

WELCOME TO OUR FEBRUARY PLANT SHOW AND TELL – 1 February 2021



Anne Langley's sun flowers: growing in a small pot in a sheltered sunny spot in her windy Lakeside back garden. Own compost and lots of water.

Isabella Hayden says:

“My *Stanhopea* orchids are flowering now. The flowers are almost grotesque – large with coloured markings and a complicated structure, but they have the most beautiful scent – kind of a peppery baby powder fragrance, to *my* nose! They grow downwards through the coir at the bottom of the hanging basket.”

Her garden is in Rosebank.



Portulaca doing well in
Pinelands.

Jenny Scarr will tell us
more about her latest
purchases.





The Bergvliet garden of
Lyn McCallum has:

***Tanacetum parthenium* –
FEVERFEW**

Perennial herb. Needs full sun to grow and flower well. If grown in part shade it will grow taller and can develop downy mildew. In full sun the plant is more compact.

Feverfew sows itself freely in the garden in spring and summer, although it does tend to disappear for a few seasons and then make a welcome comeback.

The flowers last well in water and make a cheerful addition to small vases and posies.

Lyn also has:

Evolvulus

Delicate, petite blue flowers cover these grey-foliage plants for months on end. Heat and drought-tolerant, these tough little plants make fine ground covers and combine well in mixed baskets and containers. They're best in full sun and well-drained soil. Their beauty and superior performance is sure to blow your mind.

She says "it also tolerates some shade. It is a Keith Kirsten hybrid, now readily available in most nurseries – I got mine at Ferndale."





Melanie Stewart's
Begonia, doing well in
Marina da Gama



Nicola Anthony's Kirstenhof garden
has produced these flowers:

White ***Maurandya***

Double pink ***Bougainvillea***

Plumeria pudica, a different species
of Frangipani





Stapelia gigantea – 35 cm across – that flowers regularly every January.
Growing in Wilma Tindall's Rondeberg (West Coast) garden





And another Rondeberg beauty:
Gethyllis “Koekemakranka” is a small indigenous species, quite rare in the main but fascinating. This species grows here in the area. It blooms in January but doesn’t get its cluster of dark green spiral grass-like leaves on a short stout spotted stem, or catyphil, until about April. If pollinated, the flowers make a capsule about the size and shape of a little finger, which lies on the soil. They are highly scented, sweet and edible.

The settlers steeped them in brandy to cure/soothe throats.



Yvonne Reynolds, living in Breërivier, sent these two plants and has this to say about them:

“My red cactus were fairly spectacular this week. They were totally confused and expected rain which never came, so after staying in bud for about 5 days, opened to spectacular blooms – large bright iridescent red – a real blaze of colour in the brown grass. (The colour in the attached pic is a bit too purple). They do this a few times in the summer, but sadly this summer they have been disappointed. No rain.

No idea of the botanical name though. Think I bought them many years ago from that succulent nursery in Graaff Reinet – Obesa?”

Possibly ***Mammillaria***?



“My huilboom, *Peltophorum africanum*, is also looking quite nice now with lots of yellow flowers.

Big black and yellow bumblebees love this tree and are always buzzing about. It struggles here and only comes into leaf late and I give it a bit of water, unlike my other trees.”



Shelley Brown discovered these inhabitants on a *Streptocarpus saxorum* leaf recently. The leaf is about 1.5cm long.



Rod Stewart found these green shield stink bugs on a *Cycad* leaf.