

# ORTHOLOPHA



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

PO Box CY300, Causeway  
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### **ALOE TIME CONTINUES**

We hope you very much enjoyed the multiplicity of outings that your committee organized last month. July and August will be a bit slower paced, but things will pick up again in September...with a very adventurous outing planned for early in the month. See below to whet your appetites.

The floral extravaganza provided by the aloes continues, and this month we'll get to see a little-known institutional garden in which aloes are a feature, and where there are plans for expansion. St George's has asked especially for input from our aloe-knowledgeable membership in the form of suggestions regarding species, layout and overall design. So bring your thinking caps.

### **Your Committee**

Chairman - Malcolm Thackray - 303494  
Vice-chairman – Doreen Richards - 884003 or  
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Secretary/treasurer - Lynn & Bill Kinsey –  
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### *Committee members:*

Val & Hamish Brown - 0772 423 344 or  
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Rob & Sheila Jarvis – 0779 888 180 or 0772 262  
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Caryl Stutchbury - 0772 611 756

Hans Wolbert – 581364, 573592 or 0772  
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### **Sunday, 28th July 2013**

You have two outings this month, but they are both at the same location—St George's College. As usual, we'll start with tea and nibbles. Then we go to Holland for a walk around the justifiably world-famous Keukenhof Gardens—some 50ha in the peak of their springtime glory. But this walk you'll do sitting down. The more energetic walk follows as we explore St George's *Aloe* collection and have a discussion about effective garden design using aloes.

The address: St George's College, Chancellor Avenue

The time: 10.00 for 10.30

Details are below.

### ***Directions***

Go down/up Chancellor Avenue and turn left or right into St George's through the gates. Proceed over the speed bumps to a roundabout of sorts and turn right going uphill. You will see the chapel ahead of you and a large tree across the road to the left. We'll meet beyond the tree near the entrance to the lecture hall for tea, after which things will start in the lecture hall.

### ***The Day***

The day starts with the customary tea when you arrive, so please remember to bring a plate of eats to share. You will not need chairs for this one, but hats may be welcome for the second part. There will also be no raffle or auction.

## Advance Notice

In August we'll be at the garden of Dido de Swardt in Umwinsidale, and September will again feature double events. The spring plant sale will, as usual, be the last Sunday of the month, but a special joint outing (with the Tree Society and the Mountain Club) has been planned for the 1st weekend (6-9 Sept). This will be for the outdoor lovers. We'll be camping at The Corner in the Chimanimani Mts. That's right...under canvas! For a preview, see Bart Wursten's photos at:

[http://www.zimbabweflora.co.zw/speciesdata/location-display.php?location\\_id=65](http://www.zimbabweflora.co.zw/speciesdata/location-display.php?location_id=65).

Full details in next month's newsletter.

## Subs

For those who have not yet paid their 2013 subs--due last January—this is your very last newsletter. The only further communication you will have from the Society will be a short, pointed note telling you that your details have been removed from the Society's records. So please either pay one of the Committee members or use the Society's CABS account. The account name and number are ACSSZ and 9016491871. Just make sure your name appears as the payer.

## Just What You've Always Wanted to Know

It has been rightly said that horticultural Latin is the most abused language in the world. In an effort to get things right, I wrote to Mark Nichol, knowledgeable editor of the online column, *Writing Tips*:

Mark, a question about capitalization. Botanical/horticultural names are italicized (because they are Latin) and consist of at least two parts: the species name--capitalized--followed by a descriptor--not capitalized. For example, *Aloe vera*. In writing about the species more widely, then *Aloe* is often used alone as the family name and is italicized.

But what does one do when the Latin botanical species name is turned into a plural by adding an s? Then it is English, not Latin. So presumably the italics get dropped. But what happens to the capitalization? Is the English variant still capitalized?

Mark's answer:

Bill, good question. If, for example, one writes, "The garden maintains one of the largest and finest collections of aloes outside of Africa," rather than "The garden maintains one of the largest and finest collections of *Aloe* outside of Africa," the English plural form should be lowercase.

Now aren't you glad I asked?

## Couldn't Resist

We just had to end with this.

This magnificent *Aloe*, *A. malawi*, is one of the many cultivars offered by Kotie Retief in Gauteng. But Kotie didn't tell me anything about the parentage, so we'll just have to guess.

The fluffier one in the background is another cultivar, said to be an old favourite among those who have easy access to such goodies. This is Koeleman's Red, also known as Coral Red.



Hope to see you all at St George's.

Lynn & Bill