



## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT SUMMER 2023—2024**

Hello to everyone. I hope you are enjoying some good summer weather, not battling too much with the extremes of heat and strong winds – a forerunner of things to come maybe, which does make for challenging gardening! I am constantly looking at how I can modify my planting to cope with the drier weather that we are supposed to be getting.



A dry garden border at the Blue House Amberley, which was visited by the Friends last October: Photo generously provided by Jenny cooper.

We had some inspiration for this with a visit to The Blue House in Amberley back in October. Jenny Cooper, the owner here, has completely revamped her garden to establish beds of plants which will endure drier and windier conditions starting with rebuilding the beds themselves, planting the plants bare rooted to make them stronger to cope with winds by not growing so quickly when first put in, then adding mulch to retain the moisture and then not having to water. There was the advantage of being based on river stones and with a creek running alongside the garden, so this type of garden may not work everywhere, but you can find out a lot more information by visiting their website or the garden itself. We were there in early spring, but a visit nearer the end of summer would be something I'll be adding to the calendar! Our visit was all the more remarkable as Jenny and her husband had had a huge Norwest wind blowing through the day before, bringing down a neighbour's old willow tree through their own high hedge. They had been up at 5am to clear the mess from the storm, so we really appreciated that they were able to still go ahead with our tour round.

In November we had a fascinating talk from Murray Dawson, a botanist from Manaaki Whenua, Landcare Research, talking about his engagement with school children and community groups to let them know about common plants which are in fact, weeds, at risk of taking over our native species. He had some helpful information on all kinds of common plants we see and how we can eradicate them. If you are not sure whether a plant you have is a pest or not, you can look up the useful handbook that was left by Murray and is kept for reference in the Kiosk on top of the Friends drawers, just inside the doors on the left.

December was our Christmas function, and it was lovely to see so many people there and connect with Friends. We also had several of our newer members along which was great to see. We had Paul Michaels from All About Ferns talking to us about how his fern growing business has built up over the last 25 years and is now in high demand.

The Volunteers also held a Christmas finger food lunch to which the Gardens staff were invited. The staff were most appreciative, and it was a good opportunity for volunteers to connect with other volunteers as well as to connect with staff. It's so easy to work in one small area of the Gardens and not see other staff or volunteers and I know I enjoyed catching up with so many people!

If you've been into the Gardens recently, you'll be aware that it has been packed with visitors which is wonderful to see. We've had lots of people coming on our 1.30pm walks from the Kiosk and a good number of organised group tours around the Gardens. If you think you'd like to join the Guides and enjoy showing visitors around the Gardens, do get in touch with Susan Lawrence ([susan.l@xtra.co.nz](mailto:susan.l@xtra.co.nz)).

The Propagating team have been beavering away too, with the plant stall often having to be restocked with 50 new plants every day! The standard of plants for sale is most impressive and the choice a wonderful eclectic mix, so congratulations to all the Propagators for your ongoing hard work.

As a result of the ongoing successful fund raising, much of it from the plant sales, we have decided to help fund another horticultural trainee. The previous trainee, Breanna Hill, who received funding for her three year training from the generous bequest of Helen Irvine, has completed her apprenticeship and is now working in the Conservatories. The Friends feel that helping to sponsor another trainee is one of the most effective ways of supporting the Gardens. If you know anyone who would like to contribute to this fund, we would love to hear from them.

As a kick start to this fundraising, we have most generously been given a beautiful handmade Welsh stick chair made by David Laird Chairbler (<https://www.davidlairdchairbler.co.nz/>). His chairs are made from timber which is either from an end of life tree, or from trees which have been damaged by storms. It is going to be sold by silent auction in March. The chair will be on display in the Visitor Centre in the Gardens, so please do go and have a look and tell your friends and family about it! As well as being a beautifully crafted piece of furniture it is also very comfortable to sit in!

**Jane Cowan-Harris**  
**President of the Friends of the Botanic Gardens**



The top two pictures are views of garden areas at the Blue House Amberley Thank you Jenny for supplying the photos.

The bottom photo is the beautiful hand made Welsh stick chair made by David Laird Chairbler and generously donated to the Friends to help raise funds to sponsor another horticultural trainee.



