

ISSN 1819-1460

CLIVIA NEWS

Newsletter
of the Clivia Society

VOLUME 24 - NUMBER 1 | JANUARY - JUNE 2015



CLIVIA NEWS



NPO no. 139-860

SARS PBO Tax Exemption no. 930036393

The Clivia Society www.cliviasociety.org

The Clivia Society caters for Clivia enthusiasts throughout the world. It is the umbrella body for a number of constituent Clivia Clubs and Interest Groups which meet regularly in South Africa and elsewhere around the world. In addition, the Society has individual members in many countries, some of which also have their own Clivia Clubs. An annual yearbook and three newsletters are published by the Society. For information on becoming a member and / or for details of Clivia Clubs and Interest Groups contact the Clivia Society secretary or where appropriate, the International Contacts, at the addresses listed on the inside of the back cover.

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 advancing 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.

More information on the Clivia Society available on
www.cliviasociety.org

Table of Contents

▼ CLIVIA NEWS	Inner Front Cover
▼ Editorial - <i>Joubert van Wyk</i>	2
▼ CLIVIA PERSONALITIES	
Christo Lötter - <i>Sakkie Nel</i>	3
Hannes Robbertse - <i>Sakkie Nel</i>	7
Wessel Pretorius – RIP - <i>James Abel</i>	9
▼ CLIVIA SOCIETY	
From the Chair - <i>Glynn Middlewick</i>	10
Clivia club shows, displays, auctions & markets for 2015 - <i>Sakkie Nel</i>	12
Clivia photographic competition for Yearbook 17 - <i>Gordon Fraser</i>	14
▼ CLIVIA BREEDING	
A star is born - <i>Carrie Kruger</i>	15
An inspiration for small growers - <i>Daan Dekker</i>	19
Hidden treasure in the Karoo - <i>Dawid Botha</i>	22
▼ REGULARS	
Just for the record – number 2. 'Bertie's Bronze' & 'Bronze Green Boy' - <i>Sakkie Nel</i>	26
Just for the record – number 3. A photo of 13 years ago - <i>Sakkie Nel</i>	28
▼ RELATED	
Tips and tricks for showing perfect <i>Clivia</i> - <i>Felicity Weeden</i>	29
Clivias, good, odd and ugly? - <i>James Abel</i>	31
Improve/Increase the length of a “struggling” peduncle - <i>Gideon Botha</i>	32
▼ Clivi-Arta - <i>Helen Sanders</i>	34
▼ Australian Clivia Committees	35
▼ Contact details for Clivia Clubs and Interest Groups	36
▼ The Clivia Society	Inner Back Cover

ADVERTISEMENTS

Please contact Sakkie Nel: corgas@vodamail.co.za to obtain prices for advertisements in future issues of Clivia News.

The Clivia Society Newsletter started as a black and 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 the late Nick Primich with issues respectively 3, 5, 8 & 5 during the first 4 years dated with the month of publication.

The frequency was fixed on four annually issues 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 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 monthly dating was reinstated.

CLIVIA NEWS is the continuation of this series.



EDITORIAL

It is with great sadness that we heard of the passing of Hannes van Rooyen. Hannes is a former Chairman of the Northern Free State Clivia Club and will be greatly missed. Our sincere condolences go to his wife Marietjie and the rest of his family.



Hannes
van Rooyen

In just under two months *C. miniata* in the southern hemisphere should start to flower. I have individual plants that are “confused” and are flowering at the moment. Anecdotally I get the sense that more than the usual *C. miniata* are flowering “out of season” in the Johannesburg / Pretoria area. Is this global warming or nature’s natural cycles, I wonder? The oddity of *C. miniata* flowering made me think of an interesting article by Anders Sandberg, a James Martin Research Fellow at University of Oxford, on the five biggest threats to human existence: Nuclear war, bioengineered pandemics, superintelligence, nanotechnology, and unknown unknowns. The two most interesting bits for me were that the risks relating to the damage we as mankind are inflicting on nature does not seem to feature on this particular list, as well as the inclusion of the superintelligence item. According to Sandberg, “Intelligence is very powerful. A tiny increment in problem-solving ability and group coordination is why we left the other apes in the dust... Being smart is a real advantage for people and organisations, so there is much effort in figuring out ways of improving our individual and collective intelligence: from cognition-enhancing drugs to artificial-intelligence software”. Stephen Hawking is of the view that computers will overtake humans with artificial intelligence at some point within the next 100 years. And Johann Rupert recently stated that he is kept awake at night by thoughts of the tension between the rich and the poor which, according to him, is set to escalate, as robots and artificial intelligence fuel mass unemployment. Will mankind find ways to ensure that we don’t fall back into cycles of class revolution or that we potentially end in extinction? Until then let’s enjoy our *Clivia*.

A future regular feature is being initiated in this edition of the *Clivia News*. In “Clivia people”, Sakkie Nel will write about various significant Clivia personalities. In this edition Christo Lötter and Hannes Robbertse are featured.

In addition, James Abel is inviting contributors to a regular feature he will manage: “Odd & Ugly” – looking forward to seeing lots of “strange” *Clivia*.

A photographic competition will be run for Yearbook 17 and Gordon Fraser will be assisting. Further information will be provided in the next two editions of the *Clivia News*. Get those cameras clicking!

Please keep those contributions coming, for without your articles we will have no ideas and little news to share.

Joubert van Wyk: Editor – Clivia News

P.S. Cut-off date for submissions for the next Clivia News: 15 September 2015

Erratum: In Lionel Bester’s article in Clivia News Volume 23 Number 3 he indicated that an import permit was required to import Clivia seed into South Africa. In December 2014 the Department of Agriculture in Pretoria advised him that such a permit is not required.

Cover Photo: Christo Lötter’s ‘Michelle’

▼ **EDITOR OF NEWSLETTER & YEARBOOK** JOUBERT VAN WYK: PO Box 1820, Houghton, 2041, Republic of South Africa ▼ Tel: +27 83 307 7707 ▼ E-mail: myclivia@iafrica.com

▼ **DESIGN & LAYOUT** FRÉDA VAN WYK ▼

▼ **COVER: MASTHEAD DESIGN** TERSIA VAN RENSEN

▼ **PRINTING** Seriti Printing, Unit 6, 49 Eland Street, Koedoespoort, Pretoria .Tel:+27 12 333 9757

CLIVIA PERSONALITIES

Christo Lötter*By Sakkie Nel*

Christo Lötter was born on January 1, 1929 in Bedford, Eastern Cape where his father was a minister of the Dutch Reform Church. He completed his primary school education at Bedford and High School at George after his father was called there by the congregation.

At the age of 16 he enrolled for a BSc degree in Botany and Zoology at the University of Stellenbosch. While studying for his H.E.D., he was authorized by the Department of Education to teach at a school in Aurora, Western Cape. Here he met his wife Suzette whom he married at the end of that year. He started teaching the following year at Goodwood-Epping, as it was known then. Teaching children led them to Victoria-West where their son Riël was born. In 1957 the family moved to Somerset-East where Christo start to teach at Gill College. Their daughter Marlene was born here. Christo and his brother-in-law, Willie Mostert, bought a farm near the "Hemel-en Aarde" environment. Teaching his pupils and farming with Protea flowers, sheep and being a crop farmer fitted him like a glove! A black widow-spider bit Christo and while receiving treatment he developed penicillin shock, which affected his health badly, so much so that they sold the farm and moved to the town of Hermanus.

In 1965 the Hudd's of Kidbrooke Nurseries in Onrusrivier invited Christo to help them at the nursery. This is where Christo grabbed the chance with both hands to start one of the biggest collections of Disa in South Africa. He and the late Dr Louis Vogelpoel were very good friends and during weekends, as well as the December holidays, they turned every stone in the mountains, searching for new colour varieties of Disa. People like Pat Noon, Professor Orchard, Helmut Meyer and Jeanette van Niekerk were very regular visitors to admire all new additions!



