

U3A PEGASUS GARDENING GROUP

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

It has been a very busy few weeks for the gardening group so lots to report on – BUT FIRST

End of Year Celebration

Monday November 28th Visit to the Iris Garden at 10.30am followed by the Luncheon at Cedar Park Gardens in Rolleston. The details are as follows:

Julie May, The Iris Garden, Springston
Address: 375 Ellesmere Junction Road, Lincoln

We will meet Julie at the Iris Gardens at 10.30am

Car pooling from MPCC leaving at 9.45am as it is a good half hour out to Springston which is west or through Lincoln on Ellesmere Junction Road.

We are then booked in for our Luncheon at \$25pp for 1pm in Rolleston. The address for Cedar Park Gardens is:

101B Lowes Road, Rolleston. The property is at the end of a long driveway so drive in as there is plenty of parking.

There may be plants to buy at both venues so extra cash would be good. Also the exact \$25 would be very helpful to pay for the lunch.

Numbers by 24th November please. Please email Gaynor if you intend to go to the luncheon so that she can communicate numbers to Anne prior to the day.

24 October Outing

Visit to Wakatu Avenue and Moncks Bay

We had a wonderful wander around seven gardens in Wakatu Avenue and a further one in Bayview Avenue, Moncks Bay. The weather was blustery (again) following a perfectly lovely morning!! The gardens were varied in size, plantings and style. The picture on the left shows part of one property which was small and the owner had converted all available space to the use of pots and planters with a variety of vegetables, fruit trees and flowers – an abundance of produce and flowers. There was a variety of interesting plants and shrubs grown in other gardens and you realise what a micro climate there is tucked up against the hill when you see veriyas being grown on the flat.



We finished our afternoon at Bronwyn's home – photo on the right – with a warming cup of tea/coffee.



A big thank you to Jan Leitch for organising the tour. Jan kindly presented each garden owner with a jar of her marmalade.



November Extra

On 1 November we had an “extra” – those who could make it toured a garden in Fisher Avenue owned by a member of the Somerfield Garden Club. Dan's garden was a wonder of flowering wisteria (the perfume was lovely), climbing roses, pots with annuals and lots, lots more. It was laid out in a very precise fashion with paths that led you here and there, always with lots to delight. We also visited a very compact garden next door which was fairly easy care but good to look at.

Mt Pleasant Market Stall

Show Weekend – 12th November 9.30am to 12.30pm

A huge thank you to all members who contributed seedlings, plants and time to serve on the stall. We had an amazing variety of vegetables, bedding and annuals, trees, succulents, herbs – you are getting the picture!



We had a very good site – on the left just as you come into the car park and we were able to spread out onto the lawn and set up several more tables beside our allocated space. From the comments made by customers to the market this was the first time they had had a plant stall and they fell on our wares with gusto.

Chatting with people as you sold them plants was fun and satisfying and I, for one, learned something new.

Needless to say that our stall helpers went home with new plants. A big thank you for Jan L for the morning tea – the cheese scones were a winner.

In all, before costs, we took in \$937, so there will be a good nest egg with which to subsidise our programme for next year.



From the Steering Group Chair:

What a day, what a great turnout and weren't we blessed with the weather. I counted about 20 of us who turned up at various times. All your support was very welcome. Even those who thought they didn't do much the fact that you were there and wore your flower themed bits and bobs was a great draw card. It was a great way to get to know each other better too.

Lost and found. Lost: Jan's pink cardigan. Found: a bag of brown paper bags, a large box of tissues. The lost cellphone was found and the lost scissors were also found.

I really want to thank everyone but worry I will miss someone so I will do it by tasks.

First the advertising, telling friends and neighbours, Facebook posts and newsletters posters and flyers. The plants: most were well labelled but what an amazing collection and a lot of hard work raising some from seed, taking cuttings and keeping them all in a good condition and the Irises, plant markers and hose ends. The setting up team who all kept their cool as more and more plants arrived requiring extra tables. The sales team and others who sold and collected money. The banner, the refreshments, the having a strategic eye on what was happening in other parts of the market to know when to reduce prices, the brush and shovel and the clearing up team.

I hope you all went home with some new treasure plants as well as new friends in the garden group.

At our next meeting I will be asking what you thought we did well, what we could have done better and what plants were asked for that we could have had.

Barbara Harwood who took all the leftover small plants for her charity table said thank you very much and the money being raised at present is going to "Forest and Bird". She seemed very impressed with our efforts

and I would not be surprised if the Christchurch garden group (she is their President) follow suit in the next year.

Thank you, thank you, thank you all once again. You are a great bunch.

Lynne H

Programme update

Monday 23rd January	The Blue House, Amberley – garden visit
Tuesday 14th February	BEGONIAS. 10.00am Meet at 4 Blankney Street, Hornby to view the Begonias grown by Audi Smith at his home. Tea/Coffee supplied and morning tea by committee. Lunch at a venue to be decided followed potentially by visit to Russell Jeffares, at 2pm to view his Begonias at 32a Mathers Road
Monday February 27	Gilroy Nurseries, Clarkville - rose garden
Monday March 27	West Melton garden visit

U3A Website

Our newsletters will be available on the website <https://u3apegasus.org.nz/garden-group/>

Good gardening everyone

Lyn R (on behalf of the Steering Committee)