



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am looking forward to the next phase of the Melbourne Clivia Group. I became President last year after Lisa Fox moved interstate. I hadn't been on the committee before and wasn't able to make committee meetings in 2022. So it was an odd kind of presidency.

2022 was a challenge for most garden clubs. After almost two years of covid lockdown, hesitations about gathering and just being out of rhythm with life, I was wondering what could we expect in the year?

So, despite these challenges, I think we came through 2022 very well. Some highlights were over 10 new members, a positive Expo, a great afternoon viewing a member's clivias in the Dandenongs, and some good newsletters. Our meetings at the beginning of the year were closer to 15 in attendance but this increased during the year. We also put out an extensive seed catalogue for the second time and it was well received.

In the world of clivias it is an exciting time to be collecting and growing. There are so many new colour combinations in the miniatas. More of us are growing variegates. The interspecifics also have much interest and there are new colours and shapes being produced. Several of our members are going close to having clivias flowering almost every day of the year.

The internet allows us to not only see many wonderful plants, but it also allows us to connect with people who share the clivia' passion. Importantly it also provides an easy on-ramp for people who want to begin collecting clivias. I engaged with the Australian Clivia Enthusiast Facebook group plus our Melbourne Clivia Group. There are many new people venturing into clivias.

I continue to enjoy the hobby and appreciate the club. Some in the group have so much experience with breeding and growing and have been willing to share their wisdom. I've appreciated the friendships and generosity of many. There are many reasons for being a member in the club.

A very big thankyou to the committee members who have volunteered their time and worked hard behind the scenes. These include Di Mathews, Rae Begg, John Mackenzie, Brenda Girdlestone, John Cochrane and Ian Johnson. Lisa Fox produced our newsletters and maintained the website.

We have some dates out for next year (pending confirmation by the new committee). Of most significant is that we have decided to have our Expo two weeks later at the end of September. We really did struggle this year to have plants out flowering. While it was probably the most difficult season for a while, it was assessed that generally we struggle in mid-September to have plants to display. I am aware that this decision has had some mixed responses so the new committee will need to affirm or adjust for the way forward.

If you are in Melbourne, please attend our AGM meeting in February. We are hoping for some new people to join our committee.

*Allan Gibson*





## NEXT MEETING

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 17 February 7.30pm

Uniting Church  
Cnr Blackburn Rd &  
Burwood Hwy, Burwood

### CALENDAR DATES FOR 2023

(pending confirmation by new committee)

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August

Expo 30<sup>th</sup> September

Friday October meeting

Late November Christmas Party

Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.

Burwood East LPO

PO Box 4225

Burwood East, VIC 3151

Ph: 0477 134 863

secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au

### MEMBERSHIP 2023

**O**ur club membership is from January to December. So, memberships are now due. To renew, fill out the form online on our website or print the attached membership form and return to our address or email address.

The link to the online form is

<http://www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au/membership/membership-application-form/>

If you joined up later in 2022 (eg around our Expo time), your membership continues for 2023. Payment should accompany the form please.



**Above:** A Light of Buddha flowering in January for Allan Gibson. The plant is just 4½ years old.

**Below:** An interspecific from Brenda Girdlestone, also flowering in January.





## SUMMER CULTIVATION NOTES

(Di Mathews)

**W**e are now well into summer after a very wet spring, with water catchments at levels not seen for some years, which is great news for gardeners.

Clivias will still need care during summer if they are to thrive, even though they are drought resistant plants.

Small seedlings and young plants will need regular watering, while mature plants, especially if grown in pots, will appreciate a good weekly watering in most cases.

When watering your pots, it is important to give a good drench of water so that the water flows freely from the bottom of the pot, then do not water until it is needed again. It is also preferable to water during the early part of the day to allow excess water to drain and help reduce the incidence of fungal attack which can be encouraged by water sitting in the leaf bases for extended periods.

The hot winds we often have at this time of year will often deposit a layer of dust on the leaves, so the clivias will appreciate quick gentle spray with the hose to remove this.