## CONTENTS

- P1-2) President's Report: Jane Cowan-Harris
- P3) Contents and Editors Note: Annette Burnett
- P4) The New Fuchsia Collection: Matt Beuzenberg
- P5) Seed Conservation: Luke Martin
- P6-7) Marie Selby Botanical Gardens Florida: Annette Burnett
- P8) Fisherman's Bay Garden: Jane Cowan-Harris
- P9 -10) Scotlands 'Low Road': Laura Jones
- P10) Mona Vale Bathhouse Update: Jeanette Christensen
- P11) CHS Events
- P11) Friends Contacts
- P 12) Upcoming Friends' events

What a wonderful world we live in! The diversity is endless, and yet it is all interconnected.

I enjoyed a visit to Florida last October, with its subtropical vegetation, and Laura Jones has been traveling through a more temperate region in south-west Scotland. Two very different places yet interconnected because the milder climate in south-west Scotland is a result of a fast flowing stream of warm water — the Gulf Stream, which at one point passes through the Straits of Florida.

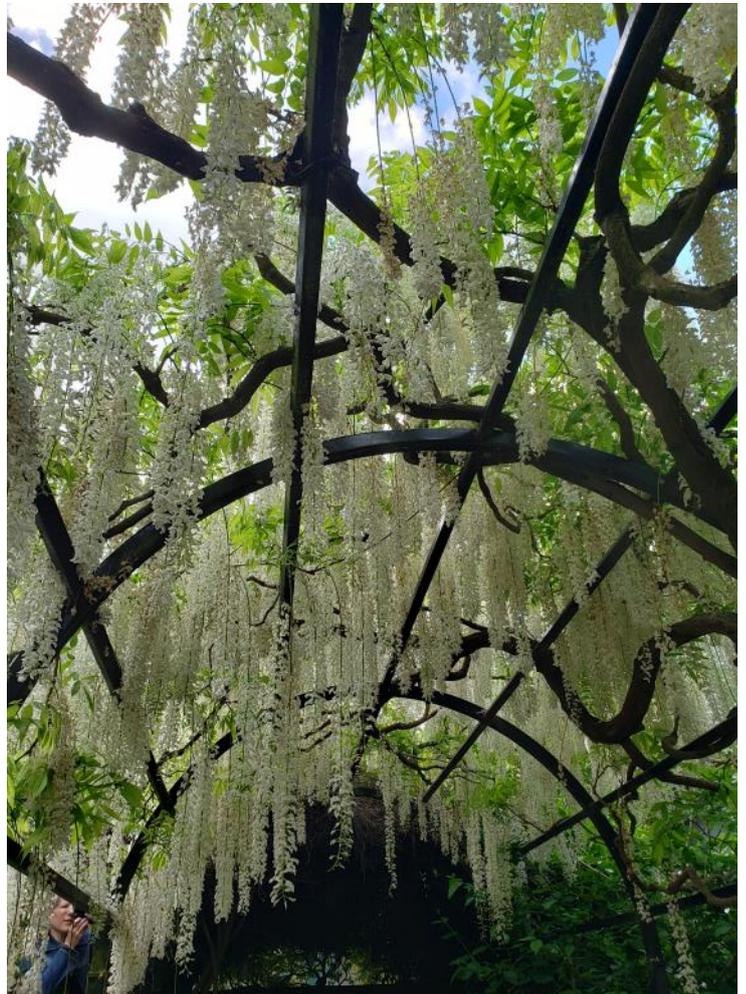
We have some very beautiful gardens here in Canterbury as well; Jane writes about the Blue House in Amberley in her report, as well as the colour rich plantings at Fisherman's Bay Garden.

The Botanic Gardens' staff have been busy, with Matt writing about the re-location of and additions to the *Fuchsia* collection — enchanting flowers that they are! And Luke explaining a little of the Kew Gardens seed conservation course that he has been involved with. It gives some hope to see the vision, work and co-operation between countries, towards future proofing the planets flora!

There is some very positive news about the Mona Vale bathhouse, with the likelihood of the restoration work going out for tender this April. The committee have worked so hard to raise funds, and it is so delightful to see that the Waimairi/Fendalton Community Board have made a substantial and very generous donation as well.

Happy reading!

**Annette Burnett**  
**Newsletter Editor**



The white wisteria flowering this November in the fragrant garden near the Cuninghams house was something of a magnet for visitors with their cameras.



## **THE NEW FUCHSIA COLLECTION**

At the Christchurch Botanic Gardens, we have a collection of *Fuchsia* located alongside the Cuninghame House. This collection is formally called the 'Fuchsia Border' and is home to many cultivars and species. However due to the impending structural and restoration work on the Cuninghame House, the current Fuchsia Border is to be removed. The works require the existing mature plants to go.

