



Current President, Kerry Robinson

Because of international interest in the Clivia genus in the 80's and 90's a Clivia club was formed in South Africa. The club, now known as The Clivia Society had on its membership list, South Africans as well as members from USA, New Zealand and many members from Australia.

The Toowoomba Clivia Society had its beginnings as an incorporated body in August 2005, but for a couple of years before that operated as a non-incorporated club when several members pooled their resources and held the first Clivia exhibition at Walsh's Garden Centre, Toowoomba.

Following these initial displays, members realised that a larger area would be needed for future shows catering for increased areas to display and sell plants.

The first show held as an incorporated body was held in September 2006, the venue being the Horticultural building at the Toowoomba TAFE College. All shows since this move have been held at the same location, but each year the display continues to increase and improve. It is a wonderful venue and the society has had terrific support from all the horticultural teaching staff.

Our exhibitions are always held during Carnival of Flowers Week which is held over the last full week in September. Our exhibition lasts for six days beginning on the 1st Friday of the Carnival period. This probably makes it the longest Clivia show/exhibition in the world as most only run for a weekend.

The Toowoomba Clivia Society Inc. is made up of some very experienced growers of Clivias as well as keen new growers who have just a few "to play with."

The society's objects for which it was formed are:

- To promote and develop interest in Clivia.
- To facilitate the exchange of information on Clivia.
- To encourage the exchange of Clivia plants, seed and pollen

Since January, 2007 the society has produced a Newsletter which is sent to all financial members. In it there are interesting articles on Clivia cultivation, member profiles, interesting photos and a President's report.

The society was privileged to have world renowned Clivia grower and hybridist, Kevin Walters, as one of its foundation members. Sadly, Kevin passed away in January 2012 however through his lifelong dedication to the advancement of Clivia breeding, he leaves the Toowoomba Clivia Society, its members and Clivia enthusiasts throughout the world with an enduring legacy. Kevin had previously been awarded with Life membership of The Clivia Society.

The Toowoomba Clivia Society Inc. has grown considerably since its inception and now boasts about 70 members, with most from Queensland but many interstate and international members.

Members meet on the first Saturday of each alternate month with the 1st meeting each year being our AGM in February. The society often has a guest speaker or otherwise discussions are held on important topics pertaining to Clivia cultivation. A question and answer session is an important part of each meeting. There is often a trading table at the meetings where members bring in plants or seeds for sale. Please refer to the 'Upcoming Events' page for further details. From time to time the society has been asked to provide guest speakers at garden club meetings in the area. Several members have assisted in this regard.