



The New Zealand Clivia Club Inc. is pleased to present its first Newsletter. The newsletter is designed for electronic delivery to members and friends of the club and to communicate the aims of the club. -Ed

Coming Events

30 July 2003 Informal lecture Dr Keith Hammett
4th & 5th October 2003 **Clivia Show**
Auckland Regional Botanical Gardens,
Manurewa

Communications to the club via-

The Secretary
New Zealand Clivia Club Inc.
71 Taylor Road
Mangere Bridge
Auckland 1701
dismith@clear.net.nz

Chairman's Piece.

The best part of horticulture is sowing seeds, nurturing young plants and then taking satisfaction when these plants reach maturity. So it is with clubs like ours. This is an exciting time. We are now in the Twenty First century and our way of life is changing rapidly.

While it is important to learn from the past it is equally important not to be constrained by it. With regard to our club, we have the opportunity to explore new ways of doing things and to do things which best suit our climate and lifestyle. "We have a clean slate".

At our inaugural meeting we collectively agreed to use the name 'club' rather than the more grandiose 'society'. Similarly we elected a 'chairman' rather than a 'president'. This is important philosophically as we want to be as inclusive, informal and democratic as possible. It does not however, imply that we will be anything other than rigorous with regard to the exchange of sound information.

A healthy forest or garden includes old and established plants, but at the same time provides an environment which allows young plants to grow into mature specimens. So it should be for membership of a club. It is simply a matter of chance when someone discovers an interest. If we are to try new things we need a steady stream of new ideas from all of you. Often a new chum will have considerable experience in other areas and may well bring new vision.

Do not be shy in coming forward with ideas, suggestions and questions. Remember that everyone of you has something to offer to your club.

Keith Hammett.

Contemplations from the LongDrop

"Clivia is a New Zealand Native".-
Department of Conservation told one of our members at the Ellerslie Flower Show 2002
- I hope he's more educated by 2003 Show - Ed

You know you're addicted to Clivia when your sole purpose for going to work is to earn to buy more clivia plants
- I'm afraid it's a serious addiction with no known cure - sorry - Ed

Handy Hints

- Throw a handful of snail pellets over your outdoor clivias to deter the snails eating the flowers
- Pollen will keep in the freezer for 6 months. Some reports say it is viable for up to 5 years

"We do not want the club to be too rigid in any regard". But the club was Incorporated into a "legal identity" on 23-May-2003 AK/1313262, big thanks to Alick

Letters to the Editor

I have been noticing the increased use of *Clivia miniata* by landscapers around the Auckland area, sometimes planted in very poor locations, exposure to sun is common. I would hope members are, when the opportunity presents itself, educating gardeners in this respect. A good appearance of plants viewed by the public maintains the image and value in general.-*P Taylor*

Buyer Beware

Don't believe all you see on the Internet. e-bay.com sales of bogus plants, photos don't often match seedlings. Did someone pay US\$52 for a common plant?

Net Meetings

We are starting up a weekly chat forum to cover the whole of NZ. The chat session will be hosted by Di & a guest expert. If you would like to be part of this weekly exchange of Clivia information please send your e-mail address to Di and she will log you in as a user.- *Di*

Club Library

We have a collection of media relating to Clivia available to members at a nominal fee/p&p, contact Di

Meet the committee

Keith Hammett (Chairman)

Keith has had an association with horticulture since childhood. He has served on the management of various societies internationally since university days and has had major input into establishing judging criteria and classification schemes for several genera. He is a foundation member of the Clivia Society based in South Africa and was recently appointed as an international representative and member of the judging committee. He is well known as a plant breeder.

Alick McLeman (Treasurer)

An ex-banker, Alick has been in love with Clivia for the past 10 years. Served on the KwaZulu-Natal Branch Committee of the Clivia Society for some years & exhibited at Clivia Shows in South Africa. Brought the nucleus of his clivia collection when he and his wife, Frances, moved to New Zealand for family reasons 3 years ago. A hobbyist, not a horticulturist.

David Brundell

A horticulturist with a scientific background and a long time interest in bulbous plants, especially amaryllids. They are cultivated in his nursery and garden at Glenbrook Beach. The passion for clivia really got started about fifteen years ago when Sir Peter Smithers gave him an off-set of his 'Vico Yellow' which is multiplied and hybridised with other varieties collected in New Zealand and overseas.

Lisa Mannion

Runs a specialist Clivia nursery from her home at Kare Kare where she lives with her husband Robert and three children. She is focusing on breeding broad leaf yellow miniatas and working towards developing dwarf compact forms of broad leaf yellows.

