

Newsletter

*For Friends of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens Inc
To Promote, Protect & Preserve*

No 101, Spring 2015

President's report - Alan Morgan's report to the AGM, 16 August 2015

It has been an eventful year for the Friends with our two main activities, guiding and plant propagating, back in full swing. The financial constraints placed on all Council activities has required some hard thinking by the Gardens staff and management on cost saving measures and, significantly, to means of generating revenue from the Gardens activities and assets.

Our daily walks from the museum gates are still suffering from the lack of tourist accommodation and activity in the city centre; numbers are only around 25% of pre-quake (and pre-caterpillar) days. Encouragingly though there is a marked increase in group tours particularly of local groups. Traditionally the ratio of guided clients has been up to 95% from overseas but that is changing particularly for groups.

This year we have trialled short Sunday walks with specific themes starting from the visitor centre and these have attracted encouraging numbers, mostly of locals. The increase in group tours has encouraged us to promote them for the coming season.

Our guides are a dedicated group of nineteen active guides and five supporters who meet monthly for training sessions as well as their daily rostered walks in season. They are ably led and organised by Faye and Neil Fleming, with Pat Whitman looking after the roster.

The propagating teams are well settled in to their new facility which was nicely set up by gardens staff on Riccarton Avenue. The figures show that sales in this past year have trebled from the previous year. With the move to the new building the Gardens staff have not been able to provide the same service as previously, with the result that the sales trolley has been tried in different locations and with an honesty box system for payment. This was moderately successful for sales but was withdrawn earlier this year because of the extent of non-payment for plants.

Negotiations with the gardens management around the design of a new sales stand, its location, security and servicing are ongoing.

We have been encouraged by the numbers coming to the monthly walks/talks with talks getting bigger numbers than the walks. We will be looking hard at such attractions for members and would welcome ideas for topics/activities/events.

The Committee has made submissions to the City Council hearings on the Draft Long Term Plan for their proposed spending over the next 10 years. None of the projects in the current Botanic Gardens 10 year management plan which runs until 2017 are included even in the extensive "unfunded" list of projects. Our submission was that while we understood the financial constraints the vision of the current plan should not be lost because there could be other means of funding – the trust and others.

The Trust is making good progress in the formidable setting up process. It is entering the highly professional world of fund-raising and the trustees are acutely aware of the need to have very sound systems and strategies plus an attractive project before launching. We are working with the Gardens management to identify the first project with which the Trust can be launched to the public.

The staff have been going through yet another restructuring with the most significant change being the spreading of our specialist team's scope and responsibility from just the Gardens to city wide. The most effected will be Lynda Burns' interpretation team and Curator John Clemens now heading a conservation and sustainability team as well as retaining the title Curator of the Botanic Gardens. The Committee is concerned that diluting the focus of these specialist teams from the Gardens will be detrimental to them.

Finally there are many folk in the Friends that deserve recognition. Firstly the committee Penny Martin (Membership Secretary), Jeanette Christianson, Don Bell (Propagation Teams), Charles Graham (Past President), Roy Sinclair (Minute Secretary) and Dot Noordijk (Treasurer) have all worked generously and enthusiastically throughout the year. Curator John Clemens (ex officio) provides a written report and attends all meetings usually for the part that concerns him.

Both Charles and Dot are retiring this year, Charles after nine years and President for three. Dot has been a first class Treasurer for four years and came to us from the Volunteer Centre but quickly became a devotee of the Gardens. She leaves a hard act to follow for a successor - I wish we had one.

The guides and the propagators provide the main activity base and funders for the Friends and all deserve our gratitude. And of course our members who support us with your subscriptions and show up for the events.

Finally I would like to thank the management and staff of the Gardens, particularly John Clemens, for helping us help them.

Alan Morgan

Garden News

Curator's Report

Rural France: beauty, biodiversity, bon appétit

My sister-in-law, Tamara Choy Smith, lives in Chinon, France, a fortified medieval town a short train journey on the TGV from Paris across the open fields of grain crops, rapeseed and sunflowers. A local train takes us from Tours through the royal hunting forest that occupies the higher ground that surrounds the warm sloping vineyards of Chinon on the banks of the River Vienne on its way to the Loire.



The garden at the troglodyte village where workers would live in caves dwellings cut into the limestone cliffs.

