



Newsletter

16th Edition - Summer 2020

2020 Executive and Committee members:

Peter Hey	President
Mal Roughly	Vice president
Narelle Fillbrook	Secretary (Nominee)
John Chng	Treasurer

Committee members:

John Layton	Show Chairman
Di Godwin	Membership Secretary
Neil Hamity	
Rose McCowage	
Newsletter Editor	Lucinda Donnelley
Public Officer	Ken Smith
Patron	Jeanne Marten



PHOTOS FROM PETER HEY'S NURSERY



Roley Chiffon X Andrew Gibson – flamboyant



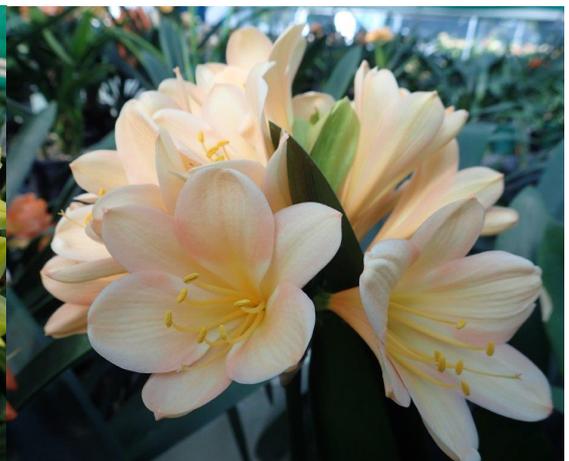
Andrew Gibson X Roley Chiffon



“Electra King” X ‘Andrew Gibson’
(note the different petal sizes)



Group 2 – just plain lovely – huge florets



(Developmental orange C. miniata X ‘Anderson’s Peach’)
X “Just Peachy”



‘Andrew Gibson’ X ‘Tango’ F1 – POW!



‘Apple blossom’ X ‘Andrew Gibson’ – pink!



Harry Erazmus bred “Ghost”

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Members

Please accept my sincere and best wishes to you and your families for a happy, healthy and safe 2020.

Like many of you I have enjoyed some much-needed time off over the Christmas break however mirrored your feelings of unease due to our numerous and massive bushfire events and the drought.

The week before Christmas I travelled to Dubbo to see my son/family and while there spend some dollars in the drought stricken Western NSW region, fuel, clothing, hats, consumables, plants etc. I did feel that I had at least done something to assist.

It certainly was harrowing returning to Sydney beside the burning bush along the Castlereagh Highway near Capertee and Ben Bullen. Dozers were working flat out ahead of the fire front, clearing access around houses and dams. I fuelled up at Portland and did so surrounded by Rural Fire crews recharging their tender's diesel tanks. There were no smiles, polite yet brief conversation. A great sense of co-ordination, teamwork, preparedness and waiting for the next challenge(s). I was pleased to get through before they closed the road; to safely!

I think the fire and drought events have touched all of us in some/many ways. I know I was anxious during the New Year's events, spending a lot of time on the phone contacting Society members who lived near those effected. To the best of my knowledge, our members, across the board, escaped serious loss and damage.

At the nursery, we prepared the surrounds, serviced the pumps, filled the tanks, hard-slashed the grassy firebreaks, prepared the personal protection requirements, waited and prayed.

Fires came within 8kms and other than some burnt leaf and fine ash 'rain' we escaped those first two major rounds. I check the 'Fires Near Me' app at least twice daily.

My heartfelt thanks go out to those of you who are directly assisting family and friends recover from the impacts of the fire.

AND THE HEAT! Some of my Clivia seedlings (freshly potted) copped blasts with the 44° and 47° daily maximums. I recommend that you double water your young plants during these extraordinary hot days. Early morning and later in the evening, seems best.

My tenure as President is fast approaching its close, two years has gone in a flash. Yes, I have had some challenges but I am left with an overall sense of gratitude, to the manner in which members have put their hands up to chip in and make this Society what it is. I appreciate the networking and team-work.