Continue with your fertilising regime of choice. Small seedlings will thrive with liquid fertiliser at half strength applied regularly, while more mature plants will do well with a good quality slow-release fertiliser. Flowering size clivias start to produce their flower buds for the following spring in January, deep within the base of the plant, so it is important to ensure good nutrition at this time to promote a good head of flowers.

Potassium is essential for good flowers and strong peduncles, and one way to ensure both is to feed with some potassium sulphate over the summer. It can be applied as a weak solution in water, or simply sprinkle about a teaspoon of it around the top of the pot of your flowering size plants and water in well. This can be done monthly over summer.

Ensure that plants are well shaded during the very hot days. Clivias are prone to scorched leaves if left unprotected in the sun. Continue to keep a watchful eye for leaf chewing pests, such as mealybugs, cockroaches, and snails, and treat as necessary. Snails and slugs have been abundant for many of us with the damp spring conditions and can cause a lot of damage to the new leaves.

If spraying for pests, do not spray on hot days, but wait for a cooler and wind free day to use pesticides. Do not apply in windy weather to avoid drift to other parts of the garden, and to prevent damage to beneficial garden insects.

Finally, spare a thought for our birds and wildlife during the summer months, and if you can, leave a dish of water out for them in a safe and sheltered part of the garden.

**O**ur Facebook Group. *To keep up to date with activities and tips from the Melbourne Clivia group please join us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/melbournecliviagroup>*

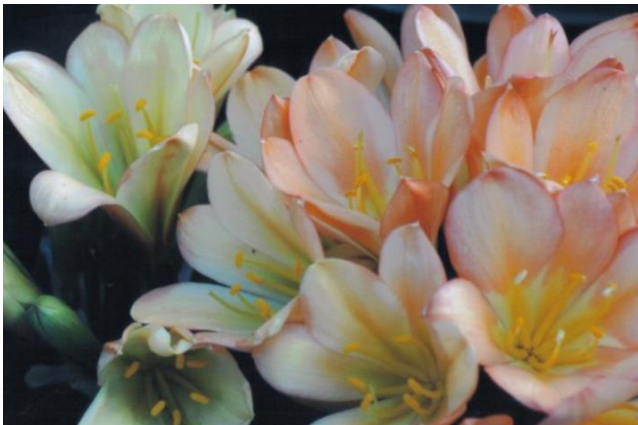
**RICHGRO**  
Bring your garden to life





**V**ALE: Jeanne Marten.  
(by Di Mathews)

The Clivia world has lost one of its most passionate advocates with the death of Jeanne Marten very recently. Jeanne died suddenly at home in December 2022. Jeanne, along with her husband Lionel who is also a passionate breeder and grower, has bred some of the most beautiful clivias available in Australia. Jeanne was a good friend to many of us who have benefitted from her wise words and generosity over the years.



This is a reprint of an article I wrote for the MCG newsletter in 2010.

Jeanne Marten is a breeder of some of Australia's most extraordinary clivias. Jeanne has been breeding for over 40 years, not for any commercial gain, but purely for her love of this striking plant. Jeanne grew up in Toowoomba, and has spent much of her life there, although she did spend seven years living in New Guinea early in her married life. Jeanne began her early breeding efforts with some Belgian plants, and from these fairly humble beginnings, she has over the years produced an array of plants with an amazing diversity of colour and form.

Jeanne's first crosses were from Belgian Hybrids, and many of her other early crosses were from Kevin Walter's seeds and plants. She continued

her experimenting over the years with seed from Schenkel in Germany, Spain, Holland, United States, as well as local seed.



Many of her plants show the characteristic European look, the tulip-shaped flowers having broad, overlapping tepals, although many of her plants also have huge flowerheads with lovely, recurved flowers. When Jeanne first started experimenting with clivias, there were no books or magazines available on the subject, so everything she learnt in those early years was very much by trial and error. She gained a wealth of knowledge at that time, largely by her own experiences, and, with the shared experiences of a close circle of friends. They exchanged information, seeds and plants.



