



Newsletter of the  
**CLIVIA**  
SOCIETY OF  
**NEW SOUTH**  
WALES INC.



**Rare Clivia EXPO**

**AUTUMN**

13th Edition May 2018

**The Clivia Society of NSW Newsletter****13<sup>th</sup> Edition. May 2018.****CONTENTS**

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**Message from the President**

Dear Fellow Members

Strategic Plan. I congratulate Bruce Fishburn for the work he has done in the implementation our strategic plan. The convening of the EXPO should generate significant levels of interest in the less frequently bred pendulous Clivia species –

*C. caulescens*, *C. gardenii*, *C. mirabilis*, *C. nobilis* and *C. robusta*.

It is timely to diversify from the tunnel vision approach of developing *C. miniata* as we mature as a Society.

Also timely to encourage the development and protection of species and habitat plants. Much of the material we hold in Australia is fast becoming endangered and rare in the wild.

There are exciting opportunities available for the patient enthusiast/grower as evidenced by the successes of a number of our members, including: - Helen Marriot, Kerrie McElroy, Mick & Joe Mouyat and Ken Russell.

I am grateful for their contributions to the activities of the Society

It is time to bring together all of the components of our wonderful genus – Clivia.

Peter Hey

President

**Secretarial Team Notes****MEMBER'S REFERENCE LIBRARY AND REFERENCE BOOKS FOR SALE**

Members wishing to access the library's books can do so by contacting either myself, Ken Smith or Newsletter Editor Peter.

Deirdre Jackson

General Secretary

New Members, please advise me (my contact details in rear of Newsletter) if you only require ELECTRONIC COPY, this will save us some distribution costs.

Diane Godwin

Membership Secretary

**Treasurer's Report**

Herewith is a summary of the interim results for our financial year to date.

Audited funds as at 31/12/17     \$7,887.12

For the period 1/1/18 to 27/4/18

Income \$2,351.20 Expenditure     \$3,688.97

General account balance 27/4/18 \$6,549.35

Premium Saver A/c 27/4/18     \$3,000.00

Unaudited funds as at 27/4/18     \$9,549.35

**MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2018**

If you are not pre-paid for 2018, please deposit your membership fees by EFT, kindly include YOUR NAME. **If depositing at a branch, ask the teller to enter your name.**

Bank details - Clivia Society of NSW Inc.

BSB 012 318 A/C 2857 03753

FEES :-

- With electronic newsletter \$25
- With hard copy newsletter \$30

Bruce Fishburn

**Honorary Treasurer****From The Editor's Desk**

Fellow members.

This edition is working in conjunction with the efforts of your Rare Clivia Expo Committee, led by erstwhile member Bruce Fishburn.

As a starting point this issue briefly covers Lady Clive and guides the readership on terminology that they will encounter at our June Expo.

Future Newsletters will focus on one species per issue, giving full descriptions, growing habits, and a collage of images to help you familiarise yourself with the species, it's characteristics and tips for identification.

It is a learning time for all of us, both members and the general public alike. Please support the work of Bruce and his team, chip in and help at the Rare Clivia Expo.

Ed.

Newsletter Editor [email heypete@tpg.com.au](mailto:heypete@tpg.com.au)

**COVER IMAGES**

**FRONT COVER - 'Leprechaun' Image by member Helen Marriott (Melbourne)**

'Leprechaun' was discovered by Mick Dower (Cape Clivia Club) in his garden when it first flowered, having been grown from seed from

Yoshikazu Nakamura (Japan). He immediately potted it up and has distributed the plant around. It is of course an interspecific and is believed to have *C. caulescens* as one of the parents in addition to *C. miniata*. Nakamura sometimes incorporated more than one pendulous species in his hybrids over time and this may be one of them. Given the size of the flower, I imagine that it has been crossed to *C. miniata* twice.

Helen Marriott

**BACK COVER**

A variety of interspecific images kindly provided by Melbourne member Helen Marriott.

### AGM RESULTS

#### Election of OFFICE BEARERS

- President – Peter Hey
- Vice President - Ken Smith
- Secretary – Deirdre Jackson
- Treasurer – Bruce Fishburn
- Committee –
  - Di Godwin – Assistant Secretary -Membership
  - Rose McCowage – Assistant Secretary – Historian
  - Ian (Bruce) Miller
  - Mick Mouyat (Immediate Past President)
  - Stephen Reid
  - Mal Roughly
  - Kerry Thom – Publicity Officer

### • Dates for Your Diary •

Pen/pencil please, jot the following down.

