

CHS NEWS

NEXT MEETING

Monday, 2 May 2022 at 20:00 at The Athenaeum

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Notice is given of the 117th AGM of the CHS to be held on Monday,
2 May 2022 at 20:00
at The Athenaeum, Campground Road, Newlands**

Agenda

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the AGM held in May 2021
2. Committee Members' Annual Reports
3. Treasurer's Report with Financial Statements
4. Election of President
5. Election of Committee
6. Appointment of Auditor for the ensuing year
7. General

The Minutes of the 2021 AGM and the Financial Statements and Balance Sheet for the year ended 28 February 2022 are enclosed/attached. We would appreciate you bringing your copy of these documents to the meeting.

The AGM will be followed by Elzane Singels who will share the results of her PhD research with an illustrated talk entitled

HOW THE BIODIVERSITY OF THE CAPE FUELLED HUMAN EVOLUTION

The middle stone age was a critical period in the evolution of humans (25 000 - 280 000 year ago). During this time modern human traits such as language, art and complex tool production emerged for the first time. The plants and animals of the Cape fuelled the diets of early humans and allowed them to flourish during periods when the rest of Africa was uninhabitable.

RECAP OF FORMAT FOR MEETINGS:

- Please book a seat by email or telephone. We need to keep a check on the numbers attending.
- Chairs will be appropriately spaced.
- Masks must be worn.
- Bring your own sanitizer.
- There will be no entrance fee for members. Visitors will pay R30.
- The library will also be open and you are welcome to borrow books until the next meeting.
- The Plant Table will be in operation again. Bring your blooms or pot plants and place them on the table. Please fill in a form giving your name and the name of your plant. No need to advise the watering regime but if you have anything interesting to say about the specimen, please write it on the slip.
- Tea will not be served.

NB: As the Autumn Plant Sale is in a month's time, there will be no plant sales at this meeting. Please keep your contributions until the 19th or 20th of May when they can be delivered – all labelled – for the sale. 😊

APRIL 2022

LOCKDOWN EDITION 22-04

President

Marianne Alexander

Acting Chairman

Jenny Scarr

Hon Treasurer

Henry Diesveld

Hon Secretary

Glenda Thorpe

Committee Members

Melanie Stewart Jenny Scarr
Susan Armstrong Isabella Hayden
Gerald Robertson

Honorary Members

Laurie Powis Marianne Alexander
Mary Smith Anne Bean Adam Harrower
Michael Tuffin Bill Elder Ernst van Jaarsveld

*"Even if something is left
undone, everyone must take
time to sit still and watch
the leaves turn."*

Elizabeth Lawrence



Tel: 021-531-5713

Fax: 086-514-0998

Post: 22 Rustenburg, Pinelands, 7405

info@capehorticulturalsociety.co.za

<https://capehorticulturalsociety.co.za>

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Cape-Horticultural-Society/779615695489381>

Instagram – capehortsoc

WELCOME TO ...

... Leigh Kretzmar and Marianne Janse van Rensburg. We wish them a long and beneficial stay with the CHS.

NEXT OUTING

Thurs, 12 May: Visit the Bergvliet garden of Helen Fraser who says she has “a waterwise succulent garden established in the last 5 years – well before the major drought. Fortunately everything survived and still looks attractive in spite of the severity of the drought. The garden is completely lawn-free with a wide variety of aloes, grasses and succulents. The back garden is smaller, with a softer English country garden feel.”

This visit will be split into two groups, each limited to 8 members. **Group 1** will meet at **10:00** and **Group 2** will meet at **11:30**. RSVP to Glenda, stating which time you prefer, by no later than **Mon, 9 May**. There will be plants to buy and Helen has card facilities.

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

The members who have renewed their membership so far represents approximately 75% of the total number of our 2021 members. That's very good, but the other 25% will be removed from the database if their subscriptions have not been received by the AGM. 😞

If you have not yet found time to do this, another Subscription Renewal Form is attached. Please complete it and return it, together with proof that payment has been made, to info@capehorticulturalsociety.co.za or faxed to 086-514-0998. We hope last year's trend of paying electronically (EFT) will continue this year.

Whether *you* do the EFT or ask a family member or friend to make the payment on your behalf, please ensure that *your* name is used as the Beneficiary's reference and Proof of Payment is sent to either the e-mail address or fax number on page 1.

Bringing cash to a meeting will incur high charges to deposit the cash into the bank. We are trying to keep costs down as much as possible, but we will accommodate you if you have no other way of making payment.