Jeanne's breeding methods are considered unorthodox by some, as she simply does not care



what she crosses with what – in her words, she just “fiddles around” and waits to see the results. She has been known to mix a batch of different pollens together and use this to pollinate plants, similar to the Dave Conway “shotgun” method. She says that if you do a cross, and get thirty different seeds, you are likely to get almost as many variations from that one cross. She believes that clivia genetics are still poorly understood, and therefore has experimented widely without any concern about trying to match plants for colour or groupings, and, in doing so, has had some spectacular results. © Copyright 2010 Melbourne Clivia Group Inc. Page 5



She is very concerned, however, to breed strength and vigour into her plants, and always does her crosses with this in mind. She likes plants that have huge flowerheads on tall flowerstalks – flowers that “stand up and look you in the eye” regardless of their colour. She says she remembers clearly the ‘old days’ when plants that were considered ‘anaemic’ were discarded by breeders. These ‘anaemic’ plants were the peaches and pastels that are now considered so desirable and are so widely coveted. Her favourite clivia is Cowlshaw ‘Big Orange’, a beautiful plant with deep orange flowers and a large head of perfectly formed flowers. Jeanne is also a long-time breeder of the various forms of interspecific clivia. She has

been involved with these forms of clivia to try and have something in flower throughout the year. Again, she has produced an amazingly diverse collection of interspecifics, including both broad-leaved and variegated forms. The plants are still considered very unusual, with most interspecifics still having narrow, green leaves. Many of her interspecifics have bell-shaped flaring flowers in a wide range of colours.



Jeanne is a private grower, not a nursery, albeit with a very large collection, and does not sell her plants commercially. However, for many years, Jeanne, with the assistance of her husband Lionel, has run a clivia show at the Wilsonton Shopping Centre in Toowoomba at the same time as the annual Carnival of Flowers. Over the years, she has donated all the proceeds of plant sales at this show to the local hospice and has raised many thousands of dollars for this worthy cause. Last year, for the first time, she donated the proceeds to the Peacehaven Botanical Garden at Crow’s nest, just north of Toowoomba. In addition to selling plants for charity, Jeanne is determined to promote clivias, and is always more than willing to help newcomers to this plant with advice and encouragement. She is very keen to see this plant promoted Australia-wide. She has willingly given seeds and plants to newcomers to the Clivia world, and is always supportive of clubs and groups, often donating plants for members.



Melbourne  
Clivia Group Inc.

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# Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.

Burwood East LPO  
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Burwood East 3151  
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www.melbournecliviagroup.org.au  
secretary@melbournecliviagroup.org.au

## ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS Nomination form 2023

The election of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and ordinary members of the Committee will take place at the AGM on Friday 17 February 2023.

Following the Model Rules (49-55) of the Association, nominations should be sent to the Secretary on the form below or else presented at the AGM. Please note the following:

- All positions on the Committee will be declared vacant at the AGM. Committee members may be re-elected.
- An eligible member of the MCG Inc. may (a) nominate him/herself; or (b) with the member's consent, be nominated by another member.
- If only one member is nominated for the position of President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer, the member will be declared elected to that position. If more than one member is nominated, a ballot must be held.
- The AGM must by resolution decide the number of ordinary members of the Committee it wishes to hold office for the next year. A single election may be held to fill all of those positions. If the number of members nominated exceeds the number to be elected, a ballot must be held.
- A member who is nominated for a position and fails to be elected to that position at the meeting may be nominated for any other position for which an election is yet to be held.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ being a financial member of the Melbourne  
Clivia Group Inc, nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for the position of  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Nomination accepted:      Signature: \_\_\_\_\_      Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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## APPOINTMENT OF PROXY 2023

The process for the appointment of a proxy as found in the Model Rules (34) of the Association is summarised here and includes an appointment of proxy form.

Any member unable to attend the AGM is entitled to appoint another member as proxy by submitting to the Secretary (at the address given above) a nomination form no less than 24 hours before the time of the meeting in respect of which the proxy is appointed.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
(name) (address)

being a member of the Melbourne Clivia Group Inc. appoint \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
(name of proxy holder) (address of proxy holder)

being a member of that Incorporated Association, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the annual general meeting of the Association to be held on Friday, 21 February 2020 and at any adjournment of that meeting.