Christo Lötter

In 1970 Christo was appointed Principal of the school in Brandvlei in the Kaingveld of the Northern Cape. And in 1972 he moved as Principal to the school in Graafwater in the Sandveld where he taught until he retired in 1989, when he moved to Hermanus, where he dedicated all his time to his beloved *Clivia*.

Oom Christo's very first contact and viewing of *Clivia* plants and flowers was in 1973. While visiting a farm near Graafwater in the Sandveld, he saw these fantastic plants and flowers in pots on the "stoep" of the farmhouse! His amazement was rewarded with a couple of plants which he immediately cross-pollinated. In 1986 Jim Holmes gave him a yellow plant, which was very rare then, to propagate. They struck a deal at the time that Jim would always receive 50% of each year's harvest of seeds! This was the modest beginning of Oom Christo's C1 Series. He selfed the plant to obtain F1 seedlings and while yellows were so very scarce the demand was huge.

The late Wessel Lötter, his younger brother, obtained pollen from Mrs. Cynthia Giddy which he shared with Christo. More pollen from yellow plants from Jim Holmes enabled Oom Christo to cross pollinate some orange *C. miniata* plants. Christo and Wessel then started to exchange pollen by mail. Much care was taken to prevent the pollen drying out or becoming musty. Christo used the same method to store *Clivia* pollen as he had stored Disa pollen years ago. In 1990 Wessel sent him two plants that he called C2 and C3. The C2 plant was well known for its full round umbel! Christo's son, Riël, in 1987 befriended Brian



C2 Round umbel



'Lötter's Peach' A



C2 x 'Kirstenbosh Supreme'



'Michelle' = (C10_15 x C10_16)



CO



Michelle 2' = (C10_15 x C10_16)

Upsdell, a teacher of Oudtshoorn. Brian's collection of extraordinary lovely dark orange *Clivia* attracted Riël's attention, but even selling just one plant was not a possibility as far as Brian was concerned. When Brian struggled to obtain Koi fish for his new fish pond, Riel's luck

changed, as Brian was prepared to exchange just one *Clivia* for a couple of big and colorful Koi fish!



'Minè' x 'Tienie's Treasure'

When Christo saw the flower of the plant Riël had obtained, he immediately begged for pollen from Brian's darkest orange and pollinated 50% of the flowers on Riël's plant with such. The rest of the flowers he selfed. Riël realized that his father has set his heart on this beauty, so he gave him the plant as a gift. Christo used this plant as a berry parent, as well as a pollen parent to start his C10 series. Christo later was convinced that the plant had a virus infection, so he harvested the ripe fruits and destroyed the plant.

From this group of seedlings C10/4 proved to be the queen with her beautiful big open flowers! Christo extensively used this plant in his cultivation programme going forward. Jim Holmes gave him pollen of 'Twins' which



Peach B



C1.CR x 'Vico Yellow'



C2 x 'Kirstenbosch Supreme 2'



C10 4T



Peach B



'Lötters Peach' x 'Self'



'Minè' x 'Bronze Green Boy'



'Minè'



'Q4' x 'Q2'

was imported from Belgium and he used that pollen on C10/4. The first seedling (C10/4 T) flowered after 36 months and the quality of the flower was even better than the flower of C10/4. From this group of C10 seedlings two flowered two years later, namely C10/15 and C10/16. Christo cross-pollinated these two plants and a couple of years later was well rewarded when 'Michelle' showed her pretty face for the first time. Come October, 2000 and Christo could not believe his own eyes when his well-known 'Lötter's Peach' flowered for the first time! The *Clivia* fraternity of the Southern Cape was astir about this plant and its wonderful flowers! Later in the same month a peach plant

flowered for the late Mick Dower. Upon closer inspection they realized that the plant was a gift from Christo to Mick. Christo remembered that he also gave his minister at Hermanus a plant of this group. He quickly paid a visit to the vestry to find the plant in flower with the same quality peach flowers as the previous two plants. The minister was quite happy to exchange the peach plant back with Oom Christo for six yellow plants. So now Oom Christo owned two 'Lötter's Peach' to breed with. One year later a magnificent green-throat orange plant flowered which Oom

Christo named 'Minè' to commemorate his granddaughter who had died at seven years of age.

Disaster struck the Lötter family on 9 April 2014 when Oom Christo had a major fall, which left him with a serious head injury and bleeding on his brain. After this incident his health deteriorated quite rapidly. They sold the house in Hermanus and moved to a retirement village in Worcester to be nearer to their daughter, Marlene. Suzette gave most of Oom Christo's plants to friends and acquaintances in Hermanus. ▼

Hannes Robbertse

By Sakkie Nel

Hannes Robbertse was born on a farm near Rustenburg in the Western Province on 9 October 1932. His father was a farmer and his mother a keen gardener growing her own vegetables and flowers. He attended school at the Paul Kruger "Plaasskool" up to standard 8 (now grade 10) where, from a young age he had hands-on training in growing plants and caring for animals. In standard 8 he was head boy of the school but matriculated at the Rustenburg High School. He obtained a BSc degree majoring in Botany and Zoology, and also an MSc and a DSc in Botany at the University of Pretoria. He started his career in the Horticultural Section of the Department of Agricultural Technical Services in 1956 and became Lecturer in Botany at his Alma mater in 1964. After teaching at the Universities of Fort Hare (1968 – 1970) and Port Elizabeth (1970 – 1971), he returned to the University of Pretoria in 1972 as Professor in Botany. At the University of Pretoria he was involved in the planning and construction of the Manie van der Schijff Botanical Garden, as well as the Sasolburg Botanical Garden.

Hannes was supervisor and/or co-supervisor of 16 PhD students and 42 MSc students, author or co-author of 117 scientific papers in subsidized journals, 60 scientific papers in other

scientific periodicals and 60 popular scientific papers under which were a number of papers on *Clivia* in *Clivia* Newsletters and *Clivia* Yearbooks.



Hannes Robbertse

Hannes's first contribution to a Newsletter appeared in Volume 8.1 about *Velamen* in *Clivia* roots. He made contributions to Yearbooks 3, 4, 5, 10 and 11.

He was also co-author of the following books or chapters in books:

1. *Praktiese Plantanatomie*. HP van der Schijff and PJ Robbertse (1975)
2. *Plantkunde: Anatomie en Fisiologie*. N Grobbelaar, PJ Robbertse and JV van Greuning (1978 and 1987)
3. *Cultivation of Clivias*. Lena van der Merwe, Hannes Robbertse and Bossie de Kock (2005)
4. Chapter in: *Aspects of floral development*. Edited by Peter Linskins, Shirley C. Tucker and Peter K. Endress (1987)
5. Chapter on pollination in: *Cultivation of Avocado*. Edited by EA de Villiers (2001)
6. Chapter on pollination in: *Cultivation of Mango*. Edited by EA de Villiers and PH Joubert (2008)



Yellow *Clivia* obtained from Bertie Guillaume

Hannes is also a cycad enthusiast and was president of the Cycad Society from 1994 to 1997. He is also a keen plant propagator and was president of the South African Region of the International Plant Propagators' Society (IPPS) from 1999 to 2001. In 2014 he received the international award from IPPS for his contributions to the Society.

Hannes became a member of the Northern Clivia Club in 1998 when Craig Honiball wanted to do an MSc on *Clivia*. They bought their first plants from Ammie Grobler and this is where his interest in *Clivia* started. He and Craig paid a visit to the natural habitat of *C. caulescens* at Mariepskop and they also had a permit to collect a few plants for the University.

Based on his knowledge on the pollination of avocados, mangoes and lychees, Hannes started experiments on pollination of *Clivia*, the results of which were published in the Clivia Newsletters and Yearbooks. He soon built up a sizable collection of wonderful plants, most of which he had to get rid of when he sold his house and moved to a small



One of Hannes' own hybrids

unit in a security complex where some of his broad-leaved variegated and other broad-leaved plants are grown together with his favourite hybrid between *C. miniata* and *C. gardenii* and a magnificent yellow which he had bought from Bertie Guillaume.