Between long summer evenings sampling local produce, Paula and I visited several notable places including a reinstated “troglodyte” village where we saw the salad vegetables being grown that we ate with local bread for lunch, the tiny back gardens of one of the most beautiful villages in France (Candes-St-Martin), and - by way of contrast - the spectacular creation of Chateau Villandry with its massive, world-famous vegetable and ornamental gardens. The scales were different; the message the same: gardens are beautiful, enjoyable, productive, and often edible places. It was uplifting to see parts of the Villandry garden receiving their end-of-summer replanting using tried and trusted methods: uniformed staff were incorporating fertiliser, making planting grooves to mark bedding plant locations, and setting out young (vegetable) plants just as we might in our Botanic Gardens.



A secluded private back garden in the beautiful Candes-St-Martin



A small section of the gardens at Villandry



Villandry Chateau garden staff discussing the latest round of planting.

At the nearby Fontevraud Abbey, where lies the body of Richard the Lionheart, in the fields surrounding the neighbouring "royal city" of Loches, and even in a corner of regimented Villandry, we were impressed by the effort that had gone into encouraging wildlife. There were signs to tell us about the biodiversity we might not have noticed, and to explain why new land management regimes were being put in place. We enjoyed the signs because there was a good blend of factual explanation and humorous cartoon. And to complete the “garden town”, if not garden city, picture there were large, productive community gardens in more urban locations.



The water meadow for biodiversity and relaxation next to the royal city of Loches

Paris, France: European botanic gardens

There was a happy coincidence that found me visiting my middle son, Philip, in Paris at the same time as the European Botanic Gardens Congress was being held there in the Jardin des Plantes. I attended for two days of talks and a

field trip to Versailles to discover the burning issues facing their botanical establishments.



A group of people dwarfed by the dense vegetation of the New Caledonia collection at the Jardin des Plantes, Paris

In short, their concerns mirror ours, with issues and activities falling into three areas: the role of botanic gardens in conserving biodiversity, the sustainable development of biodiversity to supply for the needs of current and future generations, and how best to share the benefits of sustainable development within our communities. For us these might translate into conserving our most threatened habitats and plants (including introduced ones), modelling our own practices and helping the public to understand why sustainability is important, and reaching segments of the community who might not think a botanic garden has anything to offer them through popular events and outreach. These principles spring from the Convention on Biological Diversity, and translate into the targets of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.

A new generation of garden cities

France was absorbing for an all-too-short spell of catching up with family, but I watch what is happening in the English landscape through publications of the Landscape Institute. It is 100 years or more since the first garden cities inspired by Ebenezer Howard were being made in rural England, and since Christchurch was first named as a Garden City, an already established expression of "the best of town and country". Now the United Kingdom is reinventing a new generation of garden cities, which are variously described (or decried) as idyllic, desolate, and a hollow rebranding exercise [search "garden cities"

within
<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2014/oct/01/>].

The Landscape Institute calls for the design of the next wave of garden cities to be landscaped and sustainable; for garden cities to be designed "with nature through a green infrastructure approach reducing the risk of flooding, cleansing air and water, providing space to grow food and making garden cities more liveable". That sounds like a page from Ian McHarg's *Design with Nature* (published 50 years ago) and one we are, or should be, using as we design the infrastructure and the detail of the new Christchurch. We might not all be fans of the design professions, but it was great to see the way the neighbours had got behind landscape architect Di Lucas in a Colombo Street initiative unveiled in August this year. The eye-catching Christchurch biodiversity mural (hoarding) can be seen at 811-815 Colombo Street.

In further news from recent Institute publications, healthy places are the ones that promote a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing. Parks are an important part of our living environment that supports health and wellbeing by helping to build relationships between neighbours, not just by providing for the most obvious services such as sports and relaxation. As one commentator put it in relation to community gardens: "...the vegetables aren't the outcome. It is the urban and social change that is the outcome".

Returning to Christchurch

In case you had not heard, or in case you were wondering why I was repeatedly referring to biodiversity and community gardens, I should tell you that the recent reorganisation of the Parks Unit has seen the creation of a new operational team called Conservation and Sustainable Development. As well as retaining the title Curator of Botanic Gardens, I am the manager of this new team, which includes Botanist, Trevor Partridge, the Botanical Resources Officer, Sue Molloy, and a newly appointed Ecologist, Kristina Macdonald. You might have seen Kristina talk on the pollination of *Gastrodia* orchids last year. Other sections of the Parks Unit will be working with this new team in the year ahead.