### Next Meeting/Event for Members

### **‘Rare Clivia EXPO’**

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2018  
Venue – Thornleigh Community Centre 9.00 to 4.30pm  
**(This is in lieu of our scheduled General Meeting)**  
An all-day event - open to the

### **Followed by**

### SPRING CLIVIA SHOW

Sat. 16<sup>th</sup> September  
Sun. 17<sup>th</sup> September  
(Set-up Friday afternoon)  
Venue – Thornleigh Community

### **Followed by**

### MEMBER’S GENERAL MEETING (SATURDAY 2.00PM TO 4.00PM)

Thornleigh Community Centre as follows  
**17/11/2018 General meeting**

Committee members - please note our meeting schedule at the rear of the Newsletter

**‘Rare Clivia EXPO’** update by  
convenor, Bruce Fishburn

Our planning document titled *'Society Objectives and Implementation Plan – Jan 2017'* sets out the following objectives and strategies:

**Promote developments in the genus that will maintain the hardy nature and drought tolerance of the plants whilst providing:**

- **increased certainty of the colour of blooms and the shape of flowers;**
- **expanding the range of colours to include deep red, deep yellow, pink and blue;**
- **developing longer/multiple blooming periods;**
- **obtaining shorter periods between planting and flowering;**
- **breeding methods to modify the shape of the flowers and the characteristics of the leaves;**
- **improvements to the plant's resistance to pests and diseases;**
- **greater tolerance to direct sun;**
- **development as indoor potted plants that will be on display all year**

**Equally –**

- **Developing systems that allow members who live outside Sydney to be more**

The **'Rare Clivia EXPO'** is a result of this planning document. It was also prompted by Ken Russell's comments at the 2018 AGM where he mentioned the exciting possibilities created by hybrids. He singled out *C. gardenii* as having great potential to meet the expectations listed above. The change in name from 'Interspecific show' (to) 'Rare Clivia EXPO' came from the team as it assists with separating this exhibition from our September event. We are trying to complement the September 'show' and not be seen to compete with it.

The EXPO team comprises Bruce Fishburn (Rhodes) as convenor, Dr Bruce Miller (Rhodes), Deirdre Jackson, (Dural), Stephen Reid (Blaxland), Robin Reynolds (Forestville), Malcolm Roughley (Kurrajong), Ken Smith ((Winmalee), Glen Moore (Wollongong), Neil Hamaty (Carlingford), Helen Marriott (Melbourne) and Ken Russell (Dungog). Kerry Thom (Perth) has also been an active contributor. This team has been selected because of the expertise all members can bring to the event. Because of the wide, spatial distribution of the team it has not been practical to have many 'face to face' meetings so email and telephone are the main communication channels.

The term 'EXPO' was generated by Ken Smith as a way of highlighting the fundamental differences between the two events; September is all about the brilliant things that can be accomplished by gardeners with glorious, *miniata* based plants. EXPO focusses on the other five species of Clivia namely *C. caulescens*, *C. gardenii*, *C. mirabilis*, *C. nobilis* and *C. robusta*. All of these have pendulous flowers. We will have examples of each plant on display in June and some will be in flower. Two plants stand out in the grouping: *C. robusta* (known as swamp Clivia) because it does not mind getting its feet wet. *C. mirabilis* (literally meaning 'miracle') was discovered in near desert conditions in North-western South Africa. This plant is very rare and quite a challenge to grow! *C. nobilis* was the plant first planted in the grounds of Syon House, the home of Lady Clive and named in her honour. It



was first botanically described in 1828. *C. mirabilis* was first botanically described in 2002!

Of equal importance are the various hybrids that have been grown by members of the Society. There will be a considerable number of these plants with many in flower. Details will be provided about the parentage of each plant and proud growers will be there to explain what they have done. Briefing notes designed to assist such discussions will initially be made available to all members of the Society together with an invitation to seek clarification, fix errors and suggest improvements. This will assist meeting a specific objective of EXPO which is the transfer of knowledge from the Society Elders to the next generations.

Hence the theme of this EXPO is '***Moving from being spectators to becoming observers***'.

The layout of EXPO will also be different to the September event. The five species will be near the entry and Ken Smith and Robin Reynolds will lead Society members who will be seated near these plants. They are charged with explaining to visitors the differences between these species. In a 'U' shape around the rest of the hall there will be hybrids on display with the emphasis being crosses with one of the five species. Again, Society members will be there to explain how and why the plants were developed and what opportunity may be available.

We will also have experts available to answer questions from those attending about Clivia problems they are experiencing.

There will be limited stocks of plants for sale.

