



Southern African Bulb Group

www.sabg.tk

SABG Newsletter no. 37 July 2018

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News

- ★ We have a new Chairman, Paul Cumbleton.
- ★ The 2018 Bulb and Seed Exchange is under way. Please read about the arrangements in the Notices and Requests section.
- ★ Privacy matters relating to your membership information and the GDPR are described in the Notices and Requests section.

Dates for your diary

- ★ Sunday 7th October 2018: SABG Autumn Meeting, Winchester
- ★ Saturday 13th October 2018: NAAS Nerine Visit Day, Exbury Gardens.
- ★ Sunday 7th April 2019: SABG Spring Meeting, Winchester
- ★ Sunday 6th October 2019: SABG Autumn Meeting, Winchester

From the Editor

We have a new Chairman, Paul Cumbleton. Welcome to the SABG Committee, Paul, and our grateful thanks go to the outgoing Chairman, Bill Squire, for the many years of service, expertise and enthusiasm which he has given to the Group. We wish him all the best for his new life in Thailand, hoping he has a good Internet connection there, and look forward to seeing him again when he visits the UK.

We would also like to thank Audrey Cain, who has also resigned from the Committee after many years of hard work for the Group. She hopes to attend many but not necessarily all SABG meetings in future, and her presence will also be noticed soon on the SABG web-site: with the help of her son, Doug, I have obtained a copy of the information from her BulbWeb web-site, in order to make a version available again. Preliminary work has revealed her notes spanning the period from 1989 onwards, on over 1550 species, with photographs of about 1400 of them. Over 80 of her plants were grown from seeds supplied by Silverhill Seeds (Rod and Rachel Saunders, of which more below). More details will appear in due course on the SABG web-site and in

the next Newsletter.

Those SABG members who have email, which of course is most of you, will have already received an email about the 2018 SABG Bulb and Seed Exchange from Jon Evans, who is masterminding it again this year. If instead you receive this Newsletter by post, this may be the first notice you've seen about it, so please read about the arrangements in the Notices and Requests section below, and write the deadlines in your diary (or on a piece of paper in your greenhouse!) The Bulb and Seed Exchange is regarded by those who take part as one of our most valuable activities, so please plan ahead if you will have bulbs or seeds available to contribute, or wish to obtain some to extend your collection.

Paul Cumbleton will be talking to us about cultivation at the October meeting. He intends to discuss the varying degrees of hardiness of the plants we grow: you may remember he provided a questionnaire in the previous Newsletter (no. 36) for members to report their experiences. He thanks those who have already responded, and would particularly like to hear from more of us, so I am repeating his request again in this edition; you can respond by post or by email, whichever you prefer.

Favourite words in this edition of the Newsletter seem to be Roggeveld and Tomorite. To find out why, read on!

Notices and Requests

Remembering Rod and Rachel

Further to the tragic events noted in the previous SABG Newsletter concerning the deaths of Rod and Rachel Saunders, known to many as experts on the South African flora and proprietors of Silverhill Seeds and Books, Cameron McMaster reported on 16 June that "a news bulletin yesterday confirmed that the remains of Rod and Rachel Saunders had been found eventually and DNA tests confirmed their identity."

The April IBSA Newsletter said: "We are devastated by the tragic events which have overtaken them and we wish to acknowledge the exceptional contribution of this very special couple over the years to the functioning of IBSA, generously sharing their immense cache of knowledge, expertise and of seed, to enable the mission of conservation by cultivation of our unique floral heritage. Their friendship and excitement over reporting new finds will not be forgotten. We extend our deepest condolences to their families and business colleagues."

The next IBSA Bulletin "will be devoted to publishing members' tributes; please direct these to the secretary, Ruth [Prescott, ruthprescott@gmail.com] to enable us to celebrate their lives in a fitting memorial to them. We suggest that any donations, which will be gratefully received, are donated towards the publishing of their book on *Gladiolus*, their final invaluable project of re-discovering all the recorded 166 species.