His other related experience includes proof reading and suggesting changes to the following books:

- "*Bome Struik en Rankplante*" by T.J. Kruger (1973)
- "*Cycads of Southern Africa*" by Cynthia Giddy (1974)
- "*Trees of the Kruger National Park*" by P. van Wyk (1974)



Clumps of Hannes' own hybrid between *Clivia miniata* and *C. gardenii*

- "Die Broodboomtuin van Unisa" by B.P. Barkhuizen (1975).

One thing about the genus *Clivia* that stands out is the inherent genetic potential of the genus. Consider the fact that we started off with the typical orange *C. miniata* and three other species and where we stand now with the wide variety of colours and shapes and all this happened within a period of less than 50 years. With all the breeding that is going on at the

moment by members of the society, one cannot imagine where we will be within the next 20 years. In South Africa growers are so keen on harvesting seeds from precious specimens of plant, that one cannot imagine the beautiful flowers becoming cut flowers for the market or even bridal bouquets.

Hannes attends monthly Clivia Club meetings very regularly and is always keen to help co-members with any *Clivia*-related problems. ▼

Wessel Pretorius – RIP

*24/04/1964 †19/03/2015

By James Abel

In 2002 when John Rourke described *C. mirabilis* as the then fifth species of our favourite genus, the *Clivia* world was electrified. In particular this was because its home is so far distant and in such a different environment from its fellow species. *C. mirabilis* was described from plant material supplied by Wessel Pretorius, officer in charge of the Oorlogskloof Nature Reserve in Northern Cape. Pretorius joined a very select and tiny group of naturalists who have provided plant material leading to the description of a new species: 1828 – *C. nobilis*, James Bowie and *C. gardenii* – Major Robert Garden (see *Clivia Yearbook* 14).

On the internet we recently came across the following report:

"The man whose name is synonymous with Oorlogskloof nature reserve outside Nieuwoudtville passed away suddenly this week. Wessel Pretorius on Thursday at about 06:00 apparently went to friends to help count wild buck, and began to complain of a chest pain."

"When he returned at about 09:00 he still said that he had a chest pain" said his friend Joey Warrington. "I took him to Colesberg to a doctor and there in the consulting rooms he had a massive heart attack and passed away."

Pretorius established the reserve, about 15 km outside Nieuwoudtville, in the late eighties and



Wessel Pretorius

since then he established two popular hiking routes of between four and seven days as well as three shorter one day routes. According to Warrington, people from around the world who met Pretorius while on their hiking tours have phoned to express their condolences. She said "The people loved him for his passion for nature and his hard work in establishing the reserve. The place will not be the same without him. In Nieuwoudtville he will always be remembered as the kind-hearted man strolling in the street with a train of dogs following him".

Googling "Wessel Pretorius Oorlogskloof" produces a number of interesting sources, including the fact that Oorlogskloof was named after a bloody skirmish in 1739 between Trek Boers and Khoisan over scarce supplies of water and food. Also, searching Ralph Pina – Hiking Oorlogskloof's Rock Pigeon Trail produced the following: "We all agreed afterwards that Oorlogskloof is probably the best hike in South Africa". ▼

CLIVIA SOCIETY

From the Chair

Glynn Middlewick

At the Annual General Meeting in May this year, the Clivia Society was privileged to award an honorary life membership to Joy Woodward of the Cape Clivia Club. Joy has had a close association with the Cape Clivia Club for the past 20 years and continues to serve as the secretary of the Club. This award is made in recognition of her exceptional contribution to the objectives of the Clivia Society.

The Society would like to thank the Joburg Clivia Club for hosting the Annual General Meeting on the 16th May in Johannesburg. The occasion provided an opportunity to meet new representatives of the various national Clubs. The Executive of the Society remains much the same except for the addition of Joy Woodward, from the Cape Clivia Club, as the executive secretary. We wish to welcome her and hope that her association with the Society is a long and beneficial one. The other members of the Executive Committee and other portfolios may be found on the inside of the back cover of the *Clivia News*.

The Society, for the first time since 2009, has had to raise the affiliation fees by more or less 10 percent. Owing to the absence of increases in the past six years, the fee will need to rise by a further by more or less 10% from 2016.

And by a further 10 percent from 2017 to cover the expenses of the Society.

The Joburg Clivia Club will host the 2018 International Conference. We hope that many of the local *Clivia* enthusiasts and some International members will be able to attend the event in Johannesburg.

The latest Yearbook, number 16, should have been received by all members by now. A big thank you to Joubert for his hard work and to all the members who contributed to the success of the publication. This success of the publication, by the mem-



Joy Woodward Honorary Life Member May 2015



Marius Meyer



Willie le Roux



Sakkie Nel



Francois van Rooyen



Felix Middleton



Piet and Jeanette Theron



André du Toit and Peter Lambert

bers for fellow members, is dependent on the contributions of articles. Pictures and articles of interest are always welcome.

This publication will be received in the middle of winter. All the dates and venues of the Spring Shows are included in this edition. Prepare your plants well in advance so that the visiting public can look forward to a spectacular display of *Clivia* flowers. The Society will notify the various national publications of the show dates, but owing to the large number of shows in the

month of September, a single enquiry number and e-mail address may be all that the magazines will be prepared to publish. The advertising of the shows in the various towns and cities is the responsibility of the individual clubs. Please ask photographers to take photos of the various class and show winners at the various shows so that they may submitted for publication in future *Clivia News* or the Yearbook.

Wishing you all a blooming wonderful September display. ▼

Hilton Clivias

www.hiltonclivias.co.za

e-mail: lbester02@telkomsa.net



Phone
033 3433786
Cell
0825671074

We ship seeds
and plants
Worldwide

2015 SHOW DATES

CLIVIA CLUB SHOWS, DISPLAYS, AUCTIONS & MARKETS for 2015

NAME OF CLUB	DATES FOR 2015	TIMES	VENUE	ENTRANCE FEES	CONTACT PERSON / S
Lowveld Clivia Club – Nelspruit	18 July 2015	Saturday: 10:00 - 13:00	Farm Gemade of Ian Radmore in White River district.	Only Clivia members welcome	Greg Jones: 083 702 3452
Northern Free State Clivia Club – Welkom	18-19 July 2015 Interspecific Mini Show	Saturday: 10:00 - 13:00 Sunday: 10:00 - 13:00	Alma Nursery Welkom	No charge	Ben Nel: 082 821 9766
Northern Clivia Club – Pretoria	25 July 2015 Interspecific Clivia Show	Saturday: 10:00 - 13:00	National Botanical Gar. Silverton, Pretoria	No charge	Marlene Topham: 082 799 4746
Kwa-Zulu Natal Clivia Club - Pietermaritzburg	8 August 2015 Interspecific Display Seed & Plant Sales	Saturday: 13:00 - 16:00	Nursery, Thurflow Farm Eston	No charge	Sean Chubb: 084 301 9560 kzncliviabreeders@cliviasa.co.za
Northern KwaZulu Natal Interest Group New Castle	5 September 2015 Clivia Show & Plant Sales	Saturday: 09:00 - 14:00	Drakensberg Primary School, Firmstone Ave., Pioneer Park, Newcastle	No charge	Alfie Everson: 083 304 0826 Henry Howard: 083 655 0750
Northern Clivia Club – Pretoria	5 – 6 September 2015 Clivia Show, Market & Auction	Saturday: 09:00 - 16:00 Sunday: 09:00 - 14:00	Anton van Wouw Primary School, C/o Day & Lange Streets, New Muckleneuk	R20.00 per person over 12 years old	Christo Topham: 082 497 5879
Lowveld Clivia Club – Nelspruit	5 – 6 September 2015 - Clivia Show & Market	Saturday: 09:00 - 17:00 Sunday: 09:00 - 15:00	Lowveld Botanical Gar. Environ. Educ. Centre-on R40 road to White River	R15.00 per person over 12 years old	Greg Jones: 083-702 3452
Cape Clivia Club – Cape Town	5 - 6 September 2015 Clivia Display & Plant Sales	Saturday: 9:00 - 17:00 Sunday: 09:00 - 17:00	Sanlam Hall, Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden, Newlands	Gate entry fee of Kirstenbosch	Clayton Jonkers: 083 267 7206
Cape Clivia Club – Cape Town	12 September 2015 Clivia Display & Plant Sales	Sunday: 09:00 - 17:00	Western Cape Province Blue Route Shopping Mall, Tokai	No charge	Christine Baister: 084 509 2329 021 712 2202
Vryheid Clivia Int. Group - Vryheid	12 September 2015 Clivia Show & Stalls	Saturday: 09:00 - 15:00	New Republic School c/o Utrecht & Republic Streets, Vryheid	R10.00 per person	Louis Lötter: 082 886 8197
Northern Free State Clivia Club – Welkom	12 – 13 September 2015 Clivia Show Market	Saturday: 08:00 - 16:00 Sunday: 09:00 - 13:00	Toronto Hall Jan Ceiliers Park Welkom	R10.00 per person over 12 years	Ben Nel: 082 821 9766