One of many tasks of the new team will be to improve the documentation of live plant collections in the Botanic Gardens and possibly elsewhere in the city, and of our herbarium collection of plant specimens. I understand the Friends of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens have decided to support generously the purchase of modern cabinets to allow us to store and use the herbarium specimens under our care. This is a wonderful decision and one that will allow further opportunities for members of the Friends to be involved with Botanic Gardens

work and enjoyment. We will be able to unpack stored specimens, curate the specimen sheets and re-label them as necessary, and order them in storage so they can be retrieved with ease.

Friends with the necessary skills, or the aptitude and willingness to learn about herbarium curation, should get in touch. Remember that members of the Friends are welcome to use the Research Library (and soon the Herbarium) in the new Visitor Centre by arrangement with Sue Molloy.

Events in the Gardens

From Charlotte Thompson, Visitor Experience Officer, Parks Unit.

Any questions on the following events please email amy.johnston-bray@ccc.govt.nz

Tell Tale Trees Discovery Trail. Explore the Botanic Gardens using all your senses these spring school holidays. Pick up your booklet from the Visitor Centre for the self-guided family discovery trail and let the fun begin!

Saturday 26 September - Sunday 11 October.

Big Band Festival. Relax on the lawn outside the Visitor Centre and be wowed by top bands from across New Zealand. Free admission.

Monday 26 October (Labour Day), 10am – 2pm.

All right Amble - Walking Festival. Part treasure hunt, part orienteering - this is a fun-family walk with a difference. Pick up your map from the Visitor Centre and scout out hidden delights.

Sunday 4 October

Interflora floral demonstration. Join us for an exciting evening at the Visitor Centre and learn to create innovative floral arrangements.

Friday 9 October

Busk-a-Thon. The Botanic Gardens is one of many venues hosting this 24 hour busking challenge. Raising funds for the Christchurch charity Home & Family, the day will showcase a multitude of performers ranging from school groups, to well-known artists and dance troupes.

Saturday 17 October 2015

Family Fun Day, Beca Heritage Week. The Botanic Gardens is one of many central city destinations to visit on this fun-filled family day. Engage in historic interactive activities and tours, and celebrate the heritage of our city.

Sunday 18 October

A Taste of Summer. Join the Jubilate Singers for an afternoon of light, entertaining music at the Visitor Centre. Featuring music from the Beatles, Simon and Garfunkel, Gershwin, Bernstein and Manhattan Transfer.

Sunday 1 November, 4pm

All about Gardening. Canterbury Horticultural Society monthly series of lectures on gardening will be held at the Visitor Centre on the first Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning of November and December. For more information visit <http://chsgardens.co.nz/about/all-about-gardening/>

Regional planting days. Keen to be involved in plant restoration days throughout parks this spring? For more information visit: <http://www.ccc.govt.nz/parks-and-gardens/get-involved-with-parks/volunteer/volunteer-events/>

Join us on Facebook

To find out more about our upcoming events and activities at the Botanic Gardens, join our official Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/christchurchbotanicgardens>

Articles

Look at that plant – Forsythia

The Scottish gardener William Forsyth was a showy character, like the shrub that bears his name. After Robert Fortune had brought forsythia back from China and it had become popular, its ease of propagation and hardiness caused it to become popular and was planted in gardens everywhere. Then, like a lot of wildly popular plants, it fell into disrepute, and so-called discriminating gardeners talked of it as vulgar.



William Forsyth by Sir Henry Raeburn

Forsyth too fell into disrepute. In 1770 he became the director of the Chelsea Physic Garden. He was able and enthusiastic, reorganising and replanting the Chelsea garden, exchanging seeds and plants with gardens abroad, making the first