Some of the SABG Committee also discussed how best to commemorate their lives and remember their contributions to our cherished plants. It is proposed to establish a section of the SABG web-site specifically for photographs of plants grown directly from seeds obtained from Rod and Rachel at Silverhill Seeds, to illustrate the range of good things which they made available to us. Please let me know if you already have, or can take, photos for inclusion.

Memorial service for Rod and Rachel Saunders

Arrangements have been made for a memorial service, as follows: "We will be gathering on 2nd August at 2pm, at the R Saunders Trust Property, Brackenfell, to remember Rod and Rachel. Please join us to share memories and to celebrate the richness of what they brought to and left in the world."

For anyone who is planning to attend, driving directions are available (email Richard White for them) and the following details were also given: "Address: Smallholding, 31/222 Kruis St, Brackenfell. -33.898315, 18.713790 Please RSVP to andy.frontierlab@gmail.com by 27th July 2018. Please call Fiona +27 (0)820969239 if you need additional directions/assistance. No flowers, by request. We plan to publish the book on *Gladiolus* spp. that Rod and Rachel were working on and donations to this end would be gratefully received."

SABG Bulb and Seed Exchange 2018

The Southern African Bulb Group will be running its Annual Bulb and Seed Exchange again this year. We are hoping to run the exchange on the same timing as last season, so material is sent out in early September, and can be planted and started into growth in a timely fashion. I know this caused problems for a few of you, but generally it worked very well.

This Exchange is now a key part of our activities, so we are hoping for at least as many of you as before, if not more, to provide your spare bulb or seed material for the benefit of other members! Please note that although we call it an exchange, if you don't yourself have material to offer, you will still be able to request seeds

or bulbs from the list in exchange for a suitable donation to cover at least postage and packing and a little bit extra for the SABG funds.

We will probably only be able to accept material from and send material to members in the U.K and the European Union, because of import/export complications in dealing with other countries.

The timetable this year is as follows:

15th August

➤ If you have bulbs or seeds available, please post them to Jon Evans, 46 Upper Way, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 8RF, UK, to arrive by Wednesday 15th August. Please try to clean the donations as well as you can – if you don't, I have to. And seal them carefully – Newsletter 36 contained instructions for making seed envelopes out of sheets of blank paper. Please include a list of your donations, if possible containing the following information. If you can send the list by email that would be brilliant.

- Genus
- Species (including subspecies / cultivar name where relevant)
- Source (when the item is derived from wild collected material it is useful to know a location for the collection)
- Notes (any other information about the item you feel is useful)
- Seed or Bulb
- South African or 'Other'
- Approximate quantity (for bulbs and large seeds)

➤ If you expect to have them available later, by the end of August, please send me a list of your intended donations, with any supporting information, by email or post, to arrive by Wednesday 15th August. My email address is jonevans46.uw@btinternet.com. Please send any such donations to me by 31st August at the latest.

20th August

➤ I will then prepare the Bulb and Seed Exchange list of available material which I will email out to Members by 20th August. Should you require a list to be sent to you by post, please send me a self-addressed envelope suitable for two or three folded sheets of A4 paper (with the correct postage attached if you live in the UK).

31st August

➤ Please send any late, promised donations to me

by 31st August at the latest.

➤ After you have received the Bulb and Seed Exchange list of available material, please send your wishlist to me, to arrive by 31st August. I will then start the despatch process.

Then it's up to you to grow the plants and enjoy them!

I hope you find this exercise valuable and perhaps obtain some new plants. Of course, its success depends on the generous efforts of the donors, so please check whether you have some spares you can donate.

Jon Evans

Veltheimia bracteata free to members

Steve Eyre (who holds the National Collection of "Nerine – hardy spp., cvs., & hybrids"¹) has three large (approx. 12") pots of *Veltheimia bracteata* with several bulbs in each, which he would like to donate (free of charge) to a good home. If anyone is interested, please contact Alina Hughes direct by email (address at the end of this newsletter) and she will bring them to the October meeting.