Kwa-Zulu Natal Clivia Club Pietermaritzburg	12 -13 September 2015 Clivia Show & Plant Sales	Sunday: 09:00 - 13:00 Saturday: 10:00 - 16:00 Sunday: 09:00 - 15:00	Welkom Kloof Town Hall Old Main Road Kloof	R10.00 per person over 12 years old	Val Thurston: 072 464 5212 Randal Payne: 063 776 2864
Joburg Clivia Club - Johannesburg	12 - 13 September 2015 Clivia Show & Plant Sales	Saturday: 08:30 - 17:00 Sunday: 08:30 - 15:00	Garden World Nursery, M5 Beyers Naude Drive, Muidersdrift	R15.00 per person over 12 years old	Glynn Middlewick Day: 082 660 1463 Glynn Middlewick Even: 011 476 1463
Free State Clivia Club - Bloemfontein	18 - 20 September 2015 Plant benching: Friday 08:00 - 11:00	Friday: 12:00 - 17:00 Saturday: 08:00 - 17:00 Sunday: 09:00 - 12:00	Fleurdal Mall, Vereeniging Drive, Fleurdal, Bloemfontein	No charge	Riaan Roux: 082 487 7068 Hennie vd Mescht: 083 511 9519 Andre du Toit: 084 811 0152
Cape Clivia Club - Cape Town	19 - 20 September 2015 Clivia Show & Market	Saturday: 9:00 - 17:00 Sunday: 09:00 - 17:00	Tygerberg Valley Centre, Durbanville	R15.00 per person	Chris Smit: 082 800 7207 .021 873 2400
Toowoomba Clivia Society, Inc - TCS	18 - 23 September 2015 Annual Clivia Show & Plant Sale	Friday to Wednesday: 09:00 - 17:00 each day	Toowoomba TAFE Horticultural Pavilion Lindsay St, Toowoomba Queensland, Australia	Entry is free of charge	Eileen Zahnow: 07 46364371 or 07 08608437 07 46358848 or 04 16233852 Toowoomba Clivia Society website
Melbourne Clivia Group, Inc - MCG	19 September 2015 Clivia Expo	Saturday: 10:00 - 16:00	Phoenix Park Community Centre Rob Roy Road Malvern East Melway Reference map 69 D2	Gold coin donation	Peter Haessler: 044 736 0524 pahaessler@gmail.com
Eastern Province Clivia Club - Port Elizabeth	19 - 20 September 2015 Clivia Show	Saturday: 08:30 - 17:00 Sunday: 08:30 - 14:00	Shenwood Garden Centre, Walker Drive, Sherwood, Port Elizabeth	R10.00 per person over 12 years old	Dawid Botha: 082 497 8304 Marius Meyer: 082 808 5214
Clivia Society of NSW Australia	26 - 27 September 2015 Clivia Show	Saturday: 09:00 - 17:00 Sunday: 09:00 - 13:00	Sam Lane Neighbourhood Centre, Park Street Riverstone NSW Australia	\$5.00 entry (and draw in lucky Door prize)	Ken Smith - Secretary cliviasmith@iclx.com.au
Garden Route Clivia Club - George	26 - 27 September 2015 Clivia Show	Saturday: 08:00 - 17:00 Sunday: 08:00 - 13:00	Outeniqua Primary School, c/o Meade & Cathedral St, George	R15.00 per adult Child over 12 - R5.00 Under 12 free	Ida Esterhuizen: 072 613 6066
New Zealand Clivia Club - Tauranga	27 September 2015 Clivia Show & Stalls	Sunday: 08:00 - 13:00	Plant Struck Nursery Te Puna Road, Te Puna	No charge	Jude Shapland: 07 5520661
Overberg Clivia Interest Group - Hermanus	2 - 3 October 2015	Friday: 09:00 - 17:00 Saturday: 09:00 - 16:00	Round Hall, Dutch Reform Church, Hermanus Central, - Opposite to Absa Bank	R10.00 per person over 12 years old Under 12 free	Felicity Weedon: 078 710 9485 028 316 3092
New Zealand Clivia Club - Auckland	3 October 2015 Clivia Show & Stalls	Saturday: 09:00 - 15:00	Auckland Botanic Gardens Hill Road, Manurewa	No charge	Alick McLeaman: 09 5213062
Border Clivia Interest Group - East London	3 - 4 October 2015 Clivia Show & Market	Saturday: 08:00 - 17:00 Sunday: 09:00 - 13:00	Pioneer Nursery, Main Road, Gonubie, East London	No charge	Kevin O'Brien: 083 702 1022 Michelle Kretzmann: 061 745 6922
New Zealand Clivia Club Lower North Island - New Plymouth	10 October 2015 Clivia Show & Stalls	Saturday: 10:00 - 15:00	St John Hall, St Aubyn St, New Plymouth	No charge	Tony Barnes: 06 7527873

CLIVIA SOCIETY

Clivia Photographic Competition for Yearbook 17*Joubert van Wyk & Gordon Fraser*

I discussed the re-introduction of the annual Photographic Competition with Gordon Fraser some time ago and obtained the following input from him:

It is indeed good news that it is intended to re-introduce the Photographic Competition to the Yearbook. It adds interest and with so many now able to use digital cameras and even cell phones to record their best blooms perhaps many more entries to the competition may be expected.

Some years ago, in discussion with one of the members of the Society Executive regarding the



'Royal Flush'



Buds

Photographic Competition, the comment was made by him "Well of course the best *Clivia* will always win". I think if this is to be a criteria on which the photos will be judged, the competition should be called "A competition to select the photograph of the best *Clivia*". A Photographic Competition is a very different thing and should allow photographers the freedom to express their sense of the subject within the category of the Competition: in this case, *Clivia*. Many *Clivia* have beautiful buds which change colour and form as they develop providing wonderful opportunities for sensitive compositions capable of competing with the best umbels. I am sure hundreds of such shots have been taken by members in appreciation of the early stages of their blooms.

The criteria for a true Photographic Competition should be inter alia choice of subject, exposure, composition, sharpness, colour, tone, background, distribution of contrast, technique and overall quality.

Gordon submitted the above two photos of the sort that appeals to him, and which he believes should be the kind of submissions acceptable for the competition.

Yearbook 17 will include a Photographic Competition, with further details in respect of categories etc. and a submission date to be published in the next two editions of the *Clivia News*. Get your cameras clicking! ▼

'Salmon Surprise'



CLIVIA BREEDING

A Star is born

By Carrie Kruger, *Utopia Clivias*

The name 'Star Green' makes every *Clivia* grower "green" with envy. This unusual coloured *Clivia* is so unique that it stands out from any other. This is the type of plant that takes *Clivia* breeding to a new level. Being one of the lucky few breeders who was very fortunate to get hold of a 'Star Green' plant when they were first released by Charl Malan and Philip Crous, I have done a lot of breeding with this plant but have not seen many results yet.