So under the guidance of our propagation expert Darren Tillet we have propagated all cultivars and species in the collection. In spring 2022 we took tip cuttings which were placed in a misted propagation unit. With nearly a 100% strike rate this was a great success. Cuttings were then potted up and left under glass over the 2023 winter. Unfortunately and quite randomly, a local fat cat 'Queenie' decided to jump onto some of the new cuttings and damage them. However, this was nothing a bit of pruning could not solve!

Whilst these plants were overwintering, we consulted *Fuchsia* specialist Graham Neate. Not only did he provide us with much needed advice, he also donated many new cultivars. Some of these are quite rare and are the first recorded at the Gardens. New cultivars include 'Quang Mai', 'Annabel' and 'Major Heaphy'.

Fuchsia belong in the family Onagraceae and are noteworthy for their colourful flowers (particularly of purple and pink tones). There are 108 species, which are divided into twelve sections. They are found in Central America, South America, Tahiti, Hispaniola and New Zealand. We have three species in NZ, *Fuchsia procumbens*, *Fuchsia perscandens* and *Fuchsia excorticata*, as well as natural hybrids.

As Spring 2023 arrived, we had almost filled up an entire bay in the Nursery's shadehouse with healthy potted *Fuchsia*. The decision was made as where the new plants should go. This is to the North-east of the Morden Rose Garden, near the large macrocarpa. The chosen area should provide enough shade for the Fuchsia whilst giving light-pockets for those which require more light. On a side note, an interesting fact is the genus name for macrocarpa (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) has changed to *Hesperocyparis*!

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of November 2023, a small group of staff and Graham planted an impressive number of Fuchsia. We also planted six species of native ferns in amongst the Fuchsia to provide a 'green backdrop'. A great team effort which had been in the works for over a year! New plant labels have been installed and the area has been named as the 'Fuchsia Collection'.

At the time of writing, most of the plants are doing well and in flower. The challenge now being keeping the water up!! If you are visiting the rose garden be sure to pop over and check out the new plantings.

A big thanks to all involved.

**Matt Beuzenberg**  
Collection Curator,  
Christchurch Botanic Gardens

From the top: Horticultural Trainee Nigel planting labels;  
New labels installed;  
*Fuchsia* 'Checkerboard' flowers



## **SEED CONSERVATION**

The Botanic Gardens makes contributions to the conservation of New Zealand plants in a number of ways. From the propagation, reintroduction and display of rare plants in Canterbury, to providing training workshops on identification and propagation to groups such as local Universities, Māori and Government conservation groups. Underscoring all these initiatives are seeds.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023 the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew organised the “Online Seed conservation techniques course” which I attended. The 10 day online course was a casual 12pm to 3pm UK time which meant I had to join online at midnight and work through until 3am in the morning, there were also activities to complete as homework between sessions. There were 20 people from around the world from most continents. North, Central and South America, Europe, Scandinavia, Africa, Korea, China, Malaysia, India and Australia. The Seed conservation techniques course covered all aspects required to meet Kew’s standards for seed banking. This training allows Partners across the world to be able to collect and contribute seed to the Millennium Seed Bank Project.

The Millennium Seed Bank (MSB) is the largest, most diverse wild plant species genetic resource in the world; a fantastic result of contributions from 97 countries since 2000. A staggering 2.4 billion seeds are banked at the MSB. 260 global partnerships have participated in the largest ex situ plant conservation programme of its kind. These seeds have been collected by Kew scientists, partners and institutions all around the world and are largely stored in the country where they were collected. Part of the collection is also sent to the MSB for safety backup in the sub-zero, state-of-the-art underground facility in West Sussex.

Why bank seeds? With two in five plant species at risk of extinction, it’s a race against time to protect our incredible plant life. By storing seeds ex situ (away from their natural habitat) we are giving a safe home to some of the world’s most threatened plants. Seed banking can be used to capture genetic diversity in declining populations, used for scientific research to understand the reproductive requirements of species and means we have a backup from which we can germinate and reintroduce these plants back into the wild.

How do we prioritise what species to collect and bank? There are a number of factors that can be used to prioritise species for collection. Plants with seeds that can tolerate being dried and frozen. Plants that are threatened in the wild, especially plants that are endemic to a single location (not found anywhere else). Plants from areas vulnerable to climate change: alpine, dryland, coastal and island ecosystems. Plants that are useful for livelihoods and economies including plants that are wild relatives of those that we eat. The Christchurch Botanic Gardens plans to focus on the banking of dryland and limestone endemic species that are unique to Canterbury.