For anyone who wants to know more about this handsome and easy plant, SANBI (the South African National Biodiversity Institute) has a good web-page about it². If you don't already know it, SANBI is a good resource for information about South African plants (and animals). Also very useful, especially for recorded sightings, is iSpot³, and the Pacific Bulb Society is good for cultivation notes⁴.

Request for hardiness experiences

Paul Cumbleton, who will be giving the main talk at the October 2018 meeting, said in the previous Newsletter that he intends to include a section about hardiness (or lack of it). "I wonder how many of our members grow without heat under glass or even in the garden and what successes or failures they have had? To at least start to try and pool our knowledge, I have put together a simple questionnaire."

The questionnaire is repeated at the end of this newsletter. Paul would like as many replies as possible, so please do one of the following:

- 1 <https://www.nccpg.com/National-Collections/Collection-Results.aspx?id=1222>
- 2 <http://pza.sanbi.org/veltheimia-bracteata>
- 3 <https://www.ispotnature.org/communities/southern-africa/species-dictionary/65877/veltheimia-bracteata/observations>
- 4 <https://www.pacificbulbsociety.org/pbswiki/index.php/Veltheimia>

- Copy the questionnaire text and paste it into an email, add your comments, and email it to him,
- Download a copy in DOCX, ODT or PDF format from <https://sabg.tk/questionnaire/>, edit it and email it to him as an attachment, or print it out on paper and post it, or
- if you are reading this newsletter on paper, detach the last page, fill in the questionnaire and post it to him at The Maples, Watts Quarry Lane, Somerton, Somerset TA11 7JD.

Please respond – the more who do, the more we’ll learn! Note that even if you have little or no experience of growing South African bulbs in cold conditions, you can still respond to the questionnaire. Paul will pull all the replies together and feedback the results to you all during his talk at the autumn meeting this year.

Request for information about suppliers

You will see from the report on the April meeting (below) that there was some discussion of suppliers of seeds and bulbs. I am keen to update the list of the suppliers I know about which is on the SABG web-site⁵. Please let me know of any suppliers, whether in the UK, Europe, South Africa or anywhere else, that I haven’t listed.

I think members would also be interested in any opinions and experiences, good or bad, which you might have concerning these suppliers. I think it might be safest not to put too much detail on the web-site, but I think it would be useful if I were able to mark some suppliers simply as “recommended by members”. Please let me know what you think.

GDPR matters

Unless you have been on another planet (or better still, in South Africa out of contact with European affairs), you will have noticed all the fuss about the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which came into effect in the European Union on 25 May 2018. Many commercial organisations, which collected email addresses and other information from customers and were using the information for purposes which those customers had not agreed to, or were not even aware of, were obliged to contact all the people on their email lists to obtain their permission to use their data, or remove it if no permission was obtained.

Fortunately, the SABG does not have to go through such a palaver with its members, because in joining the SABG you voluntarily gave us your personal information, for the purpose of allowing the Group to contact you with newsletters, information about

meetings and services such as the annual Bulb and Seed Exchange, without which there would have been no point in joining.

However, because we operate in the EU we still have to abide by the terms of the GDPR. This means, briefly, that we have to:

- keep your information safe and secure
- use it only for the purposes to which you have agreed
- respond to your requests to change or delete your information

How we are doing this is the subject of our Data Privacy Policy, a summary of which is included at the end of this Newsletter and which is available on our web-site⁶, where we shall be able to update it as the need becomes clearer or circumstances change.

