

# The Southern African Bulb Group

## Newsletter No. 30 -- February, 2015



**From the Editor**

**David Victor**

This is a brief newsletter to advise Members about meetings that are taking place in the next few months.

### **Spring meeting 2015**

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> March at our normal venue, the Badger Farm Community Centre near Winchester. As in previous meetings, the doors will open at 10.00, with our speaker taking the stage at 11.00. The meeting will close at 16.00.

Our speaker at this meeting will be our Chairman, Bill Squire. As you all know, Bill is a regular traveller to South Africa and in the autumn of 2014 he made yet another trip there. So, Bill will be talking about the delights that he saw this year and will doubtless concentrate on bulbs. Bearing in mind his keen interest in *Lachenalia*, I will be very surprised if there aren't quite a lot of them in the mix.

As in all meetings, there will be a display table for any plants that you care to bring along to show Members. We hope to organise one of our informal discussions periods during the afternoon, so that Members can show their plants and answer any questions other might have. If any of you have slides or jpeg's of plants that you would like to show, please bring them along.

There will also be a sales table where you can offer material for sale on an 80:20 Member to Group basis. Please include double labels on pots, showing the price so that we can settle up easily at the end of the day.

There will be a lunch break from 12.30 until 14.00. For those of you that have not come before, it's worth adding that many Members bring their own food so that they can have the opportunity to chat to others. Alternatively, the Sainsbury's supermarket is based on the same site.

As usual, the charge for the meeting will be £3.00 each, payable at the door.

### **Directions to the meeting hall**

Meetings are held at the Badger Hall Community Centre, near Winchester and, for those of you using satnav's or Google Earth, the post code is SO22 4QB.

By road, leave the M3 at junction 11 and proceed towards Winchester. At the first roundabout follow the sign to Winchester. At the second roundabout take the second exit up the hill towards Badger Farm. At the third roundabout take the third exit to the superstore (not the second exit marked Badger Farm). Follow the road right round the edge of the car park until you see the doctor's surgery. Next to it is the Centre.

There is plenty of room in the car park and it is free: However, this privilege depends on Members filling in the form at the entrance giving the car's registration details.

### **Autumn Meeting, 2015**

I have now arranged the autumn meeting for 2015, which will be held on Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> October at Winchester as usual. Our speaker will be Julian Sutton, who runs Desirable Plants nursery in Totnes with his wife, Sarah. We still have to finalise a title, but with his expertise in Western Cape plants it is likely to have a close connection to the plants that interest Members.

### **Exbury Gardens**

Exbury Gardens are having their annual open day again this year on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2015 and all members of the Southern African Bulb Group are cordially invited to attend. As usual, the main event will be held in the 5 Arrows Gallery, from 10.30 for 11.00 and there will be the opportunity for a "behind-the-scenes" look at the greenhouses, as well as free time in the garden.

### **Dorset AGS and Plant Heritage**

As I'm sure you all know our Chairman, Bill Squire, has a very fine collection of *Lachenalia* which is one of the Plant Heritage National Collections. He has arranged two open days at his home for people who would like to see his collection and, of course, his other plants. They are on two Fridays, 27<sup>th</sup> February and 27<sup>th</sup> March, from 10am until 4pm. SABG Members are welcome.

His address is 8 Benmoor Road, Creekmoor, Poole, Dorset, BH17 7DS and his telephone number, should you need instructions on how to get there, is 01202 285179.

## **Wanted Column**

A short reminder that I am more than happy to include in newsletters and requests from Members for seeds and plants. Just let me know what interests you.

## **Your Committee**

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