Neil and Margaret Hamaty have volunteered to provide light refreshments at a very competitive cost.

We plan to have photographs of EXPO in the 14th edition of our News Letter. As well, we are trialling a video record of the presentations by Ken Smith and Ken Russell.

Ken Smith will make two presentations: the first is about the Clivia Species on display and the links to the hybrids. The second is about the difference between plants that are voted as 'best' by the general public and plants that are chosen as 'best' by knowledgeable

judges in competitions. Before Ken makes this presentation, the votes made by visitors and Society members will be counted and Ken will use this information to show the difference between 'attractive' plants and those where some spectacular step forward has been made.

Ken Russell will discuss the process of growing a hybrid and emphasise the journey from starting with an idea and whether the actual outcomes meet expectations.

EXPO should be an amazing event that will challenge many of the ideas of those who claim vast experience in all things Clivia. Attendees will be rewarded with a deeper knowledge of the Clivia genus and the pathway to some brilliant and satisfying results.

***'Moving from being spectators to becoming observers'***

Bruce Fishburn - Convenor

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## **LADY CLIVE**

### **Names of Renown**

#### **Lady Clive, Duchess of Northumberland**

Charlotte Florentina Clive (born 02 September 1787 in Wales) was the grand-daughter of Major General Robert Clive (Clive of India). She married Hugh Percy on 29 April 1817 and became Duchess of Northumberland some years later. Charlotte was born into a plant-loving family and was an avid plant enthusiast herself. She was the first person in Great Britain to cultivate the Southern African plants belonging to the genus Clivia, named in her honour by the Kew botanist John Lindley in 1828. She died in London on 27 July 1866 (age 78). Note that there is some on-going discussion as to whether the plant name should be spelt 'Clivea' but this is unlikely to prevail.



The lady herself (source Wikipedia)

Bruce Fishburn

## **LILY BORER**

aka *Brithys crini*

Of late these pests have continued to wreak havoc on Clivia populations around Sydney.

For the NEW MEMBERS' benefit I have included parts of a previous article on Lily Borer.

Be vigilant, keep an eye out for the early signs of attack by these voracious insects, inspect your plants regularly.



You can sometimes spot the green waste pellets indicating the presence of Lily Borer. Crush the caterpillars and any pupal casings when you find them, search down into the middle of the plant, look both

sides of the leaf for the tell-tale signs of activity and tissue damage.

Following is a tip we received from a member that may save some grief.

## **INSECT SPRAY**

YES, simply insect spray! Household type.

Just spray onto the active munching caterpillars and Bingo!

Aka *Brithys crini* the Lily borer caterpillar (pictured below) is quick to destroy plants.



Lily Borer caterpillar eating the surface of a leaf.

Egg clusters are laid on either side of leaves. They quickly enter the leaf and eat their way down to the base of the plant.

If left unchecked they can kill Clivias, demolishing the whole plant including the vital meristematic tissue, leaving just the roots!

Handy Hint: - Plant a sacrificial Crinum Lily near your precious Clivias as the Lily Borer are known to start with their preferred entrée of Crinum before a main course of Clivias.

Keep your eyes open, they're quick on the chew.

Peter

Images by Editor

**PESTS AND DISEASES** – MARSUPIAL SHREW

For the benefit of NEW MEMBERS, I have included a previous article on these sometimes-challenging visitors.

Autumn is here and Nature insists encourages native fauna stock up on tucker before Winter sets in. Breeding and eating are on the minds of our subject pest.

Marsupial Shrews, commonly referred to as Brown Nosed Marsupial Rats are cute. They possess round ears and pointy noses. Their soft fur is lightly speckled grey/brown back, a lighter belly, males larger than females and noted for their very vigorous and extended copulation, after which males frequently die from exhaustion.

Dainty eaters, they are mainly carnivorous AND they dismantle Clivia berries, albeit neatly.

Though they do have plenty of attractive points; they cannot read our pollination tags or plant labels, Hmmm!



Antechinus – Cute native marsupial but destructive

### **Identification and tell-tale signs**

Antechinus will forage through Clivias in autumn as food begins to become scarce and males are seeking to build up reserves for their extraordinary mating activities. There are a number of tell-tale signs indicating their presence.



If you see the above you may have problems with Antechinus.

Missing berries, freshly chewed pedicels are a good indicator. If you see this symptom have a good look around for further evidence.



Scaling the pen into the image indicates the size of the lower incisors of Antechinus.

Occasionally you can observe where they have begun to nibble the berries without removing them.



They feed with surgical accuracy. One can see where they have been and how cleanly they nibble away at the berries.