In case all this seems too bureaucratic, here is a reminder of the real objects of our interest, which are the reason we are members of the SABG, and the lengths we go to in order to worship them:



Members of the IBSA Middelpos excursion admiring *Romulea komsbergensis*, 1/9/2017 [Richard White]



5 <https://sabg.tk/links:start>

6 <https://sabg.tk/wiki:security:start>

SABG meetings

Report on the Spring 2018 SABG meeting

Our last meeting was held on **Sunday 8th April 2018** at our usual venue, the Badger Farm Community Centre near Winchester. .

The meeting began with the usual announcements by the retiring Chairman, Bill Squire. These were followed by a vote of thanks for all of Bill's tireless work and enthusiasm for the Group, expressed by Richard White on behalf of the Committee. Bill is relinquishing the post of Chairman, because he will be moving to Thailand later in the year, and he was not sure whether he would be available to attend the SABG Autumn meeting before he leaves. So to mark our appreciation, he was presented with a card signed by members present at the meeting, a bottle of wine (South African, of course), a hat (to add to the collection of metaphorical hats which he has worn as Chairman of the SABG, Chairman of the Dorset Group of the AGS, holder of the National Collection of Lachenalias, etc.), and, in case his plants were getting jealous of this attention, or anxious about his departure, a bottle of Tomorite to cheer them up.

Winter-growing Cape bulbs

Bill then introduced our speaker and SABG member George Elder, who had shared time with Bill searching for bulbs at Middelpoos, the Roggeveld and elsewhere. "Winter-growing Cape bulbs" was his title, or "Winter-growing bulbs in cultivation and in the wild" as it said in our meetings programme. He said that he had taken the photographs of plants in the field, and some other photos were by Jon Evans or Bill.

George started his presentation with a map of the winter-rainfall area in South Africa. He said there are 800 known species of bulbs in the approximately triangular area between Cape Town in the south-west, Nieuwoudtville in the north, and Bredasdorp to the east. The minimum winter mean temperature in many areas is around 5°C, with lower rainfall inland, where -5°C is common and -15°C is not unknown.

In Cardiff, where he grows his plants, the climate is different from that in South Africa. Cardiff and Southampton have winter temperatures of around 2 to 3°C, with respectively 1549 and 1689 hours of sunshine per year. The corresponding figures for Cape Town are 9°C and 3094 hours of sunshine, with lower rainfall. (That means our plants in the UK get only half the sunshine they get in the wild, so no wonder they can get a bit leggy sometimes!) In addition, in Cardiff soot can

make the glass dirty and transmit less light. Good ventilation also helps to keep plants shorter and more typical.

George has fan heaters set to come on at 0°C, which keep his greenhouse minimum temperature at about 0 to -1°C. Bulbs from the Roggeveld area (east of the Tankwa Karroo, from Calvinia to Sutherland), which is one of the coldest parts of South Africa, are hardy to -5°C, and can be grown in a cold frame. Bulbs from other areas need a minimum of 0°C or 3°C or higher in some cases.

He grows all his plants in plastic pots, and moves them around as their leaves grow and their need for bright light dictates. For compost he used equal parts of John Innes number 2, Perlite (coarse grade) and gritty sand (sharp sand with 20% fine grit). Nowadays, because of the uncertain quality of commercially available "John Innes" compost, he mixes his own using a local supplier of sterilised loam, and omitting the lime which is unnecessary for South African bulbs.

Watering is done using tap water, stored overnight before use to remove chlorine and get to ambient temperature. Cardiff tap-water is very soft and doesn't increase the pH of his compost, which at around 6 or slightly less, is a little on the acid side (as is preferred by many plants). He doesn't attach great importance to feeding, because he repots plants of most genera every two to three years, but he does use diluted Tomorite when they are growing actively. He finds that corms (such as *Gladiolus*) benefit from more feeding than true bulbs need.

Generally he gives his winter-growing bulbs a good watering on September 1st and carries on until February, withholding water when the weather is very cold. He finds that his cold growing conditions tend to delay flowering until the light starts improving in early spring.

