

ORTHOLOPHA



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

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HAPPY NEW 2014!

The Christmas outing in Christon Bank was a huge success. An enormous vote of thanks to Debbie and Graeme for their gracious hospitality. And what a setting! Plus an enormous vote of thanks to the many of you who prepared and entered arrangements—what an amazing array of creativity!—and to Neels Scott for not only acting as judge but also coaching us with tips on how to improve future efforts. This month's outing will again be at a distance—and again very special.

The latest number of *Ingens* has overcome the Christmas bottleneck and is now available. See outing details.

There is also an update on the seed bank.

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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Val & Hamish Brown - 0772 423 344 or
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Caryl Stutchbury - 0772 611 756

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Sunday, 26th January

This month's outing is to far-away Ruwa—Xanadu Farm—and the garden of Kim and Steph MacDonald.

The address: Xanadu Farm, Ruwa

Contact details: Kim's cell 0775 009 429

The time: 10.00 for 10.30

Details are below.

Directions

Take the Mutare Road to the 19km peg & turn right. After the TM Supermarket, turn right. Go over the railway line & turn second left, then third right. Now go all the way to the end past MacDonald's Timbers & you are on Xanadu Farm. The whole of Ruwa knows MacDonald's.... so if you go astray, just ask any of the friendly locals for directions .

The Day

With Christmas behind us, we are reverting to our usual routine. The day starts with the customary tea when you arrive, so please remember to bring a plate of eats to share. Remember also to bring chairs, hats and umbrellas as well as a labelled plant or other contribution for the raffle and/or auction. In addition, Kim is also kindly organizing a game-viewing tractor ride for those who would be keen to hop onto the trailer, so dress appropriately.

Note: The latest *Ingens* is hot off the press, and we shall be distributing it on the 26th. Along with seed orders not yet collected.

Tim Peatling

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Tim Peatling in Mutare on Saturday, 11 January. Tim had recovered well from heart surgery in India last year, and his passing was a complete shock. Because he was based in Mutare and seldom got to Harare, many of you never met Tim. But you will be very familiar with his contributions to our Society from the many brilliant photographs he added to make the new-look *Ingens* such a colourful and striking publication. Tim's ashes were buried at Aberfoyle in the Eastern Highlands he loved so much. We shall miss you, Tim.

It's That Time of Year Again

We do hate January. Why? Because it is the month when we have to remind you—politely, of course—that your subs for this year are due for payment. We don't want to lose a single one of you, so please complete the accompanying membership form and make your payment directly to the CABS account or to a Committee member. Even though we may have your details, we ask that you complete the form for two reasons: one, we use the forms as our proof of payment and, two, considerable numbers of you do change some of your details from year to year.

Thank you!!!

Seed Bank

Because of substantial orders, we are now out of some of the seeds listed in the December newsletter. Those currently out of stock include the following aloes: *A. polyphylla*, *A. zebrina*, *A. broomii*, *A. microstigma*, *A. plicatilis* and *A. saudiarabica*. Also *Pelargonium* (mix). New stock should be in next month.

Most of the others listed last month remain available. In addition, we also have a few new items. These are: *Dyckia*, *Beaucarnia recurvata* (pony tail palm), *Encephalartos ferox*, *Cycas revoluta*, and *Mahonia aquifolium* (flowering evergreen shrub, 1x1.5m, exotic—Asia, North America, profuse yellow flowers on racemes followed by (edible) blue, black berries).

See the December newsletter for ordering instructions.

New Year's Fireworks...Just for the sheer aesthetics of it!



Aloe cultivars in Kotie Retief's nursery in Pretoria.

Hope to see you all on the 26th.

Lynn & Bill