NB!! AUTUMN PLANT SALE

SATURDAY, 21 MAY 2022 is the day **from 09:30 TO 13:00!!** Please diarise this date.

The time is rushing by and there are only 4 weeks to our plant sale.

We hope you're continuing to nurture the plants you have put aside for the sale. They should be well-established by now, so we look forward to receiving them on the 19th or 20th.



- 🌱 Please put loose seeds and bulbs in packets and label them. You decide how many should be in each packet and write the number on the outside. Seed packets are available at our upcoming meeting.
- 🌱 Please put your initials on the label when naming your plant. We would prefer to return unsold plants to their owners to sell at future meetings or another sale.
- 🌱 Well-grown plants can be brought from **Wednesday, 18 May**, as well as the Thursday and Friday.
- 🌱 Sorting and pricing will take place on **Thursday, 19 and Friday, 20 May from 09:00**.

We have had a few offers of help but if you haven't got around to deciding on how much time you can give, please think about it now and let Glenda know.

This is what needs doing by our more knowledgeable plantspeople:

- Pricing, sorting and helping with ID'ing the plants on the 19th and 20th between 09:00 and 13:00;
- Moving plants to the sales area between 08:00 and 09:00 on the 21st;
- Selling the plants and giving advice to buyers, especially novice gardeners.

And by the not-so-knowledgeable members:

- Taking money at to the cash point (we are hoping to also have a card machine);
- Manning the “book stall”;
- Selling raffle tickets should we decide to have one.

AIRLIE PLACE OUTING

A larger number than last month took the opportunity to visit David Walsh's garden.

We spent a very pleasant morning in the different rooms of the garden which were filled with lots of interesting and unusual varieties of well-known plants.



From top left to bottom right: The group; *Agave*; Looking at a *Thunbergia erecta* against the wall; Water feature in the white garden; *Kalanchoe beharensis* "Velvet Leaf" or "Felt Bush" with *Barleria* hedge behind; A colourful bed; *Amaryllis belladonna* "March lily"; Succulent garden; *Thunbergia grandiflora*; *Salvia leucantha* "Midnight"; *Hemerocallis* "Day lily"; Enjoying tea.

A FEW MEMBERS' PLANTS



Far left: Jenny's *Achimenes* – an old-fashioned plant not seen much today; dies down in winter to a tiny rhizome and pops up every spring; very rewarding in a hanging basket

Left: Peppy's *Nerine sarniensis*.

Below: Andrew and Glenda's *Haemanthus albiflos* coming into bloom and a gorgeous burgundy *Pelargonium*.



Haemanthus albiflos has a wide, mainly coastal distribution stretching from the southern Cape through many parts of the Eastern Cape, right up to the northern parts of KwaZulu-Natal. Unlike most other *Haemanthus* species, which prefer full sun, *H. albiflos* almost always occurs in shady habitat in forest and bushveld vegetation [PlantZAfrica]

ANOTHER VELD AND FLORA PROJECT UPDATE

"Thanks to all those who have contributed their 'already-read' copies of Veld and Flora. Rupert Koopman and Simone Van Rooyen from Botsoc have been very supportive of, and interested in, this venture and are passing on some back copies from their stores, as well as posters about conservation.

I have been able to assemble one reference set (1994 – 2021 with is missing only 3 copies) which now resides at the Witzands Aquifer Nature Reserve as a master set and a second reference set (2004 – 2021 missing about 9 journals) used by their conservation officers; started a reference set for Nieuwoudtville (2006 – 2021 missing about 15 journals) and started a set for Atlantis library (2008 – 2021 missing 11 journals) and kept a CHS set (2010 – 2021) in case anyone needs access to a particular article.

The Atlantis Library connection is new and very exciting. The young librarians, Sindi and Gabriel, are very enthusiastic. They say school children often come in asking for help with school projects and they are not always able to help them. Now this "donation" will be very helpful.

Very recently I made contact with the Cape Nature conservation manager at Mamre. They too run workshops for community members and would be very pleased to receive a reference set as well.

Apparently copies of Birdlife Africa and other environmental journals have also been snapped up by conservation officers. Often there are several duplicate copies of journals which are still useful for workshop and redistribution purposes.

So the challenge is on. We must do all we can to raise awareness and excitement about conserving our indigenous flora and fauna. Please keep sending journals you are ready to part with. Let me know so we can arrange how to collect them or pass them on to Glenda at outings or meetings now that you are meeting face-to-face again."

Greetings, Wilma 083 645 2468 or wilmatindall@gmail.com