Amaryllidaceae

George then provided a number of hints for growing particular plants. *Amaryllis belladonna* is marginally hardy, but may not get enough hot dry rest during the summer to stimulate good flowering. He has 15 of the 30 species of *Strumaria*, of which the earliest to flower is the easy and attractive *S. gemmata*. Others he mentioned were *S. karooica*, *S. chaplinii*, and *S. discifera*, which he said "smells like a Parisian pissoir", which I assumed was not complimentary. *S. watermeyeri* and *S. salteri* flower a bit later.

He has eight species of *Hessea*, which is closely related to *Strumaria* but more of a challenge to grow. *H.*

stellaris might be the easiest. Some other species haven't flowered for him, in twelve to thirteen years!

Brunsvigia species, of which he has nine, are also slow to flower when growing from seed. He grows them in pots in a sand plunge; their roots penetrate the sand, and they have big leaves which can be awkward. Those he mentioned included *B. gregaria* which flowered after six years, *B. striata* (after nine years), *B. bosmaniae* (twelve) and *B. marginata*, which produced its scarlet flowers for the first time fourteen years after sowing.

Asparagaceae

He then moved on to the Asparagaceae, the currently favoured expanded version of the family which includes, from the former Hyacinthaceae, *Lachenalia*, *Polyxena*, *Daubenya*, *Massonia* and *Eucomis*, among many others listed by the Plant List⁷. *Eucomis regia* is the only winter-flowering species of its genus, to qualify for a mention in George's talk.

Lachenalia (formerly *Polyxena*) *ensifolia* is quite a reliable plant, and the subspecies *maughanii* is dwarfer, but it is difficult to keep the leaves flat as they are in the wild. He puts it on a table in the sunniest part of the garden, but brings it in if there's rain. (Presumably he doesn't leave it out overnight.) Botrytis (black mould) is a problem -- take care to remove dead flowers. *L. longituba* from the Roggeveld is fairly hardy, and sometimes grown under other names such as *P. odorata* by alpine gardeners. *L. paucifolia* and *L. corymbosa* have rich pink flowers. There is a form of the latter which flowers a month earlier. All the species of *Lachenalia* mentioned were previously classified as *Polyxena*.



Daubenya aurea (red form) S of Middelpoos, 31/8/2017 [Richard White]

Daubenya aurea is also from the Roggeveld and most plants, despite the name, have red flowers, occasionally slightly yellowish, but the true yellow form after which

the species was named occurs in a separate area, an IBSA reserve which I was lucky enough to visit last year – I've included two of my photos, the red form (above) and the yellow form (below, with monkey beetle and friend), together with a map showing where they were growing (1 = red, 2 = yellow). The species is hardy and should be more widely grown. It needs plenty of water, every day if hot, as the leaves can flop if it is not moist enough. Bill thinks that the light levels here may also cause this.



Daubenya aurea (yellow) S of Middelpoos, 2/9/2017 [Richard White]



George went on to describe several species of *Massonia*. They tend to occur in small-leaved and large-leaved forms. The latter, such as *M. depressa* and *M. pustulata* (the correct name may be *M. longipes*) are awkward to grow and should be avoided. *M. roggeveldensis* (guess where that comes from!) is very nice and is scented. George said that *M. kamiesbergensis* (sometimes treated as a subspecies of *M. pygmaea*) seems to be the easiest. Others he mentioned included *M. pygmaea*, *M. jasminiflora* and *M. citrina*. *M. bifolia* used to be called *Whiteheadia*, is

7 <http://www.theplantlist.org/1.1/browse/A/Asparagaceae/>

pollinated by mice, and is quite large.