British rock garden with forty tons of old stone from the Tower of London and lava brought back from Iceland by Sir Joseph Banks, and helping to found the Royal Horticultural Society. However in spite of all this laudable horticultural activity, he seems to have been a bit of a rascally entrepreneur. He invented, or claimed to invent, "Forsyth's Plaister". By 1879 overuse of forests had left few great trees suitable for wartime shipbuilding, and those that remained were often diseased. In his gardens, Forsyth had used his plaster to seal wounds in fruit trees after he had removed diseased limbs, and he offered to sell the recipe to the British navy. The navy fell for it and the Treasury paid him fifteen hundred pounds - an immense sum in those days. The secret recipe turned out to consist of cow dung, lime, wood ashes and sand mixed to malleable paste with soapsuds and urine. Its efficacy was challenged by Thomas Knight, an expert on the cultivation of fruit trees, who refused to concede that "man, with the aid of a little lime, cow dung and wood ashes, is capable of rendering that immortal, which the great God of nature evidently intended to die". A Quaker doctor, John Lettsom, supported Forsyth, but when challenged by Knight with a wager of a hundred guineas that he could not "produce a single foot of timber restored after being once injured to the state asserted by Mr Forsyth," replied primly that his religion did not allow him to make wagers. Forsyth, however, died in 1804 before the controversy could be resolved.

Of course Forsyth may have believed that his plaster was truly effective – that it may even have worked. His instructions included cutting away the diseased parts of the tree before applying the cure and, as we are discovering increasingly, plants as

well as people have self-healing powers we do not fully understand. The trees, with the canker removed, may simply have recovered as they would have without the plaster.

As already mentioned, forsythia is now less popular than in the past. Is this the result of changes in fashion? Or is because it so easy to grow that some gardeners have come to regard it as rather "common"?



Forsythia in full flower

This is a pity. Forsythia provides a cheerful splash of yellow in the spring. The glowing bright yellow looks good in association with greenery, with narcissus flowers and with the blues of hyacinths. However it can be hard to place in small to medium garden; a forsythia growing in the vicinity of pink flowering cherries does look garish. If one has to choose between forsythias or pink flowering cherries, most gardeners these days will choose the cherries.

Various varieties of forsythia are available from plant nurseries. In the previous Newsletter an article about plantsman John Taylor appeared. One of the products of his horticultural endeavours was the forsythia variety "Millegold".

Bill Whitmore

The fleeting fragrance of Violets

Violet or *Viola odorata* was in cultivation, you might even say commercial cultivation, long before the birth of Christ. Violet was the emblem flower of ancient Athens and derives its name from the Greek *ion* or *vion* which became the Latin *viola*

According to 16th century Jesuit priest, botanist and herbalist, John Gerard, the name *viola* came from *Io*. *Io* was the young damsel whom Zeus loved but changed into a heifer (Fonterra could be interested in this) to protect her from his jealous wife Hera. Zeus gave *Io* a field of violets to eat "which being made for her received the name from her". When Hera saw the tender little white heifer with purple violets in her mouth, such perfect beauty aroused her suspicions. She asked Zeus to give her the calf, and he was trapped into assenting. Hera then had *Io* in her spiteful power and harassed her mercilessly, finally sending a gadfly to torture her until, unable to sleep or eat, *Io* plunged madly into the Ionian Sea, also named after her. Finally Hera was able to extricate a promise from Zeus not to look at *Io* again, and, in exchange, turned her back into a girl.

In Athens violets along with carnations were the best beloved of all flowers and were worn as garlands at weddings and other ceremonial occasions.

About a thousand years before Gerard began to plant violets in his London garden, Queen Radegonde of France was growing them at Poitiers. Centuries later Napoleon as a small boy developed an affection for the scented violets that grew in the cool glades of Corsica. Josephine had worn violets on her wedding day and Napoleon's habit of presenting her with a bouquet of violets to mark the anniversary gave considerable impetus to their cultivation in France. But it was his banishment to Elba that really set all France thinking in terms of violets. As he was being taken away his last words to his friends were "I shall return with the violets in spring." The flower was immediately adopted as a symbol of loyalty by friends and adherents and as a means of identification of their secret meetings. Terms such as "Le Père Violette" were much in evidence as passwords among the initiated.

When the news reached Paris that Napoleon had broken loose again violets were in great demand; ladies wore violet dresses and a wonderful display of his favourite flowers greeted Napoleon at the Tuileries. We imagine that he had little time to admire them. After the crash of all his dreams at Waterloo he went to Josephine's grave and picked a few violets, which were found in a locket on his breast when he died. With the return of the Bourbons violets disappeared from the streets of Paris, and one famous actress was hissed off the

stage for wearing them. They only returned to favour with the rise of Napoleon 111.

