

U3A PEGASUS GARDENING GROUP

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Seasons Greeting to everyone

It is mid-January already and we have hardly blinked. I hope you are all well and if not enjoying our Christchurch summer at least having good times with friends and family.

Gardening is always on our minds and the recent rains have certainly perked up plants and of course the inevitable weeds. It is almost pip fruit picking season so keep up the watering. I have heard from many people who had blossom but no fruit produced – cold weather for the bees and a late frost to blame I guess.

The Steering Committee met on Monday and have planned out a draft programme for the rest of the year – see the end of the newsletter, which is quite long because we have doing so much!

Subscription

Following the results of our recent survey of members, it seemed that the majority were responsive to the idea of paying a subscription towards the running of the Garden Group. The Committee have therefore voted to have a \$10 subscription 1 February-31 January. Could you please pay this amount by the end of March. Please ensure you put your name and “garden grp sub” in the details section so that we can identify you. Our banking details are:

U3A Garden Group
03-1599-0133823-00

JANUARY Meeting

This coming Monday 20th, we will be going to Amberley to visit our ex-member - Adrienne Pavelka. If you wish to car pool please be at MPCC at 9.15 for a 9.30am departure. We estimate that we would be at Adrienne’s place around 10.30, if you are planning to drive there independently. Adrienne’s address is 14 Winskill Crescent, within the Amberley Country Estate Retirement Village. From the Main North Road, turn right into Amberley Beach Road, then turn right into Teviotview Place, then turn right into Esler Avenue, and finally turn right into Winskill Crescent.

We will see Adrienne’s garden and the other gardens within her village. We plan to have an early BYO lunch at the village’s clubhouse. This will be followed by a visit to Rose Shier’s “Corner Garden” in Bankview Place (\$10 per head).

As an impromptu extra - for those of you who have not visited the Blue House in Amberley, Priscilla has organised a visit. It is \$10 per head.

We need to have an indication of numbers for a. the trip to Adriennes and b. the Blue House. Please let me know by Thursday evening.

A reminder that passengers pay the driver \$5 for out of Christchurch trips.

PROGRAMME UPDATE

Below is the draft programme for 2025

January 20 th	Tips & Cuttings – Adrienne Pavalka, Amberley plus visit to “Corner Garden”
February 24 th	Ribblesworth Garden, Oxford followed by lunch at one of the Oxford cafes
March 24 th	Casa Rosa garden visit, West Melton
April 28 th	Tips & Cuttings – Ali Dewsbury – plus a session on starting a worm farm
May 26 th	Visit to a commercial grower – TBC
June 23 rd	Tips & Cuttings – TBC
July 28 th	Carolyn Collins – interactive photography demo
August 25 th	Ann Gain – hanging basket demonstration
September 22 nd	Jo McGirr – taking cuttings and seed raising demo
October 27 th	Visit to Stoneycrop garden and Rhodo Direct garden, West Melton
November 24 th	End of year lunch at “Ambrosia”, Strathlachlan Gardens, Doyleston

NOVEMBER Meeting

We had a lovely day in Rolleston. Our first stop was at Eunice Edgecombe’s garden. A hidden gem within her suburb.



We then travelled to Cedar Park Gardens for a delicious finger food lunch and a stroll in the extensive grounds, plus the opportunity to purchase some of the unusual plants for sale.



OCTOBER



Bronwyn resigned as Treasurer after being in that position for several years. Here is Bron with the flowers presented by the Group in appreciation of her work on the Committee.

September

Some of you attended our September meeting where we had Dirk Goetz speak to us on bonsai growing. I visited his property and took some photos of his arrangements which really are fantastic, so I couldn't resist including several.