Iridaceae

Moving on to the Iridaceae, our speaker talked about several species of *Gladiolus*. *G. carmineus* is the earliest to flower, and everyone should grow it. *G. stefaniae* was also recommended, and the two will hybridise. *G. cardinalis* is also closely related to these. *G. martleyi*, *G. meridionalis* and *G. priorii* were also mentioned. *G. uysiae* from the Roggeveld is well known, and shown in a pan at an AGS show. *G. alatus* grows well but doesn't always flower. *G. venustus* is widely distributed. *G. miniatus* is quite easy and should be tried in the open garden. Others that can be grown outside include *G. tristis* and *tristis* × *watsonius*. "Homoglad Hybrids" are *G. huttonii* × *tristis* and are superb garden plants, at least in Cardiff.

Watsonia humilis is nice as it is not as tall as other species of *Watsonia*; George grows it indoors – he didn't say exactly where, but perhaps it is not as hardy as some other species.

On to the genus *Romulea*, where George mentioned that the yellow-flowering species are easier than the red ones. *R. tortuosa* may have twisted leaves in the wild, but not in cultivation. *R. monticola* is a rare species from the Bokkeveld, reliable in cultivation. *R. komsbergensis* is from the edge of the Roggeveld escarpment where light levels would be very high - it is hard to keep compact in cultivation even in a cold frame. It can be seen growing en masse in the first two photos in this newsletter, on page 4. *R. unifolia* is difficult. *R. subfistulosa* is easier, but slow to increase. He also showed what he thought was *R. monadelphica*, but was uncertain of its identity.

Babiana species can be grown quite easily from seed, but the leaves can go brownish. We saw *B. villosa* with red flowers growing in the veld. *B. virginea* is completely hardy but doesn't flower, perhaps because it is not hot enough in Cardiff.

Lapeirousia is a fantastic but irritating genus – the seeds can take a long time to germinate, and seedlings tend to become dormant most of the time. George showed *L. oreogena*, *L. montana* and *L. pyramidalis*, which is white or pale pink but subspecies *regalis* is purple.

Geissorhiza corrugata is quite hardy, and *G. inaequalis* is nice and easy and will seed itself everywhere. *G. darlingensis* grows well, albeit slowly, and is very rare in the wild.

Tritonia karooica was photographed in the Roggeveld, but has flowered only once in his collection.

Colchicaceae

George then turned to the Colchicaceae.

Androcymbium (or *Colchicum*) *ciliolatum* from Namaqualand can be grown in a cold frame, where it can flower for weeks and increase. *A. burchellii* subspecies *pulchrum* (= *M. latifolium*) was photographed near Middelpoort, as was my photo (labelled *A. coloratum*) on page 5 of the April 2018 newsletter, no. 36.

Wurmbea is a genus with a widely scattered distribution including Australia in addition to parts of South Africa. *W. stricta* was shown growing standing in water. It is hardy and easy to grow and flowers well in cultivation, even in the open garden where George has grown it for five years. He showed a photograph of it in the snow in March 2018, and was now in bud. The corms pull themselves down very deeply, so it needs to be grown in a tall pot. *W. spicata* and *W. burtii* are white; the latter is from the Drakensberg summer-rainfall area. *W. recurva* has purple to deep maroon flowers with a fantastic scent, well worth growing. *W. marginata* is also dark in flower colour.

Hypoxidaceae

George finds that *Spiloxene capensis* survives but doesn't thrive. *Empodium* includes species such as *E. flexile* which is autumn flowering and *E. plicatum*, which attracts aphids.

Cultivation

George then returned to the subject of cultivation, with some tips on how to grow winter-flowering bulbs. Amaryllids can be left for a long time before re-potting, which disturbs them as they have perennial fleshy roots. Their seeds, which usually do not last long, can be sown on top of wet sand. For other plants, sow the seeds as usual, cover with grit, and put them outside, until it gets really cold. Graham Duncan was reported as saying that *Romuleas* don't like frequent re-potting.

