

WELCOME TO OUR MONTHLY PLANT SHOW AND TELL

6 September 2021

Spring flowers up the West Coast – taken on Jenny's day trip



Spring has sprung!

All these photos were taken on the first day of Spring in the Thorpe's garden



Above: *Osteospermum* and *Arctotis*
Below: Orange *Bulbine* and *Sparaxis grandiflora* ssp. *acutiloba*
Below right: *Lampranthus*, *Bulbine frutescens* (yellow) and *Nasturtium*



Left: *Rosemarinus*

Right: *Limonium perezii*

Below: *Thunbergia alata* and *Strelitzia reginae*



Right: *Othonna capensis*





Above and right:
*Pelargonium
fulgidum* and a
hybrid



Left: Colourful
foliage in the
succulent bed
Right: *Crassula
multicava*
Below: *Aloe ciliaris*



Glenda and
Andrew's
Spring
garden cont.



Left: *Corydalis wilsonii*
Above: *Oxalis pes capre*
Right: *Lonicera*



Far left: *Chasmanthe
floribunda*
Right: *Veltheimia
bracteata*





Left: *Gladiolus tristis*
which has a lovely scent
at night

Right: *Lachenalia*
pustulata

Below: *Aloe wickensii*



New blooms in Andrew and Glenda's garden

Jean's garden

Left: *Melianthus major* – cut down last year and is now at least 3m high.

Right: *Euryops virgineus* – left to grow tall; drops hundreds of seeds.
Tetradenia riparia – apparently the males have a more brilliant floral display than the females.
Close-up of the *Tetradenia* flower.

Right:
Gelsemium from the Americas – a 20-year old plant.



Lyn's garden

Right: *Scadoxus puniceous*

Lyn says, "I have had these bulbs for many years

They herald the coming of spring by sending up flower buds in late winter early spring.

The leaves appear once the flowers start fading and are quite decorative during the summer months.

I continue watering the plants until the leaves start to wilt in late summer. During their winter dormancy I stop watering them, but I do keep an eye on them in late winter and as soon as there is a sign of buds appearing, I resume watering."



Above: *Cyrtanthus mackenii*

These bulbs are grown in the garden as they are evergreen and it is easy to keep an eye on them; given liquid fertilizer – Nitrosol or Seagrow – once or twice a year.

Lyn's garden cont.



Tulbaghia natalensis "Sweet wild garlic"

Sweetly scented flowers in spring; an evergreen bulb that grows well in sun, but can tolerate some shade.

Bulbs do better if left undisturbed.

Right: *Impatiens tinctoria* – an African species; an erect, borderline hardy, tuberous, deciduous to semi-evergreen perennial.
This plant is grown in shade and pruned once flowering is over.





Scilla peruviana

Right: *Ochna*



Gillian's garden

Variegated *Aspidistra elatior*
 "Cast iron plant" –
 Gillian says she brought this
 plant from Fish Hoek to
 Rondebosch 8 years ago with
 2 leaves. It now lives inside in
 summer and outside in winter.



Cherry's garden

Two plants – *Ochna serrulata* or *natalitia*?