I especially welcome two new members – Narelle Fillbrook and Lucinda Donnelley. They have put their hands up for the positions of Secretary and Newsletter Editor respectively. 2020 is looking good. Narelle's position will require ratification at our Annual General Meeting on 29-2-2020. PLEASE NOTE CHANGED DATE OF OUR A.G.M.

In September 2019, we were fortunate to have fabulous speakers/presenters at our Spring Show. A special thank you to Judy Horton and Sandra Ross who both gave us their precious time to network with our members and give us their thoughts and ideas.

Our 2019 Show Chairman – John Layton excelled. His careful yet open minded approach led a sound path to an extraordinary Clivia spectacular. He demonstrated that we benefit enormously by engaging Social Media in our promotion of Society events, attracting younger members.

Our November 2019 General Meeting was very well attended (one of our best) with most members going home with a raffle prize or a treasured purchase from the excellent selection offered. My talk on nutrition appeared to capture a lot of interest. The highlight of the meeting was the recognition of Ken Russell with Life Membership of our Society, well deserved. We celebrate Ken's interesting life and his contribution to our Society in a separate article in this Newsletter, Lucinda's first tome.

The Committee met last Saturday. I am pleased to announce that, on your behalf, our Society is donating \$1000 (one thousand dollars) for direct support for the fire/drought effected families and communities. The motion and amount were thoroughly discussed and the acceptance unanimous. I am currently arranging to ensure that the net funds will be directed to those in need through the Rotary network of community service clubs.

Please **note the changed date for our A.G.M. now booked for 29/02/2020** at the Thornleigh Community Centre. 2.00 pm to 4.30 pm

Peter Hey
President

TREASURER'S REPORT

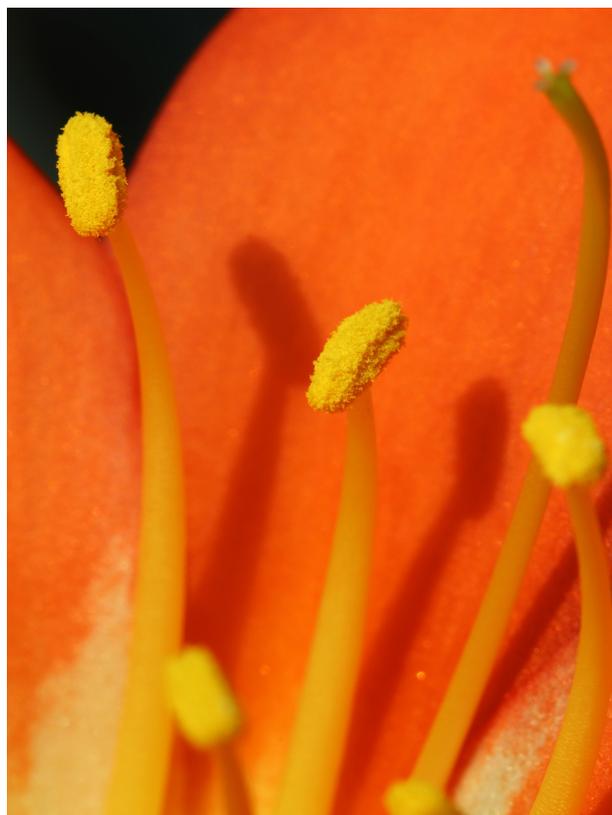
Our Bank balance for our ANZ INGLEBURN -
A/C 285703753 is \$9,576.01

Our Bank Balance for Our ANZ INGLEBURN SAVER - A/C
2923-51311 is \$3,000.00

Our Bank Balance for A/C 285703753 as at 13/01/2020 is
\$9,881.01. This is due to subscription renewal from our members.

Our 2018 accounts are being audited by Global accounting and
will be finalized soon and the 2019 accounts will be audited next
week and will be finalized by February 2020.

John Chng
Treasurer



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

For those who have yet to do so, please don't forget to renew your membership.

Those exempt are those who have become members since Sept 2019.