George is experimenting with "Sophisticat" light-weight pink cat litter, as used apparently by *Fritillaria* growers. This doesn't contain any nutrients (unless your cat has already used it), so it needs a general-purpose fertiliser at half strength when plants are small, and after a year or two change to full-strength Tomorite. Make sure trace elements are included. He showed *Hessea pusilla* growing strongly, and *Babiana villosa* will flower in three years from seed. He is very enthusiastic about this technique. Paul Cumbleton mentioned that this is sold under a different name, possibly Sanicat, and available from Pets at Home. It is coarser than the Tesco low-dust cat litter often recommended, which is better for seeds and seedlings.

These artificial substrates can be re-used, unlike potting compost.

Discussion

This point marked the end of George's presentation, but a general discussion followed, starting with South African seed suppliers. Seed of many species is available in the UK from the Alpine Garden Society, but usually with little provenance information.

Knowing where the seed has come from is very valuable, so South African seed suppliers and nurseries are better. Bill knows of several, including Shire Bulbs in the Eastern Cape; Terry Smale cited another.

Gordon Summerhill was mentioned as expensive and not recommended (and apparently impossible to find on the Internet). It is to be hoped that Silverhill Seeds will be able to continue operating with the help of Ondine and local helpers. It was said that the SABG could do more to distribute seeds, although we already have our Bulb and Seed Exchange. Bill stressed the need to retain the provenance information associated with the plants we grow, and put bulb and seed material with this information into the Exchange. Bill said that he has more than a hundred species of *Lachenalia*, some of which might not be in cultivation elsewhere in the UK.

Someone said that stricter South African export rules were being introduced, and Ben Turner mentioned the Nagoya Protocol which may make the acquisition of seeds and bulbs more difficult. It is a 2010 supplement to the 1992 Convention of Biological Diversity, effective from 12 October 2014, and has the catchy full title "*Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity*"⁸, also known as the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing. There are "concerns that the added bureaucracy and legislation will, overall, be damaging to the monitoring and collection of biodiversity, to conservation", etc., according to Wikipedia⁹.

A question was raised about dormancy in bulbs, and how to start dormant bulbs into growth. Apparently Graham Duncan advised, in his book "*Grow Bulbs*", that just re-potting them may do the trick. In any case, if a plant doesn't grow when expected it is a good idea to inspect the bulbs anyway. Some people say that continuing dormancy is caused by the lack of a hot summer baking.

At this point it was time for the lunch break. I hope to include a summary of the afternoon discussions and presentations in the next Newsletter.

Dates of future SABG meetings

Our next meeting will be held on **Sunday 8th October 2018** at our normal venue, the Badger Farm Community Centre near Winchester. Our new Chairman Paul Cumbleton will talk on "*Growing and propagating South African winter-growing bulbs*", thus continuing the theme of the April meeting and the report on George's presentation in this Newsletter.

The Spring meeting will be on **Sunday 7th April 2019**, also at the Badger Farm Community Centre. Details of the speaker will follow in due course.

For no particular reason other than to fill in a bit of white space:



The Akkerendam nature reserve, Calvinia, with drifts of *Moraea (Homeria) miniata* etc., 3/9/2017 [Richard White]

SABG Committee

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Paul Cumbleton cumbleton@yahoo.co.uk

Vice-chairman, Bulb & seed exchange

Jonathan Evans jonevans46.uw@btinternet.com

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⁸ What's making me think of Kazakhstan and Sacha Baron Cohen?

⁹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nagoya_Protocol

SABG Data Privacy Policy

This is a shortened draft of the data privacy policy which we are adopting, to protect the personal data which members have given us for the purpose of running the Group. We only collect and store the personal information you explicitly give us in connection with your membership of the SABG.

We hold

- Personal data that you provide to us such as your name, postal address, telephone number, email address;
- Information about any services (such as the Bulb and Seed Exchange) that we have provided to you in the past;
- Our web server logs include the IP addresses of the computers and other devices used to access the SABG web-site; this information does not reveal who uses the web-site or whether they are SABG members;
- In future, we may provide optional online discussion forum and social media facilities, in which case we shall need to store your account login details, including your user identifier, email address, password and your specific preferences for which type of information that you wish to receive.