My seedlings with 'Star Green' are not yet flowering size, but once they have flowered, I will do another article on the results of these crosses, and the crosses of other breeders. I have used pollen of 'Star Green 2' on a picotee interspecific when it flowered for the first time and was brought to the EP show by



'Charl's Green' sibling 1

Charl. I have in the meantime acquired this sibling and three others to add to my collection of the 'Star Green' range of plants. I have named them, 'Star Green 2' (very similar to 'Star Green'), 'Star Bronze' (a beautiful bronze



'Cromwell Bronze' sibling 3 of 'Star Green'



with lots of white and green in the centre), and 'Star Struck' (a pastel bronze with lots of white and green in the centre). 'Cromwell Bronze' has beautiful bronze flowers with an unusual white and green centre. Having bred with all of these, I look forward to seeing these crosses flower soon. Two of my crosses with 'Star Green 2' as pollen parent flowered last season.

'Green Tartan' F1
Picotee x 'Star Green 2'
(pigmented stems)

'Star Bronze' sibling 5

The green stem seedling was a dark butter yellow with some green in the flower. The pigmented stemmed seedling had very similar colours to 'Star Green'. I call this one 'Tartan Green'. I know now that the pigmented stems will give more interesting results.

The history of 'Star Green' is not very well known and the information I have been able to ascertain from Charl and Philip is as follows: In 1997 Charl Malan received seed from Mr. Nakamura.

It was an exchange transaction. These seeds were of 31 different crosses. Charl and Philip simply numbered the batches 1-31. The seed batch which was numbered no.13 was described by Mr. Nakamura as "Special Seed". Charl grew 15 of these seeds and Philip grew another 9.



F1 Picotee x 'Star Green 2'



'Star Green 2' Offset first flower



'Star Green 2' sibling 2

Out of the no.13 batch came the famous 'Charl's Green', 'Star Green' and the 'Cromwell Bronze' range. These are thus all sibling plants.

My experience with these plants is that the 'Star Green' plants grow much slower than other *Clivia* and are very susceptible to disease and root rot. They do not self-pollinate well, and the pollen has to be harvested as soon as the flower opens, before it goes dry. Working and breeding with these plants takes extra special care during pollination.

Both Charl and Philip have sold their 'Star Green' plants and suckers. These are now in the hands of a very few lucky breeders, to

take breeding one step further. Here's hoping for some unusual coloured *Clivia* in the near future. ▼



'Star Struck Star Green' sibling 4



The original 'Star Green'

An inspiration for small growers

By Daan Dekker

Inspired by Felicity Weeden's outstanding article entitled "Considering *Clivia* hybridising and the way forward" and additionally motivated by Sue Kloeck's "Writing Guidelines" (*Clivia News* August 2014), I dared to put pen to paper. I hope by doing so, I will be able to inspire other small breeders and enthusiasts, like myself, to document their experiments and share the results with others.

About 12 years ago as a member of the Lowveld *Clivia* Club, then still an Interest Group of the Northern *Clivia* Club, my interest in interspecific hybrids was first stimulated. Naturally the initial purpose was to produce and multiply yellow, peach and other coloured *Clivia* and to improve shape and flower counts. Space was a problem, like for many other *Clivia* growers, and the fact that initially I was "farming with other people's calves", it prompted me to do my own thing!

Concentrating on working with interspecifics, my first attempt was an ordinary *Clivia miniata*



'Isa-Bel Green'

x *Clivia gardenii* cross. I was fortunate enough to be awarded a "Best on Show" at the Lowveld *Clivia* Club Show in 2006 with a handsome yellow interspecific. Shortly afterwards we were surprised by a stunning yellow interspecific with slightly bigger open flowers. The plant was named 'Isa-Bel' after my wife, Isabel. There has been considerable interest in this plant and numerous enthusiasts have requested offsets. It has now been passed on to a few other growers. Its flowering time has regrettably not always coincided with show dates. Fortunately in 2014 it was exhibited at the Vryheid Interest Group Show and won "Gold" in its section.

Since our move to Eshowe a second plant of the 'Isa-Bel' series has flowered. I called this green interspecific 'Isa-Bel Green'. This had happened without any 'Hirao' or 'Green Girl' pollen! The plant 'Green and Gold' was initially planted in the garden before it caught my eye. This interspecific flower blooms more



'Isa-Bel'



Red *C. miniata* X *C. caulescens*



Yellow interspecific



C. caulescens X red *C. miniata*

than once a year, displaying a high flower count each time. This pollen has been used on a variety of other *Clivia* in my collection and we look forward to seeing these results. My light peach interspecific was bred from a yellow interspecific crossed with 'Chubb's Peach'.



'Green & Gold'



We are all privileged, through growing our beloved *Clivia* plants, to contribute and enrich our Creator's work. The bonus, which we all enjoy, is to get to know some wonderful *Clivia* friends. Enjoy your *Clivia* plants and breeding experiments in 2015 and may you be blessed with some beautiful surprises. ▼

Peach interspecific

Hidden treasure in the Karoo

By David Botha

Hidden between the mountains on the border of the Eastern Cape in the Karoo, you will find a small town called Graaff-Reinet. Here the temperature changes between the two extremes of -5°C to over 40°C with the season. The grass is covered with frost in winter and the summer feels like the Sahara. Two people have a display in their lounge, only appreciated by the few, and well informed. Colours abound, green throats, ghosts, butter yellows, blood reds, bi-colours, multipetals and bronze all on top of strong peduncles and emerald-green foliage. From the smallest interesting shapes to amaryllis flower size – shaped. This private show is put on by two extraordinary people called Ben and Klerrie Lombard.

The first fertile seeds were sown after Klerrie showed an article to Ben from *Farmer's Weekly*, written by Jim Homes on *Clivia*. In September 2003 they went to a show in Port Elizabeth, held by Eastern Province Clivia Club. Ben bought a few seeds and a plant or two, like normally happens at shows. They also met Mr. Dennis Potkill, who invited them to his house and gave Ben plants from his mature shaded garden. Thanks to Dennis and his wife the



Ben and Klerrie

dreaded *Clivia* fever spread and germinated. In October 2003 Ben decided to join the EPCC. The beautiful pictures and informative articles in the newsletters lead to the earnest search for that prize winning show stopper that we all crave and want. That was when the real



Bought as seed from Charl Malan ('Beauty Giant Pastel' x Ghost No. 2)



'Butterfly' seedling from Nakamura



C. miniata 'Big trumpet'

earnest search for plants began. But due to lack of decent cheap available plant material it was decided to start with seeds and seedlings from André Calitz. The collection slowly but surely grew and shortly after those *Clivia* won and Klerrie lost the fight.



C. miniata seedling bought from Willie Le Roux



C. miniata seedling No. 51



C. miniata stunning pink



C. miniata apricot



C. miniata peach with green centre



C. miniata red seedling

The braai was converted into the first shade house in 2004.

Willie and Cynthia Le Roux became mentors to both Ben and Klerrie. Willie taught Ben all his secrets on *Clivia* growing (in my humble opinion, how to smuggle in those expensive plants the "Boss" should not know about, and Cynthia probably taught Klerrie the signs on how to spot those extra plants, that suddenly appear



'Chubb's Caramel Peach' seedling

from nowhere). Their friendship bloomed and developed over the years with the exchange of plants and those important packets of seed and pollen. The inevitable happened, with some thrifty saving and salvage. The lawn gave way to the second bigger shade house, with some help from friends and family helping with the construction.

Dedicated pollination and fool-proof germination methods led to a rapid explosion of seedlings. Suddenly the garage, kitchen patio and the courtyard were overrun by mini DIY igloos with healthy seedlings. These became the incredible treasure trove of flowering *Clivia* for Ben and Klerrie. They now own well-known plants and stunning flowering seedlings from their own breeding. It just shows that with time and patience anyone can own some of those show stoppers. ▼



'Chubb's Peach' bought as an offset



Multitepal bronze from Dr. Charl Coetzee, bought as seedling



Rudo Lötter interspecific

ADVERTISEMENTS

Please contact Sakkie Nel: corgas@vodamail.co.za to obtain prices for advertisements in future issues of Clivia News.