Violets have been referred to by many writers and poets. It was Shakespeare who gave it most prominence, alluding to the plant on eighteen occasions. However it was the fragrance rather than its colour to which he most commonly alluded. In *Hamlet* Laertes says:

“A violet in the youth of primy nature,
Forward, not permanent, not lasting.
The perfume and suppliance of a minute:
No more.”

This reference to the fragrance of the bloom is interesting, for violets do possess the strange quality that their powerful fragrance is not lasting. This is due to a substance known as ionine (again referring back to our damsel Io). This substance possesses the ability to dull the sense of smell within a short time, and so it is not the flower which, as you might think, loses its fragrance when cut, but it is our own powers of smell which are lost. If after a few minutes the bloom is again smelled, the perfume will return only to disappear again. It is this which has contributed to the charm of the violet, for it is never possible to suffer an excess of its fragrance. You could never accuse

the violet, as you might some other scented flowers, of having a cloying fragrance.



Parma violets – variety unknown

The photograph is of Parma violets. Little seems to be known of the famed “sweet violets of Parma”. Some authorities believe they may have originated in the Moorish gardens of old Spain, while other think they came from Turkey by way of Italy. It is said, however, that when the Empress Josephine began to build up the famous plant collections at Malmaison she sent to Parma for the best-known varieties of violets.

Bill Whitmore

Friends News

25 years on!

This year is a milestone for the Friends of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens – they celebrate their 25th anniversary! The first Friends meeting was in the old Information Centre on 10 June 1990. On 14 June this year a meeting was held at which a cake was cut and enjoyed to mark the occasion.

The anniversary was again remembered at this year’s AGM on 16 August when foundation President Warwick Harris gave a brief address.

Friends make a donation.

At the AGM President Alan Morgan presented Curator John Clemens with a cheque for \$20,000 as a donation from the Friends towards the cost of new Herbarium cabinets.

Some memories of the early years of the Friends of Christchurch Botanic Gardens.

Christchurch Botanic Gardens have always been a place of recreation, refuge and learning.

In 1988 the City Council Parks and Reserves Chairman, Neiel Drain and Curator Botanical Services, Warwick Scadden, began discussions with a steering committee to set up a proposed new Society, Friends of Christchurch Botanic Gardens. The aims and objectives, rules and proposed subscriptions for members, were established to assist in furthering the work of the Botanic Gardens.



Cutting the cake. Left to right: Alan Morgan (Current President), Warwick Scadden (Curator in 1990), Jim Crook (Secretary from 1994), Daphne Banks, Bill Sykes (foundation committee members) with Adrienne Moore (foundation Secretary), Morag Taylor (representing John Taylor).

Some of those on the steering committee represented the Botany Division DSIR, the Canterbury Horticultural Society, the Beautifying Association, the Botanical Society and the Garden City Trust.

The inaugural Annual General Meeting of the Friends was held on 6 November 1989 when the public were invited. Approximately 70 people attended and were introduced to the Botanic Gardens Draft Management Plan, discussed the future activities and programme and elected the Management Committee. Those elected were Dr Warwick Harris (President), Dr David Given, Messrs Des Riach, (Vice President), Roy Edwards, John Taylor, Frank Harvey, Hugh Miller, Ron Proctor, Colin Neal, Bill Sykes, Richard Doyle and Mesdames Daphne Banks and Adrienne Moore (Secretary Treasurer). Fifty people paid subscriptions.

Dr David Given gave an illustrated address entitled "The Conservation Role of Botanic Gardens around the World"

After this expected rather formal beginning, the Friends organised monthly meetings, walks and fundraising events. The first meeting on 10 June 1990 was attended by 39 members. Warwick Scadden inspired us with stories of historic aspects of the Gardens followed by a walk. An *Acer nikkoensis* was planted by Dr Warwick Harris on the Potts Lawn to mark the beginning of the Friends.

From then on new members joined in increasing numbers and 150 members plus 12 affiliate members were listed by 11 September 1990. The programme was enthusiastically and very well supported and there were plenty of opportunities for members to contribute in running the meetings, preparing and mailing the newsletter, guiding walks, selling plants, serving refreshments giving talks and raising funds towards the Project Fund.

A "Wake Up to Spring" Breakfast on 30 September 1990 in the Information Centre was a great success and attended by 73 members. Guided walks followed after breakfast.

Bill Sykes and Frank Harvey started the educational side of our group with a wonderful fun evening "Fun and Games with Plant Names" in the Horticultural Society Hall in Hagley Park.

