

CACTASMANIA 2025 REVIEW

Collectors of cactus and succulents are a very dedicated group of people, who fully understand these unusual and varied plants. This was evident at the show, 29 and 30th November, when they started to arrive at least 30 minutes before the doors open. The line went from the main entry, around the corner and down Bilton Street for some distance.

Once the official opening time of 10am arrived and the doors opened, there was a well organised avalanche of people in the hall anxious to get their latest plants to add to their collection. A consistent stream of patrons entered the hall over both days with over 400 patrons seeing the wonderful display and or purchased their latest plants. So keen are some buyers a couple travelled from George Town to get their prize possession of a column cactus from Matt Gamble.

The show had a very interesting display of rare and unusual plants provided by the sellers and set up by Scott Bell, which received a large number of positive comments from the general public throughout the two days of the show.

The entries produced by the general public were of the highest standard while also showing both initiative and great use of various containers which to display their entries.

Prize Winners were:

Section 1 Cactus Clumping: Les
Section 2 Cactus Column & Epiphytes: Les
Section 3 Arrangements: Kaye Pless
Section 4 Succulents Echeveria: Jing Yi
Section 5 Succulents Crassulaceae: Jing Yi
Section 6 Succulents All Others: Jing Yi
Section 7 Children's Section: Jing Wei

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Each Section Winner received a \$50 voucher from the various growers which was very well received by the lucky winners.

The Colin Drake Trophy for the Best Display in the Competition was won by Jing Yi with her entry in Section.

To add to the event, there was also a competition amongst the growers and the winner was Selina Le Fevre's entry: Elephant's Foot.

Another very popular aspect to the show was the annual raffle which had seven prizes, six plants donated by the growers and a bin full of garden gear from HALS, (Horticultural & Landscape Supplies), a very strong supporter of the group and our shows.

Raffle Winners:

1st Prize: Bill

2nd Prize: Mary Mann

3rd & 7th Prize: Dean Giblin

4th Prize: Lois Palmer

5th Prize: Patricia Shone

6th Prize: Neil Harwood

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