REGULARS

Just for the record – number 2

By Sakkie Nel

The origin of 'Bertie's Bronze'

The late Bing Wiese bred this plant in his nursery with orange bronze ('ox blood') flowers with a very dark green throat. The late Joe Pretorius worked as an architect and lived in Charles Street, Menlo Park. Although Joe's first love in the plant world was orchids, he did succeed in obtaining about 350 quality *Clivia* plants from various growers. One of these plants was an offset (sucker) obtained from Bing Wiese of the bronze plant. Joe Pretorius died in 1996 and his widow asked Bing to evaluate the *Clivia* collection on a basis that he and the late Oom Ammie Grobler would buy everything.

Eventually Bertie Guillaume and Geoff Meyer bought Joe's plants for double the price of the evaluation. Bertie called his plant 'Bertie's Bronze'. Bertie's 'Bertie's Bronze' already had made six offsets and Geoff's plant had made three offsets since 1996. At the auction in Pietermaritzburg KZN in September 2002 Bertie sold a 'Bertie's Bronze' offset for R13 600 to Joe Dana of California. (Joe Dana also paid the second highest price of R8 600 for a

yellow *C. caulescens* of Bertie Guillaume.)

Unfortunately Bing's plant has never produced another offset for himself or anybody else and as the plant is sterile to its own pollen, no seed was ever produced. The mother plant eventually died and it left Bing Wiese empty handed as far as his famous "bronze" is concerned! I spoke to Bing about registering his named *Clivia* with Ken Smith but he was not only reluctant but actually refused, because he said he foresaw "one hell of a train smash". Bing Wiese always said that he preferred to "be a grower rather than a shower".

My own offset of 'Bertie's Bronze' (see photo) was obtained as a present from my dear friend Lourens Hattingh and it flowered for the first time in 2012.

The story behind 'Bronze Green Boy'

Ian Vermaak in the *Clivia Society Newsletter* Volume 12 No 4 summer 2003 pp. 7-8 wrote as follows:

In September 1998 my wife Geraldine and I were walking our dog and passed a home where a number of *Clivia* were flowering

in the garden. We were looking over the fence admiring them and were invited in by owners, Mr. & Mrs. Hannes Slabbert. They were not overly keen *Clivia* growers but enjoyed the display of orange *Clivia* in their garden.

While looking at the *Clivia* we spotted one with an unusual



'Bertie's Bronze' 2012

brickish colour. Hannes told us that he had bought three or so orange *Clivia* at a nursery in Johannesburg before moving down to George and one of them turned out to be the *Clivia* with an unusually dark colour. We were offered a shoot, whereupon I took the smallest shoot, and suggested that Hannes place the rest of the plant in a pot in his atrium. This he did, and I promised to give him a shoot of my red 'Geraldine'. I did not realize the potential of the plant we were dealing with at the time.

After our introduction to Hannes he became interested in *Clivia* and paid a visit to Hennie Koch to purchase a few plants. Hennie went out to the house and saw the potential of the plant. In exchange for a larger shoot Hennie gave Hannes some of his good plants. Hennie then sold this plant for R6 000 while he was in Johannesburg.

During September 2000 the shoot I had taken in 1998 flowered for the first time, and I took it down to Cape Town for their show. This set the cat amongst the pigeons. It was a hit from the time it was first seen. On my return to George I had a phone call from Louis Swanepoel offering me R3 000 for the plant, but it was not for sale. At the same time I gave him details of where I had obtained the plant. He contacted Hannes and exchanged a number of his good plants for a very large shoot. I received a phone call from Louis to decide on a name for the plant. I was keen to name it 'Chardenay' but after discussion with Hannes and Louis the more descriptive name of 'Bronze Green Boy' was given. The shoot shown by Louis won the "Best on Show" at the Championship Show in Pietermaritzburg in 2002. I believe an offer of R25 000 was turned down. Louis had arranged to have a portrait of this show winner painted. Thus the demand and value of 'Bronze Green Boy' was established. The plant that Hannes kept had a problem but sent up four shoots to counter the problem, as we all know *Clivia* do. Hennie sold the four shoots to different growers at R10 000 each. 'Bronze Green Boy' is a plant deserving of all the praise that it gets. The plant that Geraldine and I have won the "Best on Show" at the Port Elizabeth show in 2014.

It is with deep regret that I inform Clivia Society members reading this article about the death of Hannes Slabbert. Quite soon after making contact with him he was diagnosed as having cancer. He passed away in August 2014. With the help of his interest in *Clivia* he, with the support of his charming wife Rica, showed great strength in fighting this dreaded disease. Our deepest sympathies are extended to Rica and family. We look back at the last three years of his life knowing that he enjoyed every minute of his interest in *Clivia*.

The above information is the history of 'Bronze Green Boy', which I trust is of interest to *Clivia* growers.

Offsets of 'Bronze Green Boy'

Louis Swanepoel's bronze won the Best on Show as well as best green throat on the show in KZN in 2002 and he refused an offer of R26 000 for is winning plant from Joe Dana.

The late Hannes Slabbert of George was a humble, genuine gentleman whom Louis still remembers with much fondness today. Hannes Slabbert bought five plants about 40 years ago from a small nursery near the Hartebeespoortdam and planted them in a flower bed. One of them later proved to be the wonderful bronze-coloured flower plant of Louis. Hannes knew that Louis imported some Chinese stock and he swapped a bronze mother plant with Louis for some Chinese plants. Louis talked to Hannes about a name for the beauty and suggested 'Slabbert's Green Boy', but Hannes would have nothing of it and said that Louis must please choose a name for it. He was very satisfied with Louis' choice of 'Bronze Green Boy'. The first offset of Louis' plant went to Glynn Middlewick who also calls his plant 'Bronze Green Boy'. Pikkie Strumpher, Mick Dower and Gert Esterhuizen also obtained offsets from Glynn. Other members who also bought offsets from Louis are Dawie Strydom, Chris Viljoen, Chris Smit, Keith Rose and Maylene Turner.

Glynn pointed out that 'Bertie's Bronze' and 'Bronze Green Boy' are very similar in appearance and very difficult to distinguish from each

other. Both are infertile (to their own pollen) and prone to fungus attack.

My very good friend Oom Frans Gerber passed away on 9 November 2003. Oom Ammie Grobler died in September 2004. Dr Bing passed away on Saturday 17 June 2006.

By putting this in writing I am not trying to discredit anybody or anything. I am merely jotting down facts as club member friends gave

them to me. I spoke to people like Bing Wiese, Bertie Guillaume, Oom Ammie Grobler, Oom Frans Gerber, Geoff Meyer, Louis Swanepoel, Claude Keytel, Tino Ferero, Koos Geldenhuys, Chris Vlok and Peter Lambert.

We must try to write up the wonderful stories and facts about the Coromandel's, Gladys Blackbeard, and Gordon McNeill collections as well as the origins of all named *Clivia*. ▼

Just for the record – number 3 A photo of 13 years ago

By Sakkie Nel

In 2002 Dr Lena van der Merwe was the Show Master for the Northern Clivia Club Show at Die Wilgers High School in Pretoria. She arranged for Dr Peter Lambert to be

the official photographer of all the winning exhibits and Peter took this photo on that day. Lena also arranged that Nick Primich handed over the prizes to the exhibitors. ▼



First Row: Steve Moody.

Second Row: Gert Esterhuizen, Sarel Naude, Chris la Grange, Ans Jacobs, Graham Goodwin, Anna Meyer, Dawie van Heerden, Bertie Guillaume, Ammie Grobler.

Third Row: Nick Primich, Tino Ferero, Frans Gerber, Anton Potgieter, Elda de Witt, Susan Kruger, Chris Vlok, unknown boy, Hilton Atherstone, Pat Gore, Chris Viljoen, Sakkie Nel, Keith Rose, Pikkie Strumpher and Louis Swanepoel.

RELATED

Tips and tricks for showing perfect *Clivia*

By Felicity Weeden

Most probably, we all have been in the annoying position of having a really beautiful *Clivia* suitable for showing, but for one reason or another the umbel is imperfect. Either there is a pathway running across the umbel or a single flower is hanging down too low, or there is some other small defect that renders the umbel un-show worthy.