My proxy is authorised to vote in the case that a ballot is held for the election of a Committee member.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY USE ONLY: Date & time received:





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## ***FOR MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL OF THE MELBOURNE CLIVIA GROUP INC. 2023***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

- I wish to become a member of the Melbourne Clivia Group Inc. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to support the purposes of the MCG Inc. and to comply with the rules of the group.
- I wish to renew my membership.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Membership options:**

- Single Membership 2023 (electronic newsletter) \$20
- OR**
- Single Membership 2023 (hard copy newsletter) \$30
- Each additional family member \$15

### **Payment options:**

- Cash (at meetings)
- Cheque (*payable to Melbourne Clivia Group Inc.*)
- Direct Deposit (BSB 083657; Acc. 829745477)

### **Additional family members: (\*please add all names & signatures)**

Name	Signature

***Please note that payment of the appropriate amount must accompany the completed application form. Please send to the above address or give in person to the Treasurer***



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## **M**inutes of the Annual General Meeting 2022 of the Melbourne Clivia Group. Date 18th February 2022.

Venue: Burwood Heights Uniting Church, Fellowship Room, Cnr. Burwood Hwy and Blackburn Rd. Burwood.

### **Meeting Opens** (7.40 pm)

Welcome: Vice President Di Matthews welcomed members to the new Clivia year.

Apologies: John Trotter, Michael Barratt, Helen Marriot, Alan Gibson.

Members Present: (15)

Rae Begg, Ray Begg, Geoff Brown, Terry Edwards, Brenda Girdlestone, Ian Johnson, John Mackenzie, Di Matthews, Chee Perks, Ray Perks, Paul Smith, Haydn Lomas, Kelvin Mitchell, John Cochrane, Alex Dumas.

Visitors: Nil

Motion to accept minutes of last AGM (distributed in April 2021 in MCG newsletter Vol.14.2).

Moved: Rae Begg

Seconded: Chee Perks

## **1. Reports.**

### **President's report**

#### **President's Report – Annual General Meeting 2022**

My apologies that I am unable to attend my last Annual General Meeting as President of the Melbourne Clivia Group due to my relocation interstate. I am hopeful that there will be a number of members in attendance and that interest in the club has survived the pandemic. For the second year in a row, we have been barely able to run meetings and were forced to cancel the Expo due to the pandemic and lock-downs. So, once again this is a short President's Report with not much to report.

In the past year, we have purchased a few items which will be an asset to the club for future Expos including two 'Expo today' flags for display at the roadside on the day of Expo, and board and cloth for low display tables at the Expo, plus rosettes for next year's Expo awards. We have managed to distribute the newsletters regularly as well as conduct our first ever seed sale. Our member's gallery of flowering plants on the website attracted a large amount of visitors. Although limited in what we could achieve this year, we have tried to keep the communication gates open with members and make small changes that will benefit the club in the future.



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Thank you to the committee members who have volunteered their time and worked hard behind the scenes to keep the balls in the air. These include: Di Mathews, Rae Begg, John Mackenzie, Brenda Girdlestone, Ian Johnson and Geoff Brown. Thank you also to Terry Edwards who never fails to attend a meeting and takes care of our coffee supplies.

We are so fortunate to have a good number of experienced growers in the club who are very generous with their time and mentor new members. This is such a great way to share knowledge, make new friends and improve one's collection of plants. Some members are unable to attend meetings but are happy to be involved in initiatives such as the seed sales – and there are members who just wish to receive the newsletters. Members have different reasons for joining and we hope, as a club, to be able to cater for all types of members.

It is very important in 2022 that members step forward to support the MCG in any way that they can, whether it be through volunteering at the Expo, assisting at meetings with the raffle or trading table, fund-raising, providing a raffle prize, or simply providing photos of flowering plants for our social media account. The last two years have proved to be difficult for many clubs with keeping membership and interest alive, and the MCG is no exception. So, hopefully tonight you will elect a new President and together with the new committee, the club will move forward into a new era – a post-pandemic era - where there will be meetings and activities again for members to enjoy our beautiful plants. I will continue to be involved with the club and hope to see you all either at the Expo or at the odd meeting I am able to attend.