Subscription is \$25 for those who wish to receive the Newsletter via email or \$30 for a hard copy

Bank details if paying by EFT:

Clivia Society of NSW Inc
BSB 012 318
A/C No. 2857 03753
(PLEASE remember to include your name)

Cheques to be sent to: **Diane Godwin**
19 Woodchester Close, Castle Hill NSW 2154

Any questions email digodwin@ozemail.com.au

Di Godwin
Membership Secretary

RESULTS FROM 2019 UGF LIQUID FERTILIZER TRIAL



UGF 'UNKNOWN GROWTH FACTOR'

A cold processed concoction of fish and bull kelp NPK 9:2:6
Cytokinins, Humic & Fulvic acids, chelating agents, trace elements.

Diluted 1:100 with outstanding trial results, colour change generally within 48 hours. Used by Just Clivias and Rare Things generally throughout the nursery as a primary liquid fertilizer.

Available from Peter Hey heypete@tpg.com.au or phone 0408 113 457

Or purchase online from NGI – Natural Growth Institute
www.ngiinstitute.com.au or phone +612 4855 1051

CONGRATULATIONS TO KEN RUSSELL - AWARDED LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP



We are very proud to award our long time member and friend Ken Russell with lifetime membership of the Clivia Society of NSW.

At an early age Ken had a very green thumb and followed in the footsteps of his mother who was a great gardener at their property in Dungog.

From Dahlias, to Clivias to Orchids Ken's interest in plant cultivation and flower shows had blossomed in his teen into a career and lifelong passion.

Earlier in his career alongside his full time work as Manager of the Dungog Butter

Factory the “Orchid Glen Nursery” was begun, in a climate that was ideal for growing many types of orchids.

Ken’s interest in local and interstate Orchid Shows became an integral part of the family lifestyle. As well as his, family, work and the nursery Ken was – and continues to be - a great community man. Involved in many sports; Tennis, Cricket, Footy and Lawn Bowls--excelling in them all. A great club man he assisted and participated in many areas and many ways.

Ken and his wife Noelene together worked with many orchid species, mostly native for the last few decades with *Sarcochilus* his specialty - some native to the bush he explored as a child, even now at 82 he and his cousin Bobby Russell continue to visit. At first hybridising *Sarcochilus* was frustrating as Ken; wasn't setting seed. Remembering his uncle (I think) had success decades earlier, Ken and Bill Morris were determined to find out why. Ken collected bark from the same trees his uncle did 40+ years earlier and sent it off to their mates laboratory along with a sample of the pine bark he was using. The standout difference was the high sugar content of the native bark. Ken started painting stem and flower parts with honey and the plants produced seed! Now many hybridisers use this technique including a Japanese breeder, who along with an interpreter visited ken at Dungog.



Later down the track Ken took up full time work for a large Agricultural Chemical company – where he stayed for 25 years. This job entailed a great deal of time on the road, interstate and overseas and Ken spent a lot of time away from the Orchid Nursery. During his absences his loving wife Noelene worked very hard and continued with and cared for the orchid nursery and family.

There's plenty of good stories from Kenny's past, a well known favourite story started with a knock on the door early one Saturday morning. Ken answered the door to find the late Kerry Packer explaining he had a problem with his polo fields and with a tournament coming up he wanted them fixed fast. He said ‘I'm told you're the bloke to see’. Ken was happy to help offering to have a look first thing Monday. Mr Packer said he had a helicopter parked out of town I'd rather go now. Ken happily agreed so long as he could be home for his afternoon bowls tournament!

Through a radio broadcast out of Coffs Harbour, where Ken was a guest speaker, he met the late George Hellen, also a great ‘orchid man’ and a Clivia grower. They quickly became fast friends and many trips were made between Dungog and Aratula. George passed away in 2002 and is still sadly missed by all who knew him. His work is remembered by many lovely cultivars now grown from his hybridising.