Some interesting solutions to the problems follow and were engineered by *Clivia*-phile, Johan Botha:

1. To correct a poorly spaced umbel and create a good "posy" or good round umbel, even when there are few flowers available, try the following:
 - a. When the umbel is still fairly small and green, make a collar of two or three layers of paper.
 - b. Place this collar around the umbel and secure with sticky tape or masking tape, arranging the buds according to size with the biggest ones in the center and the smallest and least mature towards the outside of the umbel. As the umbel matures, you may still rearrange the flowers to their best advantage.
 - c. Once the buds start to swell and colour up, the "collar" may be removed by gently easing downwards and then snipping the paper to remove it from the peduncle.
Result: A perfect umbel with the flowers nicely displayed.
2. To produce a perfect umbel:
 - a) Making use of the little cardboard spacers as illustrated (which are easily made with a punch and fairly stout cardboard) and using a pair of tweezers to avoid damaging the buds, arrange the smallest buds around the outside of



Imperfect umbel



Buds with the collar in place



A perfect umbel achieved

the umbel and then place the next sized buds until the biggest ones are in the centre of the umbel. This should be done when the buds are still green and pedicels are soft.



Spacer



Spacers in place



Flowers maturing around the spacers

The following two photographs illustrate a perfect umbel and the skeleton of a perfect umbel.



Perfect posy



Skeleton of perfect posy

It is also possible to use small pieces of sponge or other material to encourage the buds and flowers to stay where they are required.

- b) Occasionally a single bud or flower will drop down below the umbel. This can usually be repaired by creating a small S-shaped hook (a paper clip could suffice) then hooking one side of the S onto the drooping bud and the other around the pedicel of an upright flower.
- c) From time to time a single bud right in the centre of the umbel grows above the rest thus spoiling the symmetry of the umbel. The best solution in this instance is to nip out the offending flower at the base of the umbel, especially if there are a large number of flowers present. The sooner this is done the less obvious it is.

A naturally perfect umbel can be recognized by the number of buds and their natural distribution on the umbel and also when the flowers are spent and the "skeleton" remains.

A few other suggestions to make a near perfect and show worthy plant:

- 1) To repair a damaged variegated leaf, using a razor blade, carefully cut along the edge of a dark green stripe. Dust the cut edge with Bravo. This invisibly seals the cut edge and also protects against fungus infections; the Bravo may be dusted off the next day, leaving no sign of interference to the leaf.
- 2) To repair a single petal that is badly bent or nearly snapped off, a small piece of clear sticky tape may be applied to the back of the petal, holding it in place.

3) If the peduncle snaps, it is possible to temporarily repair it for showing. Details follow: Using masking tape, neatly and very carefully wrap it around the cracked peduncle. Once satisfied that the peduncle is secure and sturdy, remove two matching leaves from another plant and carefully insert on both sides of the peduncle placing them

in such a way that the repair is hidden. Of course, extreme care is necessary when transporting the plant to the show! If carefully done, it really does work!

How many more tricks and tips are out there? Please write and share with the rest of us about how you prepare and repair your *Clivia* to become show winners. ▼

Clivias, good, odd and ugly?

By James Abel

As discussed with Joubert, our editor, we are fortunate in that our genus presents us with a host of photos of "Bold and Beautiful" *Clivia* for sharing. Over the years enthusiasts have also posted a number of photos of the "Odd and Ugly", which are fascinating with their strange forms, and bewildering as one ponders how and why they arose.

Many enthusiasts will have had such oddities arise in their collections and we request that you tell the rest of us about them. Two or three photos, each with a brief description, will be published in future editions of the *Clivia News* as and when photos are available. We request everyone to email in a photo and brief description of their "Odd and Ugly" *Clivia*. Quality photos will be nice but are not essential – of greater importance is illustration of the aberration.

I have volunteered to co-ordinate the entries. Friends may say that the coupling of the title with me is entirely appropriate, but be that as it may, all contributions will be welcome at jcabel@absamail.co.za.

Two photos are attached to get the ball rolling. They are of spiral umbels from Powell in 2008 and from R Grobler in 2011. Note the reverse directions! Both were first posted on the *Clivia* e-group administered by Pen Henry, and I regret that I did not save the background information. ▼



Spiral umbel May 2008 (Powell)



Spiral umbel November 2009 (R Grobler)

Improve/Increase the length of a “struggling” peduncle

By Gideon Botha

I am sure that many other *Clivia* growers have experienced the frustration of a special *Clivia* flowering between the leaves.

I have spent some time to document the steps to improve/increase the length of the peduncle. There are likely other methods which are just as effective, but this one happens to work for me.

On 9 November 2014, I started the feeding steps with the plant 'Tipperary Peach' shown in the first photo where the base of the flower was less than 11 cm from the ground level and hardly visible between the leaves. I used Multi feed P (high in Potassium) as directed, one teaspoon to 5 litres of water. I watered the plant well, kept in a drip tray and left it standing in the solution. The feeding was repeated every second day and I recorded the progress on the accompanying photographs.



16 Nov 2014



9 Nov 2014



21 Nov 2014



24 Nov 2014

By 16 November, the bottom of the flower was nearly 27 cm. I continued the feeding every second day and left the plant in the solution for most of the time. The solution did evaporate or was drawn up by the plant and soil. By 21 November, the measurement was just



24 Nov 2014

under 27cm and at the end of the period on 24 November 2014, the flower was presented on a normal peduncle at 30 cm.

It is important to note that *Clivia* plants do not like "wet feet", but for a short period like this, no harm was done. ▼

SMALLS

QUALITY plants available for Retail\Wholesale\Landscape purposes in bags or ex-ground, at prices you CAN afford!

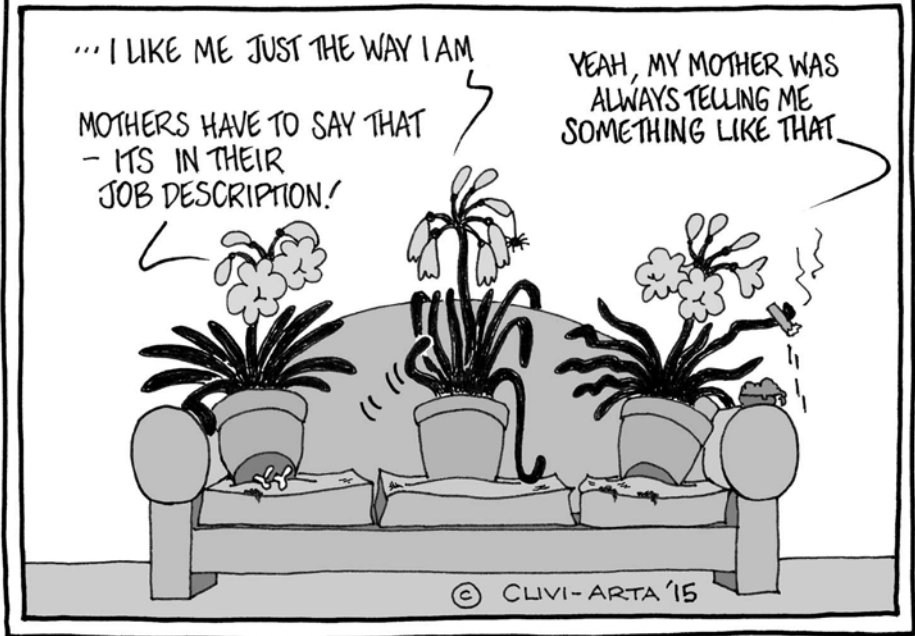
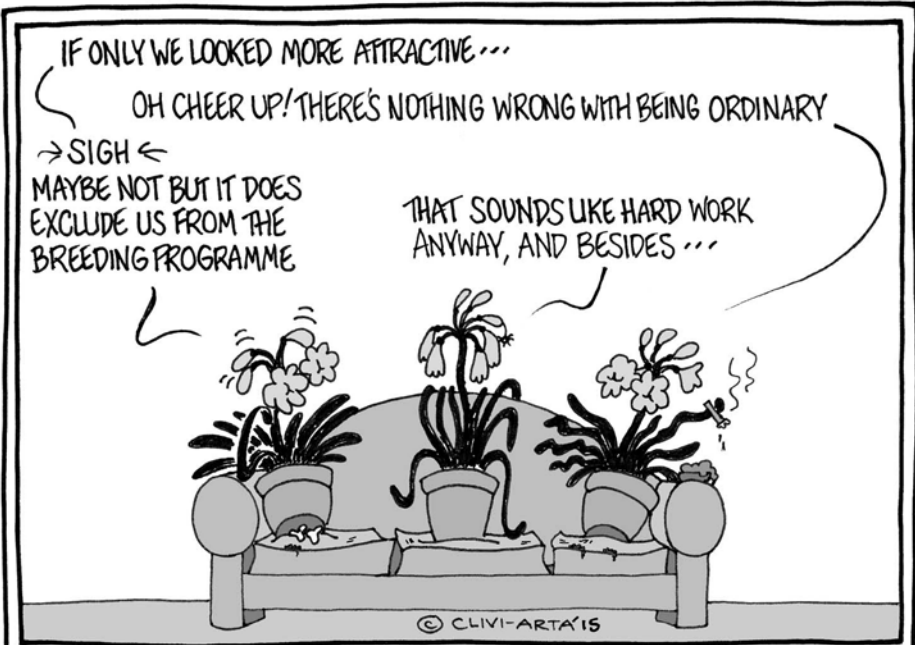
With ever- increasing transport costs, our various ex-ground options make sense.

