIA SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

Overseas members can order back volumes of the Yearbooks and volumes of Newsletters (since 1992) via the Society. South African members should approach their local branches. We must point out that it is difficult to quote a fixed price without knowing the method of payment and delivery. We suggest you contact Sakkie Nel (the caretaker treasurer) via e-mail or by fax and list the items

you are interested in as well as the name of the country in which you reside. Sakkie would then be in a position to suggest the most economical option. Australian, UK, New Zealand and USA members are reminded that they can order via Ken Smith, Jaco Nel. Alick McCleman and William McClelland respectively - see inside back cover for contact details. Also note that further discounts can be negotiated with Sakkie for orders exceeding 10 of a specific item. The items listed in the table are available &

Item	Approximate price (US \$)*	
Clivia2006 Conference Proceedings	Please contact treasurer	
on double DVD	for pricing	
Yearbook 9	15	
Yearbook 8	15	
Yearbook 7	15	
Yearbook 6	15	
Yearbook 5	out of stock	
Yearbook 4	10	
Yearbook 3	10	
Yearbook 2	10	
Yearbook 1	out of stock	
Cultivation of Clivias	15	
Newsletters after 2002 per number	1,5	
Volumes 1(1992) to 11 (2002)	10 per volume	
of quarterly newsletters	·	
Set of volumes 1 to 10 of	available on request	
quarterly newsletters	·	
*Including postage and hanking charges if paid by credit card		

*Including postage and banking charges if paid by credit card.

Contact Sakkie Nel for quotation re payments made by cheque.

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■ Eastern Province Clivia Johan Basson (Chairman), Tel: 082 891 1545; Fax: 041 379 2044

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♠ Free State Clivia Club Piet Laubcher (Chairperson). 41 Altona Crescent, Fichardt Park, Bloemfontein,

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■ Joburg Clivia Club Glynn Middlewick (Chairperson). 2 Willow Road, Northcliff, 2195.

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& KwaZulu-Natal Clivia Miranda Train (Secretary). Cell: 083 254 0796; Tel: 033 387 6309;

Club

Interest Group

Club

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■ Border Interest Group Glenn Miles(Chairperson). PO Box 3164. Cambridge, East London 5206

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