Left: no flowers yet, but lovely bronze-coloured foliage

Right: already flowering, with beautiful red Spring foliage

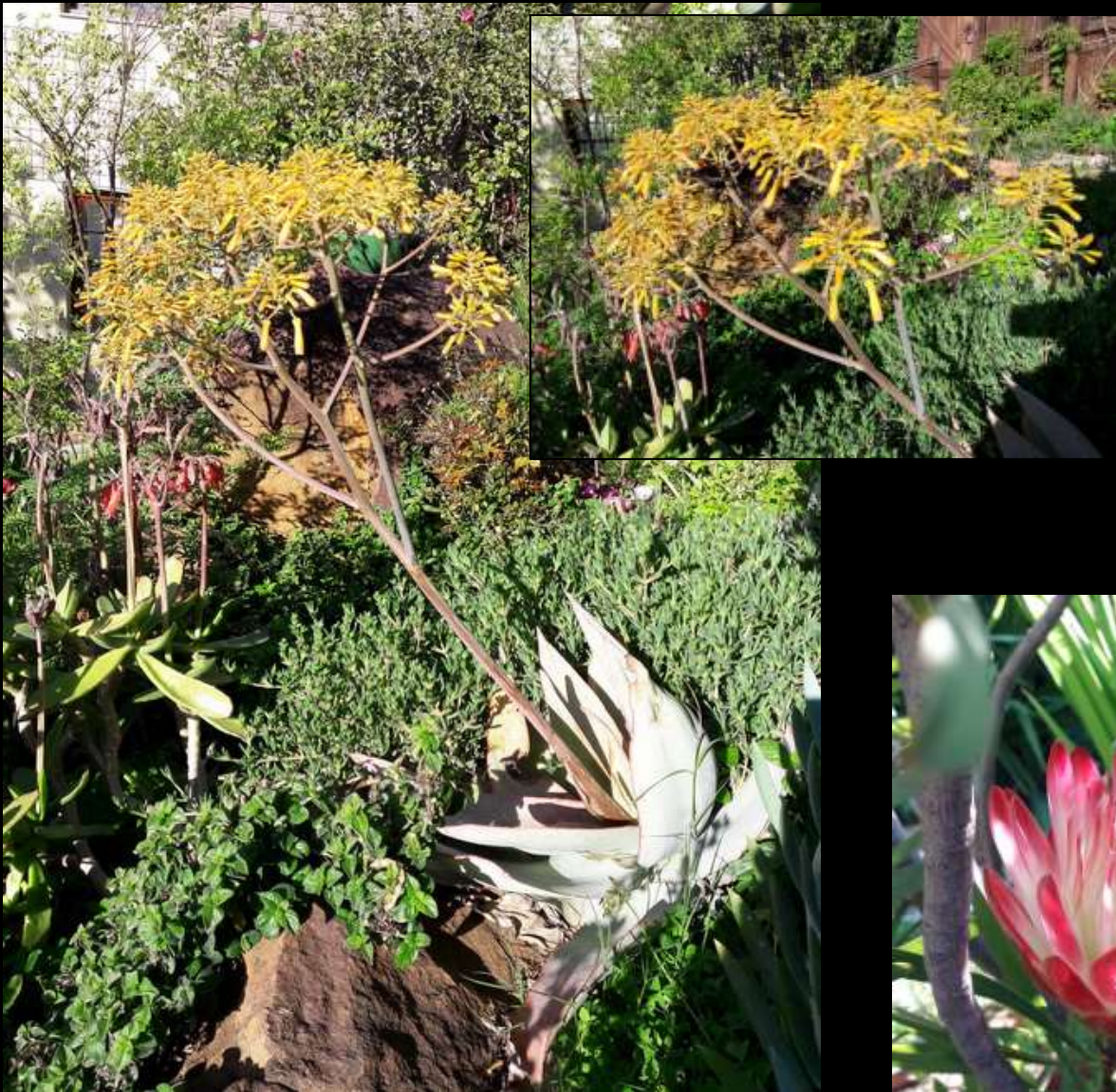


Cherry's garden cont.

Left: *Aloe striata* – inside rockery. Looks after itself
Inset: Close-up of the flowers. Notice the unusual colour, more yellow-orange, not coral.

Below left: *Protea repens* – inside rockery. Slow; looks after itself.

Below right: *Leucospermum reflexum* – on the verge outside. Flowers well; given an annual trim back after flowering.





Left: *Hardenbergia violacea*.
Beautiful tough Australian creeper.



Right: *Lavandula pinnata*
Cherry says, "it's known locally as 'Australian lavender' but Google calls it 'Fernleaf lavender'.
Very tough; long-flowering; more tolerant of cutting back than some other lavenders, perhaps because it is less woody.
Yellow cone head flower of the bronze *Aeonium* in the background."



Euryops virgineus "Honey bush". Loved by bees; very tough and wind-resistant.

Cherry says, "It just arrived in the outside garden, obviously seed blew in, as it spreads rapidly and generously!"

It grows at irregular intervals along the road and brightens that area throughout spring.

I cut it back after flowering to condense the flowers next season and try to limit the seedlings which I still have to pull out later otherwise they would take over.

After a few years when the plant is too leggy I replace it with a smaller one.

Survives on nothing but rain."



Wilma's garden



Left:

At the back, cream flowers are *Sparaxis bulbifera*

In the centre, *Sparaxis tricolor*

In front, *Lachenalia pustulata*



Left: *Romulea exima*
and *Babiana rubrocyanea*

Isabella's contributions
from the Athenaeum garden



Left: Jane Robertson planted *Euryops virgineus* and *Helichrysum petiolare* together and it looks stunning in overcast weather.



Right: *Struthiola dodecandra* (also planted by Jane). Isabella says, "This is the best specimen I have ever seen! Flowers are sweetly scented in the evening."

Isabella's contributions
from her own garden



Left: Isabella says, "This *Ferraria crispa* is flowering for the very first time in nearly 20 years! I kept these bulbs in terracotta pots for many years where they did nothing but multiply. A couple of years back, when I got tired of waiting for them to flower, I planted them in the garden. Two years later - voila! They obviously prefer their new position! Each flower is open for one day, and gives off a carrion scent to attract the various species of flies that pollinate them. Some flowers have more dark brown in their colouring, and each stem carries numerous flowers that open in succession."



Left: *Moraea tulbaghensis*

Isabella's contribution
from Rondebosch Common



Isabella says, "*Moraea flaccida* by the hundreds on the south-eastern corner of Rondebosch Common. They might be flowering so profusely because of the fires during summer. But, in general, the Common is wetter and more floriferous than I've ever seen it before."