In his retirement in 1994 Ken was able to put a lot more time into the Orchid Nursery and work more on the relatively new interest in growing Clivias and many Clivias were given to Ken by Bill Morris in 1990. They have worked, both together - and separately on various ideas and methods ever since and continue to share ideas and observations, pollens and plants, creating more and more beautiful Clivias and developing ideas on good growing practices.

A self-effacing person, Ken has been reluctant to promote himself as a Clivia breeder but he has finally been persuaded to name and register at least one of his lovely plants. **“RAINBOW MAGIC”**

Always willing to share information and growing practice ideas with Clivia lovers Ken especially enjoys helping new comers to the world of Clivia to get a grasp on growing them well. He is generous to a fault, as the contents of our Raffle Table at the last meeting of the Melbourne Clivia Group would attest. Ken has no particular favourite amongst the Clivia –like many of us –he loves them all. He has no adversity to chemicals but tries to dodge them where possible.

Information adapted from Melbourne Clivia Group newsletter article - September 2011 Vol 4.5 By Yvonne Hargreaves, images from Yvonne Hargreaves and stories from Mark Cant.

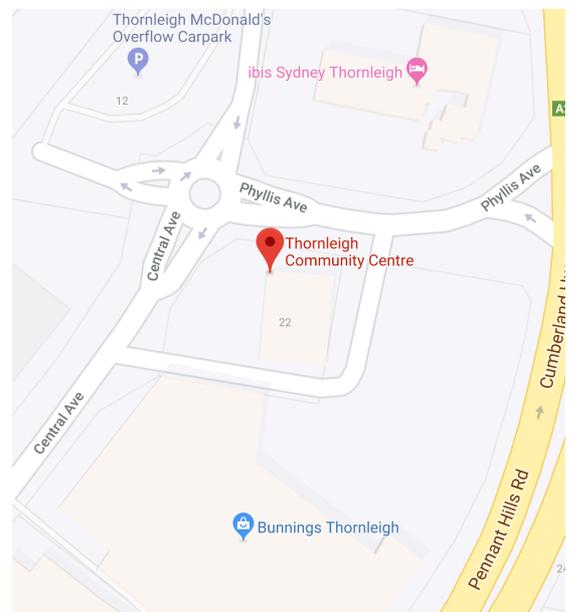


Clivia interspecific "CH #3" Developed by Bill Morris

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

LOCATION OF ALL MEETINGS:

Thornleigh Community Centre
Phyllis Avenue, THORNLEIGH (opposite Bunnings)



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 29/2/20 2.00 pm – 4.30pm

- **Annual Reports**
- **Election of Office Bearers**
- **Plant Raffles and Sales**

Note - President Peter's two-year term will finish (per our constitution) and his position will be declared vacant.

You are most welcome to join the Committee if you would like to contribute hands on to the Society.

COMMITTEE MEETING

Saturday 16/5/20 2.00 pm – 4.30pm

GENERAL MEETING**Saturday 20/6/20 2.00 pm – 4.30pm**

- **Guest speaker**
- **Plant Sales**
- **Auction**
- **Raffles**

COMMITTEE MEETING**Saturday 15/8/20 2.00 pm – 4.30pm****2020 ANNUAL SPRING SHOW****Friday 18, Saturday 19 & Sunday 20/9/20**

- **Friday Set-up 18/9/20**
- **Saturday 19/9/20**
- **Sunday 20/9/20**

COMMITTEE MEETING**Saturday 17/10/20 2.00 pm – 4.30pm****GENERAL MEETING****Saturday 14/11/20 2.00 pm – 4.30pm****OFFICE BEARER CONTACT DETAILS**

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Email: john.chng@bigpond.com

COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2020

Sat 18/1/20, Sat 16/5/20, Sat 15/8/20, T.B.A. (Show Committee), Sat 17/10/20 and Sat 16/1/21.

Committee members, please advise President or Membership Secretary Di if you are unable to attend.

Members are welcome to listen in at the Committee meetings, however you are not eligible to vote on matters arising.

Please give notice to the President that you propose to attend.

YOUR NOTES

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