Lisa Fox

Motion to accept President's report

Moved: Paul Smith                      Seconded: Rae Begg

### **Secretary's report**

### **Secretary Report 2022**

There's not a lot to report this year.

Last year we managed to hold the AGM and 1 other meeting before lockdowns forced us to cancel the remainder of meetings plus Expo.

We ran a members seed list for the first-time last year we had 6 members selling and 12 members buying as a first effort it was a good result and we learnt a lot so it gives us something to improve on. It was just unfortunate that due to covid restrictions we had to post out all the seeds instead of we had planned handing them out a meeting. It's hoped that the next committee continues with this and members support it.

Probably due to lockdowns and cancellation of Expo we did have more public inquiries for plant sales, I believe that we were able to fulfil all these inquires, which says a lot about our members and club.



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Here's hoping for a more normal year.

Move to accept Secretary's report.

Moved: Di Mathews

Seconded: Chee Perks

## Treasurer's report

Treasurer's report 2022						
Bank Account		Credit	Debit	Credit	Debit	Balance
		\$ c	\$ c	\$ c	\$ c	\$ c
<b>Opening Balance Bank Acc 11/10/19</b>						<b>6,206.37</b>
<b>Income</b>						
	Membership	870.00				
	Raffles	125.00				
	Others	31.00				
				1,026.00		
						<b>7,232.37</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
	Hall Hire		85.00			
	Newsletter		Nil			
	Web site		59.90			
	Consumer Affairs		59.20			
	RHSV		180.00			
	Other		721.20			
					1,105.30	
						<b>6,127.07</b>
<b>Closing Bank Balance 31/12/20</b>						<b>7,047.37</b>
<b>Bank Assets</b>						
	NAB Chq A/c					<b>6,127.07</b>
	Nab Fixed deposit					<b>5,166.13</b>
	Total to date					<b>11,293.20</b>
<b>Petty Cash</b>						
<b>Opening Balance</b>	Credit					74.60
	Debit		3.85			<b>70.75</b>





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<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>NAB Chq A/c -</b>					<b>6,127.07</b>
	<b>NAB Fixed deposit</b>					<b>5,166.13</b>
	<b>Petty Cash</b>					70.75
	<b>Total Cash Assets</b>					11,363.95
<b>Profit/Loss 2020</b>						
	<b>Bank Credit Incl Interest</b>					<b>1,192.13</b>
	<b>Bank Debit</b>					<b>1,105.30</b>
	<b>Nett profit</b>					<b>86.83</b>

Move to accept Treasurer's report.

Moved: Geoff Brown      Seconded: Ray Perks

### 3. Election of 2020 Office Bearers

Di Mathews took the chair and declared all positions vacant and an election for president was conducted.

The nominations for President:

Allan Gibson      Nominated By: Di Mathews      Seconded by: John Mackenzie

Allan Gibson was elected as President.

All members were in favour.

Nominations for Vice President:

Di Mathews      Nominated by: Ray Perks      Seconded by: Haydn Lomas

Di Mathews elected as Vice President.

Nominations for Secretary:

Brenda Girdlestone      Nominated by Di Mathews      Seconded by John Mackenzie

Brenda Girdlestone elected as Secretary.

Nominations for Treasurer:



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Rae Begg                      Nominated by Chee Perks      Seconded by Geoff  
Brown  
Rae Begg elected as Treasurer.

Nominations for Ordinary Committee members:

John Mackenzie Perks	Nominated by Ray Begg	Seconded by Chee
Ian Johnson Begg	Nominated by Geoff Brown	Seconded by Ray
John Cochrane Edwards	Nominated by Alex Dumas	Seconded by Terry

#### **4 Raffle**

Raffle prizes were won by:

Ian Johnson Ray Perks	Ian Johnson Ray Begg	Di Mathews Alex Dumas	Brenda Girdlestone John Cochrane
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**Meeting closed at 8.30pm.**