



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The winter cold and wet is upon us in Melbourne, but as I'm writing, we have just had a sunny weekend which has been great for gardening, *Clivia* tending and the morale.

After two years of not meeting, most clubs are battling getting back on their feet. It was great to have a well-attended meeting in June. We had promoted ourselves from our Facebook page plus also via the Australian Clivia Enthusiast Facebook group. Wonderfully, we had five new faces at our meeting and a warm welcome to our two new members. At 1.55pm we had about six people in the room, and I have to admit my heart was sinking a little, but people came.

I had put quite a bit of work into the presentation, so it was nice to speak to the gathering. Variegates was the topic. In the *Clivia* world there are horizontal and vertical striped variegates able to be grown. I followed Helen Marriott's description of these via her article from on our website and wonderfully found them all in my collection. So that was very fun to discover.

It was great having Alex bring a mature Light of Buddha to add to the variegate display. I brought in 30 variegated plants so there was plenty to see. Most were young ones, but they provided good samples of the types of variegation available. I thought they looked great!!!!

Thanks Brenda and Ian for bringing in the Interspecifics that were flowering. Who doesn't like a flower! I think they were all *C. gardenii*. Our Interspecifics flower over such a range of months. I think regardless of the topic of the night, if you have one flowering, please bring it along.

I'm really keen on encouraging us to bring in plants for display. They provide so much interest for the meetings. Importantly, I think they help facilitate conversation between our members. It can be a little tough talking to people you don't know but we all have *Clivia* in common and so display plants help begin conversations. I love seeing the different plants, pots and soil medium that people are growing and using. So, members please have a look the week

before the next meeting you come and bring something of interest.

Our new people and some of us bought a few *Clivia*. This was good pocket money for three of us. Several of the new people were looking for greens. Would you please let me know if you have some greens to sell? I think it would be great to be able to advertise our meetings and communicate that they are available at the meetings.

Our next meeting is actually a lunch at Hallam Pub and a tour of my place. You'll see my garden and also the *Clivia* efforts. We are hoping once a year to visit someone's collection. So, if you are a Melbournite or live close I hope you can make it.

Enjoy your *Clivia* and the friendship in the club.

Allan Gibson



RICHGRO
Bring your garden to life



NEXT MEETING

LUNCH AND GARDEN TOUR

Saturday 16 July

MEMBERS ONLY

Saturday 16th July – Hallam Hotel Lunch at 12.30pm followed by a Garden Tour

Allan and Mandy Gibson have a lovely small garden with a walking path around the yard. There are three greenhouses plus a pergola with *Clivia*. Most have a roof and so regardless of the rain we can view them. Bring an umbrella and make sure you will be warm enough.

This event is for members only. Please notify the secretary if you wish to attend.

You are welcome to just come to Allan's place at 2pm if you can't make it for lunch.

Allan's address will be sent to attendees closer to the event: secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au

2022 CALENDAR

Saturday 16 July – Lunch and Garden visit

Friday 19 Aug 7.30pm – Meeting (Expo preparation)

Sat 17 Sep 2022 CLIVIA EXPO

Friday 21 Oct 7.30pm – Meeting (Speaker TBA)

Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.
Burwood East LPO
PO Box 4225
Burwood East, VIC 3151
Ph: 0477 134 863z
secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au



Figure 1 Allan & Mandy Gibson's garden



 Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.
presents:

2022 CLIVIA EXPO

Saturday 17th September
10am - 4pm

Displays • Demonstrations • Sales
AUCTION 1pm

\$5 entry / \$4 Seniors Card holders

Central Ringwood Community Centre
Rosewarne Lane, Bedford Park Ringwood 3134
Enquiries: 0477 134 863

www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au



MCG SEED LIST 2022

Last chance to purchase seeds from the MCG Seed list 2022. Orders close 15th July.

<https://www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au/mcg-seed-list-2022/>

VIDEO PRESENTATION

For those who were unable to attend the June meeting where Allan Gibson presented on *Types of Variegation*, a shortened version of the presentation is now available on the website as a video.

<https://www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au/types-of-variegated-clivia-allan-gibson/>

JUNE MEETING PHOTOS





Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.

Burwood East LPO
PO Box 4225,
Burwood East 3151
Ph: 0477 134 863
www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au
secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au

Taking interspecific breeding a step further:

By Carrie Kruger Utopia Clivias

Interspecific flowering season is always a very exciting time for breeders. Nothing gives us more pleasure than seeing the start of a new flower forming on a cross that you made four to five years ago. From the moment a bud appears till the first flower opens, you are held in suspense to see if the result is what you had imagined it would be.

We all know that in clivia breeding there are good and bad results and then, there are those few that stand out from the rest where you just know you have hit the jackpot. These are the flowers that make the long wait worthwhile.