Visit our website www.wholesale-nursery.co.za for further details.

ADVERTISEMENTS

WILL ANYONE WISHING TO ADVERTISE OR WHO KNOWS OF POTENTIAL SPONSORS OR ADVERTISERS FOR THIS PUBLICATION PLEASE COMMUNICATE WITH SAKKIE NEL IN THIS REGARD. CONTACT SAKKIE NEL FOR ADVERTISEMENT PRICES. SEE INSIDE BACK FOR CONTACT DETAILS.

CLIVI-ARTA BY HELEN SANDERS





Growers of rare and unusual clivias for the collector

We sell seeds, seedlings and plants

Visit our website: www.utopiaclivias.co.za

20 Crane Walk, Sedgefield, 6573, South Africa

+27 83 343 1288 (cell) +27 44 343 2183 (t)

e-mail: utopia@mweb.co.za

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UtopiaClivias>



AUSTRALIAN CLIVIA COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND THEIR ROLES

Clivia Society of New South Wales, Inc - 2015

President	Bruce Miller
Vice President	Mick Mouyat
Secretary	Ken Smith
Treasurer	Peter Hey
Committee member	Ray Sidoti
Committee member	Ken Russell
Committee member	Paul Volkart
Committee member	Eric Jordan
Merchandising Officer	Rosemary McCowage

Melbourne Clivia Group, Inc - 2015

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

Toowoomba Clivia Society, Inc - 2015

President	Eileen Zahnow
Vice President	Kevin Larsen
Secretary	Brian Mahoney
Treasurer	Greg Anderson
Committee members (and their role):	
Assistant Secretary	Heather Samuelsen
Newsletter Editor/ Publicity Officer	John & Rosemary Worden
Show Marshall	Graham Cottee
Deputy Show Marshall	Paul O'Gorman
Merchandise Officer	Robyn Bishop
Past President	Scott Carter
General Committee Member	Brian Steven

CONTACT DETAILS FOR CLIVIA CLUBS AND INTEREST GROUPS

- ▼ **Border Interest Group Interest Group** Peter Miles: Cell: +27 83-463-6229
e-mail: petermalcommiles@gmail.com
- ▼ **Cape Clivia Club** Joy Woodward: Cell: +27 72 487 7933;
e-mail: capeclivia@ibox.co.za
- ▼ **Eastern Province Clivia Club** Dawid Botha: Tel: +27 82 497 8304;
e-mail: DawidB@daff.gov.za
- ▼ **Free State Clivia Club** David Fourie: Cell: +27 72 614 3091;
e-mail: fouriedm@telkomsa.net
- ▼ **Garden Route Clivia Club** Ida Esterhuizen: Tel: +27 44 871 2214;
e-mail: kobuse1@telkomsa.net
- ▼ **Joburg Clivia Club** Glynn Middlewick: Tel: +27 11 476 1463;
e-mail: gcmidd@mweb.co.za
- ▼ **KwaZulu-Natal Clivia Club** Val Thurston: Cell: +27 72 464 5212;
e-mail: thu001@iafrica.com
- ▼ **Lowveld Clivia Club** Maria Grové: Cell: +27 83 475 1176
e-mail: LckLcc1@gmail.com
- ▼ **Northern Clivia Club** Marlene Topham: Cell: +27 82 799 4746;
e-mail: marleneto@telkomsa.net
- ▼ **Northern Free State Clivia Club** Ben Nel: Cell: + 27 82 821 9766; Tel: +27 57 392 3552
e-mail: benoninel@lantic.net
- ▼ **NKZ-N (Newcastle) Interest Group** Alfred Everson: Cell: +27 83 304 0826;
e-mail: Alfred.Everson@arcelormittal.com
- ▼ **Overberg Clivia Interest Group** Felicity Weeden: Tel: +27 78 710 9485;
e-mail: fillylilly@telkomsa.net
- ▼ **Vryheid Interest Group** Louis Lötter: Cell: +27 78 100 4883;
e-mail: louis.lotter4@gmail.com

THE CLIVIA SOCIETY: MANAGEMENT DETAILS

Queries: info@clivasociety.org • www.clivasociety.org

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: 2014/2015

Chairman:	Glynn Middlewick: Mobile: +27 82-650-1463; e-mail: gcmidd@mweb.co.za
Vice-Chairman:	Piet Theron: Mobile: +27 83 633 2580; e-mail: piettheron@mweb.co.za
Secretary:	Joy Woodward: e-mail: capeclivia@ibox.co.za Mobile: +27 072-487-7933 or 021-671-7384
Treasurer:	Sakkie Nel: Tel: +27 12 361 6415; e-mail: corgas@vodamail.co.za
Member:	Paul Kloeck: Mobile: +27 79 493 1719; e-mail: paul@cliviakingdom.com
Publications Editor:	Joubert van Wyk: Mobile: +27 83 307 7707; e-mail: myclivia@iafrica.com

INTERNATIONAL CONTACT PERSONS

Australia:	Ken Smith: 593 Hawkesbury Rd., Winmalee. NSW 2777. Tel: +61 24 754 3287, e-mail: cliviasmith@idx.com.au
New Zealand:	Tony Barnes: Tel: +64 6 752 7873; e-mail: tony.john@xtra.co.nz
United Kingdom:	Sakkie Nel: Tel: +27 12 361 6415; e-mail: corgas@vodamail.co.za
Europe:	Aart van Voorst: Tel: +031 25 252 9679; Frederik Hendriklaan 49, HillegomTE 2181, Netherlands; e-mail: a.vanvoorst@snelnet.net
USA & Canada:	William McClelland (Correspondence): Bolin Ave., Camarillo, CA 93010-4708, USA; Tel: 1 805 484 1484 1048; e-mail: william_g_mcclelland@yahoo.com

PORTFOLIOS

Public Relations:	Executive Committee
Judging:	Piet Theron: e-mail: piettheron@mweb.co.za Tel: +27 44 874 4186 Paul Kloeck: e-mail: paul@cliviakingdom.com Cell: +27 79 493 1719
Registrar for named Clivia cultivars:	Ken Smith: Tel: +61 24 754 3287; e-mail: cliviasmith@idx.com.au
Research:	Felix Middleton: Mobile: +27 84 701 9915; e-mail: felix.middleton@pannar.co.za
Webmaster:	Gideon Scheepers: e-mail: admin@gtsdesigns.co.za
Postal address:	Clivia Society, PO Box 74868, Lynnwood Ridge 0040, Pretoria, Republic of South Africa



'Star Bronze' sibling 5. Photo: Carrie Kruger