The Mother Lode.

Once you are reasonably sure you have *Antechinus* foraging, start looking for the mother lode of seeds. These can generally be found in a place where they can safely nibble away, protected from predators, removing the outside skin to get at the inner [desirable] lining. I have noticed they rarely damage the seeds themselves and limit their *Clivia* diet to the placental membrane lining that surrounds seeds within the ovules.

### Treatment

- Providing an alternate food source is an alternative, however this can back-fire by attracting the vermin Rat pest *Rattus rattus*.
- If your plants are not really precious let *Antechinus* have their feed and collect the ready-cleaned seeds for growing on.

References - Australian Museum

### MEMBER'S IMAGES.



Image by Mick Mouyat

*C. caulescens*

Image by Editor



'Christmas Bells'

Interspecific developed by Kevin Larsen

Image by Editor



'Woodland Glory'

Developed by Keith Hammett

Image by Editor



*Clivia mirabilis*

Image by Ken Smith



Ken Russell Interspecific

Image by Editor



*Clivia robusta* 'Caroline's Pride'

Image by Ken Smith



[*Clivia miniata* x *Clivia mirabilis*]

Cape Town 2010

Image by Ken Smith



Dark form of the Swamp Clivia *Clivia robusta*

Image by Sean Chubb

Kerrie McElroy, a member who lives in Northern NSW has been working on developing new colours and floral shapes with interspecific Clivias for many years.

The following images of her progress speak for themselves.





**'Belle Jade Aurora'**  
Image by Kerrie McElroy



**C. caulescens x 'Hirao'**  
Image by Kerrie McElroy



**'Belle Jade Beauty'**  
Image by Kerrie McElroy



**'Spring Symphony'**  
Image by Kerrie McElroy



**'Cassie's Sister'**  
Image by Kerrie McElroy



**'Emiko'**  
Image by Kerrie McElroy



**'Elfin Girl'**  
Image by Kerrie McElroy



**'Green Jessica'**  
Image by Kerrie McElroy



‘Honeydew Queen’

Image by Kerrie McElroy

## **GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

*Some basic terminology definitions that may assist in understanding the Rare Clivia EXPO (interspecific show) display*

Term	Explanation
angiosperms	Flowering species that produce seeds contained within a fruit.
anther	The part of a stamen that produces and contains pollen. The anther is usually carried on a thin stalk called a filament.
berry	Fruit containing one or more fleshy seeds that are surrounded by a pulpy layer.
carpel	Female reproductive parts – ovary, style and stigma Aka
calyx	The outer whorl of tepals in the Clivia flower.
corolla	The whole collection of tepals that form the eye-catching part of most Clivia flowers. The tepals can be separate or fused in a tubular shape.
cotyledon	This is part of the embryo within the seed of a plant and becomes the first leaf. A monocotyledon (monocot) has one leaf whilst a dicotyledon (dicot) has two leaves. Clivias are

cultivar	Plants that are raised in cultivation that differs sufficiently from their wild ancestors or are taken into cultivation from the wild and are so worthy of distinction from wild populations for horticultural purposes as to merit special names. The cultivar names are
dehiscence	Opening of the anthers, exposing the ripe pollen to pollinators.
endosperm	Tissue produced inside the seed of flowering plants following fertilization to provide nutrition for the developing plant.
epithet	descriptive term for the species of Clivia or the cultivar name.
F1, F2 hybrid	First and second-generation offspring from a parent plant.
filament	Thread-like organ in a stamen that supports the anther.
family	Group of plants with a similar flower structure. Clivia are in the plant family Amaryllidaceae.
floret	One of the small flowers making a composite flower head. Used to describe a single flower.
flower	Organ of reproduction, basic in determining to what genus and species a plant belongs. Normally composed of the calyx, the corolla and the sexual organs (male stamens and female pistil or carpel). In Clivia the calyx and corolla are similar in appearance and are called tepals.
genus	Group of closely related species. Plural is genera.
hybrid	A plant created by pollinating two selected parents. This often results in plants with great
inflorescence	Cluster of flowers on a peduncle/ scape. In Clivia it is an umbel.
interspecific hybrids	Hybrids between DIFFERENT Clivia species.