We consider interspecific breeding as the “new age” of clivia breeding. Most of the new and unusual colours in clivias originate from interspecific breeding. We believe that the future of clivia lie hidden in these genetics. The largest range of colours are found in interspecific flowers.

It has been proven that with interspecific breeding the second generation produces improved colours and flower shapes. Most of the F1 hybrids are narrow tubular flowers, sometimes with a slight flare as we have seen with robusta and caulescens breeding.



Figure 1 Star Green Destiny, Carrie Kruger

When we started breeding interspecifics many years ago, there were not many good interspecifics to choose from. These were mostly F1 crosses. We selected the ones we thought at that time were more superior regarding flower shape and colour. We now breed with our best F2's making sibling crosses as well as doing self-pollinations.

Because of the large gene pool in a single interspecific plant, results are never guaranteed. Therefore, it is advisable to grow these crosses to flowering size and to then select the best. Unfortunately, we do not all have the space to be able to bring them all into flower.

Findings from our breeding over the past few years:

Ensure you breed with superior f1 or f2 plants from the start. This will save you a good few years compared to starting from scratch with any of the species. We have bred some superior versi colours from non versi colour parents, for example, “Ember Spirit” Fig.2. Versi colour traits are carried over in the pollen as well as pod parent plants.

If miniata pollen is used too many times in a cross, the flowers become inferior miniata like types.



Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.

Burwood East LPO

PO Box 4225,

Burwood East 3151

Ph: 0477 134 863

www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au

secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au

We have also flowered self-pollinated F2's that were by far superior to the parent plant. This is proof that self-pollination is a good option if you are unsure of what pollen to use on a specific flower, "Planet Earth" **Fig.3**



Figure 2 Ember Spirit, Carrie Kruger

Make sure your plants are compatible, by making sure you know which group your plant belongs to. It is advisable to use compact plants as one of the parent plants to produce a shorter leaf, more compact interspecifics. We have used a yellow Daruma with great success. "Mirror Beauty" **Fig.6** is a good example of this type of cross.

Crosses using either variegated or LOB type plants have resulted in beautiful plants. "Light of Africa" is an example of this type of cross. This cross was made by Francois van Rooyen.

Examples of our breeding results:

Fig 1: Star Green Destiny - F1 of Star Green Original (Star Green Original is a f2 bred by Nakamura)

Fig 2: Ember Spirit – Carnival (*Miniata x Gardenii*) x Secret Wish (*Stella Parish miniata x Gardenii x Grp1 Yellow*)

Fig.3: Planet Earth - Jupiter (*Gardenii x miniata*) x (*Miniata x Gardenii*) x Self

Fig 4: Lucid Dreams- Dreaming (*Best Nakamura f1 x self*) x sibling

Fig 5: Over the Moon- Secret Whisper (*Stella Parish miniata x Gardenii x Grp1 Yellow*) x New Moon (*Yellow f2 interspecific*)

Fig 6: Mirror Beauty- (Yellow Daruma x *Mirabilis*) x Yellow Daruma

Some of the parent plants used in crosses:

Fig 7: Carnival = (*Miniata x Gardenii*)

Fig 8: Jupiter = (*Gardenii x miniata*) x (*Miniata x Gardenii*)

Fig 9: Dreaming = (*Best Nakamura f1 x self*)



Figure 3 Planet Earth, Carrie Kruger



Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.

Burwood East LPO
PO Box 4225,
Burwood East 3151
Ph: 0477 134 863
www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au
secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au

Conclusion:

- Interspecific hybrids have become more popular in the last few years and most clubs now have Interspecific shows in July or August to showcase and promote the beauty of these hybrids.
- These hybrids give us a longer flowering period as they start flowering from early June all the way through to October in the Southern Hemisphere.
- Interspecifics often flower at odd times during the year which make them a welcome sight in a shade house with only foliage.
- Interspecifics are fast growing and more disease resistant than Clivia Miniata. They also multiply well. Some plants make offsets before they have even flowered.
- The range of colours and flower forms are unlimited.
- These special plants should be in every breeder`s collection. We hope to see many of our new crosses flower in 2019.



Figure 4 *Lucid Dreams*, Carrie Kruger



Figure 5 *Over the Moon*, Carrie Kruger



Figure 6 *Mirror Beauty*, Carrie Kruger



Figure 7 *Carnival*, Carrie Kruger



Melbourne
Clivia Group Inc.

Burwood East LPO
PO Box 4225,
Burwood East 3151
Ph: 0477 134 863
www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au
secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au



Figure 8 Jupiter, Carrie Kruger



Figure 9 Dreaming, Carrie Kruger



Melbourne
Clivia Group Inc.

Burwood East LPO
PO Box 4225,
Burwood East 3151
Ph: 0477 134 863
www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au
secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au