With a wide range of experience in horticulture and botany amongst our members we were always learning and we enjoyed many sessions with members and walks in the Gardens. Guiding became part of our way of helping visitors and locals to enjoy the Gardens. Training was given informally amongst the early volunteers with Max Visch becoming our very kindly and able mentor. Later on new guides were recruited and extensively trained for guiding. Neil and Faye Fleming recruited new guides and led the training. They invited Gardens' staff and other experts in for specialist topics. Friends' guides researched and offered guided walks on specialist topics to members once a month and later during the warmer months daily for visitors and tourists. These guided walks earned significant amounts of funds.

Inspiring visiting speakers from overseas addressed us, including Dr Ursula Mc Hardy, a botanist from the Palmengarten in Frankfurt. Ursula came several times with her husband Willie and they were substantial contributors to our funds through sustaining membership. Dr Roy Taylor from the Chicago Botanic Garden and Bill Tait from the Edinburgh Botanic Garden were highlights in our programme and attracted large audiences. It was quite a squash in the Information centre in those days. We also filled the Centre when we had social events and quizzes.

As early as February 1991 a group of about 20 Friends were rostered to help each Friday between 10am and 2pm in the BG Information Centre. Eventually there were over 60 Friends rostered to help on Fridays and Saturdays. Many of us loved the opportunity to help in this way and felt we had too few turns on duty. A very helpful Friends' volunteer, Wendy, even arranged a wedding ceremony, a picnic reception in the Gardens with the cake she made, and honeymoon accommodation for a young Canadian couple who enquired about getting married on Valentine's Day. The couple have remained great friends to this day and hosted Wendy and her husband in Canada.

Another volunteer effort was on behalf of a BG staff member who needed data for a statistical project on visitor numbers. This involving very many members recording visitor numbers and collecting their survey forms, in different seasons, at the gates and entrances to the Gardens.

The first Children's programme was initiated by and organised by the Friends, operating in difficult conditions, but having great times inspiring young people. We had to hastily prune our own and friends' gardens to find sufficient greenery for the children to build "Settler's Huts". We were alert to what was going on in other Botanic Gardens through exchanging newsletters. The staff eventually took over and developed the children's programmes

From the very early days preparing plants for sale from the Gardens was a popular activity and learning experience. Friends initially helped the staff with the plant sales. A glasshouse was made

available and growing plants for sale became the Friends' project. The propagating team members have worked tirelessly over the years throughout the seasons and their dedication to care and watering plants has earned many, many dollars for the Friends to use in helping the Gardens. The millennium gift was the Arbour in the Children's playground. Annual grants to the Library have been given for over 20 years.

General fundraising has given more opportunities for members to be involved eg the pot pourri project, regular raffles, a film outing, and catering are just a few.

Visits away for members were popular including the Herbarium at Lincoln, Riccarton Bush and the Lincoln University magnolia collection. In later years Bob Peers and Alison Fox arranged tours including Dunedin, Banks Peninsula, Geraldine, Ashburton and North Canterbury and the Avon River - Source to Sea. These were very happy times and how much we learned from each other.

Our members come from all parts of the city. Working together throughout the years, having fun along the way and sharing our interest in plants and the Gardens, has meant many long-term friendships have been made.

I doubt those who set up the group so long ago had any idea what a happy and rewarding time we would have amongst ourselves whilst also helping to support, protect and promote the Christchurch Botanic Gardens.

Adrienne Moore

Articles for the Newsletter.

As well as being a reader or subscriber of the Newsletter how about contributing an article?

An article could relate in some way to the Gardens but not necessarily. It could be about a plant explorer, another Botanic Garden, or about a plant or tree unfamiliar to us in Christchurch. You could express a view about the Gardens, as they are now, or what you would like to see in the future.

Contact Numbers

Committee

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Enquiries about membership should be made to Penny Martin 332-6866 Graememartin1@xtra.co.nz

Friends' website

Have you visited the Friends' website? The address is <http://www.friendschchbotanicgardens.org.nz/>

Distribution of Newsletter

We distribute the Newsletter by email to those members who have given us their email addresses and who have not requested otherwise. If you would prefer to receive the Newsletter by mail, rather than electronically, please contact Penny Martin – phone 332 6866 or email graememartin1@xtra.co.nz

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