intraspecific hybrids	Hybrids WITHIN one Clivia species.
leaf blade	Flattened part of a leaf. Also called lamina. Most leaves have the primary function of photosynthesis.
leaf sheath	The base of a leaf that partly surrounds or protects the stem.
leaf apex	The part of the blade furthest away from the point of
leaf base	The part of the blade closest to the point of attachment to the stem. For a monocot (such as a Clivia) that does not have a petiole the connection is called
leaf margin	Perimeter of the leaf blade between the apex and the base.
meristem	Area of tissue located (in Clivias) below the leaves and above the roots, producing leaves and flowers throughout the life of the
nomenclature	The naming of plants Genus followed by species, eg – <i>Clivia miniata</i> , <i>Clivia nobilis</i> (botanical names are always printed in italics).
ovary	Lower part of a plant's female organ where the seeds develop if pollination and fertilisation are successful.
pedicel	Stalk that attaches an individual flower to the inflorescence.
peduncle	Stalk of a flower cluster. See also scape.
pendent	Describing a flower or stalk that droops or hangs downwards.
perianth	Non-reproductive part of a flower that forms an envelope surrounding the sexual organs. It consists of the tepals in a Clivia
petal	One of the decorative segments of a flower's corolla. They are essentially modified leaves. In Clivia they are referred to as tepals.

pistil (also known as a carpel)	Prominent female organ of a flower usually surrounded by male stamens and projecting beyond them. Comprised of an ovary, style and stigma.
placental scar	Where the seed was attached and developed within the ovary.
pollen	Spores or grains borne by an anther containing the fertilizing male gametes.
radical tip	Small round dark protuberance on a Clivia seed that should be in contact with potting soil on planting. Usually located at the opposite end to the placental scar.
recalcitrant	Term that describes a seed that will germinate once ripened. Clivia have recalcitrant seeds.
scape	A stem that holds flowers. It comes out of the plant stem and has no normal leaves. See also
scientific name	Internationally recognised Latin name of a plant. It has two parts: the genus and the species. Always printed in italics.
sepal	One of the outermost modified leaves which compose a flower. In Clivia it looks the same as the petal and is called a tepal.
species	Basic or minor unit in plant nomenclature below the genus.
stamen	Pollen bearing or male reproductive organ of a flower. Aka androecium.
stem	Stems have four functions namely: support and elevation of leaves, flowers and fruits; transport of fluids from roots; storage of nutrients; generation of new living tissue.
stigma	Top of the female reproductive part of a flower.
style	Middle part of the female reproductive flower part. It connects the stigma to the ovary.

taxonomy	Science of defining and naming groups of biological organisms based on shared characteristics. A single plant is referred to as a taxon.
tepals	Flower segment where the sepals and petals are hard to distinguish. Clivia flowers have tepals.
umbel	Type of inflorescence. Group of flowers growing from a common point on the top of a stem.
vascular tissue	The circulation system in a plant consisting of xylem cells carrying water & nutrients, and phloem cells carrying sugars.
venation	Arrangement of veins in leaves. Clivia have parallel venation.

## SOURCES

Duncan G. et al 2016 *Amaryllidaceae* pp.109-130, 690-691

Hickey M & King C. 2000 *Illustrated Glossary of Botanical Terms* pp 1-46

Koopowitz H. 2002 *Clivias* pp 366-370

### **CONTACT DETAILS of NSW Society Office bearers**

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**COMMITTEE MEETINGS for 2018** **Sat 9/6/18, 18/8/18 and 20/10/18.**

**PROPOSED SHOW COMMITTEE MEETING -14/7/18 (Annual Show planning)**

**NEW TIMES** – Please note, start time for all committee and planning meetings is now 9.00am on the Saturdays nominated

**Committee members, please advise** the President or Secretary if you are unable to attend.

### INTERSTATE MEETINGS

**TOOWOOMBA CLIVIA SOCIETY, Inc.** – Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month, 1.00 – 3.00pm, at Toowoomba Council Immunisation Rooms. Cnr. Little and Victoria Streets. Toowoomba. Please advise their Secretary, Brian Mahoney on email: [bdmahoney@bigpond.com](mailto:bdmahoney@bigpond.com) or mobile: 0408 808 437 if you propose attending.

**MELBOURNE CLIVIA GROUP, Inc.** [www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au](http://www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au)

Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month, 7.30pm, at Burwood Uniting Church Hall, Cnr Blackburn Rd and Burwood Highway, BURWOOD. VIC.

**If you propose attending the Melbourne Group meeting, please contact:-**

Secretary Roger Clarke, by Email: [secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au](mailto:secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au) or

President Michael Barrett – mob. 0488 998 327

*C. caulescens x C. mirabilis*



*C. cyrtanthiflora x dark orange*



MC. Joy -2

‘Stanmore Bronzed Green Girl’



**'Clementina'**



*C. caulescens* x *C. mirabilis*



Ends E & OE