We store information about SABG members in three ways:

- on paper, for limited periods in order to provide services such as the annual Bulb and Seed Exchange;
- in digital form, in order to send out emails to members, on the home personal computers of the Treasurer, Membership Secretary, and Newsletter and Web Editor, protected from unauthorised use by routers, firewalls, passwords and physical security, and on the servers of an online web hosting company (see below).

The information that we collect may be used to:

- Make our web-site and online services available to you;
- Send email messages to members;
- Process your donations or requests;
- If necessary, ensure that our members are who they say they are;
- Conduct statistical analysis, in which members are not individually identified.

In common with many other web sites, we use the following open-source software: the Apache web server software to deliver web pages to your computer or device, the DokuWiki wiki software to manage those web pages and allow authorised members to edit them or add comments, the Admidio membership database software to manage information about our members, and the MySQL or MariaDB database management system to support the membership database. LibreOffice and Microsoft Office are used on our home PCs.

We use a web hosting company (currently Kualo Ltd., based in the UK) to provide the web servers on which our online resources are hosted, including our web-site, membership database and online forum. No information about SABG members is provided to that company, except in so far as member information is stored in a database on their servers. We are therefore reliant on, and we have every confidence in, the security of their servers. Passwords and other security information needed to access members' personal information are not made available to the company.

We may provide your personal details to outside organisations or individuals if required to by law.

You have various rights of access and control over your personal information, as stipulated in the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Contact us via one of the methods shown below if you wish to exercise any of these rights.

By law, you can request access to the information that we hold about you. If any of the information that we retain is incorrect or out of date you may ask us to correct it, or if you have a question or complaint about this policy, please contact us by one of the methods below. You have the right to request that we stop using and/or delete your personal information.

You can exercise your rights by email to a member of the SABG Committee named on our Contacts page, or by post to the Chairman, Paul Cumbleton, The Maples, Watts Quarry Lane, Somerton, Somerset TA11 7JD, UK, or to the Vice-Chairman, Jon Evans, 6 Upper Way, Farnham, Surrey GU9 8RF, UK.

You also have the right to lodge a complaint with the UK regulator, the Information Commissioner. Go to <https://ico.org.uk/concerns> to find out more.

The latest version of the policy can be found on the SABG web-site at <https://sabg.tk/info:security:>

South African Bulbs: Hardiness Questionnaire

I am investigating to what extent our bulbs can be grown without heat under glass or even out in the garden. Please answer the questions below and email the completed form to cumbleton@yahoo.co.uk or post this page to me, Paul Cumbleton, The Maples, Watts Quarry Lane, Somerton, Somerset TA11 7JD. Many thanks!

Your Name:

and location:

Section A: Plants in Greenhouses

1. Do you grow any South African bulbs in a greenhouse with no heating?

Yes / No

(delete as appropriate, and if No, go to section B)

If yes, please list the plants here (genus, species and provenance if available): (Continue at the end of this document if you don't have enough space here)

2. Do you cover them with fleece or similar on cold nights? Yes / No

3. What is the lowest temperature they have survived? :

4. Have they experienced a *sustained* period of frost and still survived? Yes/No

5. Please list any plants you have tried but which did **not** survive in unheated conditions:

Section B: Plants in the Open Garden

1. Do you grow any South African bulbs in the garden without any protection? Yes / No

If yes, please list the plants here (genus, species and provenance if available): (Continue at the end of this document if you don't have enough space here):

2. What is the lowest temperature they have survived? :

3. Have they experienced a *sustained* period of frost and still survived? Yes/No

4. Please list any plants you have tried in the garden but which did not survive:

5. Please add any other comments or observations on hardiness that you think may be helpful (use the back of the sheet if you are using the paper version):