



ORTHOLOPHA

The Newsletter of the Aloe, Cactus and
Succulent Society of Zimbabwe

PO Box CY300, Causeway

aloesocietyzim@gmail.com

www.aloesocietyzim.com & www.facebook.com/ACSSZ

Issue 17-10 October 2017

Hi Everyone,

The Rare Plant Sale is upon us again!!!! Exciting times for all our members and a chance to bring some friends along to the Botanical Gardens at the end of October and introduce them to the wonderful world of plants that we treasure. The standard of presentation has risen dramatically in recent years and the cost of plants dropped considerably. No doubt we shall also see a wider range of plants than ever before as some enterprising members have been importing seed and plants. Make sure you get there early on Sunday 29th October to snap up the best plants on offer. You can take the opportunity to catch up with some of our experts and extract free advice out of them!!!

Best regards, Mafungi

Your Committee

Chairman - Rob Jarvis
0783 383214

Vice-chairman – Hans Wolbert
0772 653110

Committee members:

Doreen Richards - 0772 255784
Malcolm Thackray - 0772 516644
Ros Houghton - 0772 115364
Caryl Stutchbury - 0772 611756
Debra Wolbert - 0772 515436
Gaudencia Kujeke - 0775 376600
Anne-Katrin Maseko - 0772 440131
Mike Caulfield - 0772 241286
Annah Pasipanodya - 0772 572044
Lillian Pswarayi - 0772 516 441

No Monthly Meeting - but don't miss the Plant Sale on Sunday 29th October



Aloe, Cactus & Succulent
Society of Zimbabwe

Plants for our Future



ALOES, SUCCULENTS, CACTI, SABI STARS, BAOBABS, PALMS & CYCADS

RARE PLANT SALE | SUNDAY 29th October 2017: 9am - 1pm

Harare Botanic Gardens HERBARIUM entrance

Flowering Plant: October

What is this, on the right?

Send your knowledgeable and considered opinions to bo.hoom52@yahoo.com.

The respected judge's decision is final and the winner will get a box of choice Belgian chocolates, provided they are shared.

There is still no lucky winner in September!!!!

Another clue, Trump would say that the aloe, right, comes from a very big



You can win a box of chocolates!!!

Send your entries to Mafungi at bo.hoom52@yahoo.com

The plant above is the October entry.
What is it? A clue: We have had this plant before



We will be discontinuing the Guess the Plant Competition for a few months as we gather strength to organise the next major event for the Society, our Congress, Xerophytica II which is scheduled for 2019.

Just to show that we are not totally biased in favour of the aloes in the competition, you can have one final crack at identifying the Cactus left, which flowered earlier in October this year.

As required for the aloe above, send your considered opinion to Mafungi at bo-hoom52@yahoo.com. However in this case the prize will be a free Chameleon Safari in January 2018 for the lucky winner.

Annual Membership: Thanks to all the members that have already paid. There are a few that haven't yet paid, please do.

Membership is \$20 per person/couple per year. Children \$5 per year. Foreign membership \$40 per year. Make payment to a committee member, the CABS account, or through EcoCash:

CABS Platinum: Aloe, Cactus and Succulent Society

Acc #: 1002616336 Reference: kindly include your surname as the deposit reference.

Alternatively send \$21-00 through EcoCash to 0783 911314 : kindly include a reference



Long Term Planning

Your Society is planning a major Lowveld Meander at the end of June, beginning of July next year. We are alerting you now because this will be an exciting visit to the Eastern Districts, largely concentrating on the Aloe populations that abound along the Highways and Byways of this magical part of Zimbabwe. All tastes and affordability levels will be catered for, from luxury lodges for the pampered softies to a scrape in the ground and a threadbare blanket for those who have fallen on harder times. Food will be provided and drink according to the requirements of sensitive palates!!!!

However what will be the major attraction will be the cocktail of plant species that we shall encounter along the way. Palms, Baobabs, Adeniums, Sanseverias, Adenias, Pachypodiums, Euphorbias, Bulbines and Cycads will all be part of the smorgasbord. This is a trip not to be missed and if interest is high enough and commitment made early, then we can even look at hiring a luxury bus so that we don't face the problem of pesky police roadblocks and other irritations along the way.

Early in the New Year we will come back to you all with the full programme, costs and agenda so that you can commit. This is a real bucket-list trip so if you already have one toe over the lip, be sure to sign up the moment we publicise the event. Game abounds in this part of the world, so make sure you have a functioning camera, binoculars and the like to thoroughly enjoy the experience.



Excelsa

Rolf Chenaux-Repond has a set of Excelsa which he is willing to dispose of to the highest bidder. If anyone wishes to purchase the Volumes 1 to 16, then please get hold of Rolf directly on his cellphone 0772362427



The Battle of the Giants

In our garden at Hillside in Harare this intriguing battle is taking place. As you know a baobab is the one tree that can take severe damage to the bark and stem because of the remarkable ability to heal itself. Many large baobabs are in fact fusions of several smaller ones that were growing close together when young and their stems and branches melded into one amorphous mass over the centuries that the tree had already lived.

So here we have a liane, *Fockea multiflora*, which is now tightly entwined around the baobab and the question is, will it choke off the stem and limbs of the baobab, or will the tree actually grow over and around the liane and allow it to continue to grow through the stems eventually? Both may live happily ever after, conjoined in a formidable, but botanically illegal, union.

We will report on progress in 2117!

The Health Corner:

It's a very human thing to remember people. Every year in October we have this cactus growing in a hanging-basket that flowers without fail on the anniversary of the death of a close family friend.

Remembering can be cathartic in itself, helping to heal the scars of loss. So next time one of your Family or Friends pops off, why not remember them through a potted-



or hanging basket-plant that you know flowers at the time of year that they passed on. This has a two-fold benefit, one, if their spirit indeed is somewhere that they can see how you are faring, then they will definitely smile benignly down upon your efforts. Secondly, caring for this special plant, or plants, (if a number of your friends have popped off), will keep you going until the next year when it is due to flower again. Year by year, you will get healthier and healthier, as the good feelings build-up in your body. Like a glow-worm. This idea works equally well for favoured pets should you have already and unfortunately, run out of family and friends.

The most important thing is to come to the Rare Plant Sale and buy a suitable plant.

The post above reminds us of the passing on of Bev Rivron recently. She and her late husband Barry, were staunch Life Members of our Society. Some years back they served on the Committee and they were particularly interested in Cycads. We will remember them! See you at the Plant Sale!!!!

Cheers, Mafungi