Stuart Hill

An ex pilot and currently working at Auckland Airport. Stuart admits that he has difficulty in the garden, but with gentle persuasion from Di his partner, is improving somewhat. Stuart found a Clivia clump in his garden, (est at 40 yrs old) when people kept lifting the seeds and offsets a few years ago. Stuart's other hobbies include computer rebuilding.

Di Smith (Secretary)

Di is a keen gardener and has served on various committees and community projects over the last 25 years. She is a keen hobbyist and has a small collection of hybrid clivia she is having fun propagating. Di is also an emphatic internet junkie and chats world wide with other clivia lovers. She hopes to set up a NZ chat room for fellow clivia lovers, very soon.

Cindy Barnes

DipHort Sc. Keith's able assistant, currently doing a commissioned experiment in clivia vegetative propagation. Building her own collection of clivia.

Tips for Winter

In their natural habitat Clivia experience long periods of drought and rest in winter. But being such versatile plants they thrive in our heavy winter rainfall provided the soil / potting medium is well drained.

Watering

In the garden: Ensure good drainage and don't water during winter.

In containers: One good watering every 2 weeks if under cover

Feeding:

In the garden: It shouldn't be necessary to feed during winter.

In containers: A "late summer" application of potassium will stimulate developing flowers.

Plant care:

Remove yellowing leaves. Wash the leaves to get rid of accumulated dust, etc.

Frost:

Frost sensitive, Clivia need to be sheltered or under cover.

Pests:

Bait for snails regularly. Spray for mealy bug as required.

Seeds:

C. miniata berries can be harvested. Placing the umbel in a weak solution of sugar water for a few days and leaving to dry for a few weeks will accelerate the ripening process.

Germination:

Requires warmth (18° to 23° C). Try germinating between sheets of damp paper towel in a plastic container on top of the fridge.

-Alick

Mary Colquhoun

Gardening for Mary, has been a lifetime pleasure. She has a small collection of clivia "specials" and a huge old clump outside that is over 40 years old. Mary has served on many horticulture groups committees and as an executive member since 1957.

Bev Wade

A general gardener and into floral art, belong to many societies. Mary and I pollinated our newly bought Clivias and X them, a yellow with a pale orange last year. Also I'm looking forward to the flowering of 3 yellow clivias which John Meyer gave me about 3 years ago.

Terry and Pam Hatch

Terry ably supported by wife Pam, is one of New Zealand's most respected plantsmen. Terry has an encyclopaedic knowledge of many genera, which like his plants, he shares freely. They founded Joy Plants in the 1970s and are well known for their displays at shows like Ellerslie and his TV appearances. They contribute enthusiastically to a range of organisations and conservation projects.

The Clivia Society

The Clivia Society based in South Africa, the home of the genus Clivia, has been international in outlook since its very inception. Each year it produces between four and six newsletters and a very high quality Year Book containing information and pictures from around the world. Members of the NZCC are encouraged to become individual members and to receive publications directly. If you are interested, but as yet unsure, Di holds previous copies of the Year Book, which you can borrow, in the NZCC library.

If you do decide to join, contact Keith Hammett for an application form.
Annual subscriptions are \$US20 payable by credit card.

To sign up for the e-mail list in the Clivia Enthusiasts discussion group, you can send an e-mail to clivia-enthusiast-subscribe@yahoo.com

And further from Keith - Send Copy !

"Now that is a nice idea. So many newsletter editors get so desperate for copy that after they have exhausted themselves writing copy de novo, they start reprinting stuff from earlier newsletters in a kind of last desperate act of self cannibalism immediately prior to death"

-I know how you feel- All contributions gratefully accepted and heres the address! -Ed smhill@i4free.co.nz

Photo of the month

Lisa Mannion cuddling one of her yellow "Studs"



An Invitation to Clivia Net Chat for Kiwis – A chance to Chat and Learn more about the Clivia

Di, in conjunction with other clivia people, has set up a chat room for Kiwi Clivia lovers to chat in on a regular basis. She has asked a variety of "experts" to occasionally help host the chat room.

The purpose of the chat is to learn and exchange ideas and information, especially if you are a hobbyist or small time breeder. Don't be shy...If you would like to join in on a weekly/casual basis, please send your e-mail address to dismith@clear.net.nz and the details of how to join will be forwarded to you.

By the way – Di wants you all to admire the *miniata* x *gardenii* cross that she was given as a coercion (bribe) to be our secretary – and she says the coercion (bribe) sure worked well (courtesy of Alick) I am sure you will all agree that the flower is fantastic – thanks Alick !



Pictures Stuart Hill