How do we go about banking seeds for long term storage? First of all the seeds need to be collected. This involves consulting with Iwi and gaining permissions from Landowners, DOC and Regional Councils. Seeds need to be collected at the correct time. This is ideally as close to their point of natural dispersal when seeds are most mature.

Seeds are then cleaned through a variety of methods depending on the type of seed, and then dried for freezing. Seeds are dried at 15°C, to 15% relative humidity. This step improves the longevity of the seeds whilst in storage. Seeds need to be dried before they can be stored at sub-zero temperatures, or they will get damaged in the freezing process.

Seeds are then frozen in airtight containers at -20°C for long term storage. Small amounts of seed are removed periodically for “Viability testing” where seeds are germinated to test that they are still able to be regrown.

The Christchurch Botanic Gardens is currently sourcing a temperature and humidity-controlled incubator that can work to dry seeds for storage and as an incubator to test the germination requirements of different seeds. This will enable us to carry out seed banking to the highest standards and support the research planned to be carried out in the future Science Centre. It is exciting to be expanding our work in the field of ex situ seed conservation, as they say, “from the smallest seeds the greatest trees can grow”.

**Luke Martin**  
**Native Gardens Curator**

## **MARIE SELBY BOTANICAL GARDENS.** **SARASOTA FLORIDA**

Last October I accompanied Mum to a family wedding in Sarasota, Florida. The weather was warm and humid, with temperatures ranging from the mid to high twenties degrees Celsius. This was considered a 'cold snap'; cold enough to ensure that the American alligators which were plentiful where we were staying, were content to remain under-water!

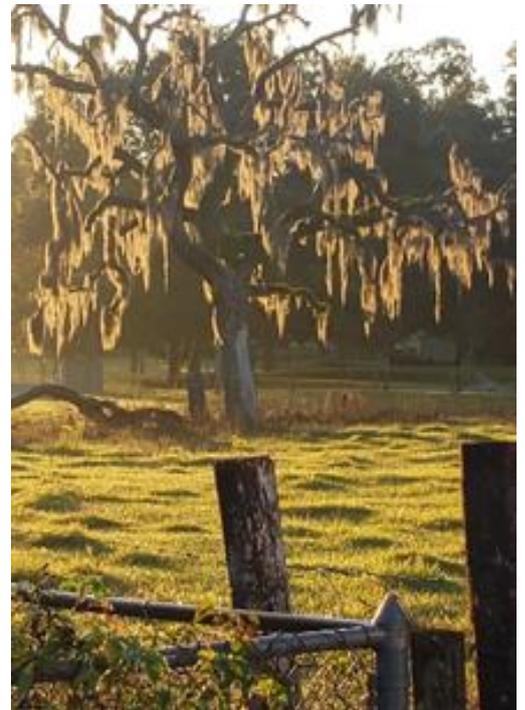
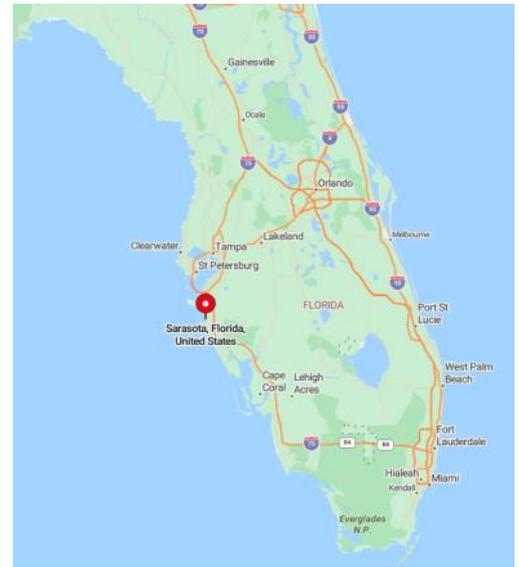
I enjoyed early morning walks whilst there and was thrilled with various wildlife sightings which included squirrels, sandhill cranes, a woodpecker, a turtle, and even the eyes and snout of an alligator from which I was pleased to be at quite some distance!

While in Sarasota we paid a visit to the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. A 15-acre garden, which was bequeathed to the community in 1973 with the aim of forming a botanical garden for the enjoyment of all. The Gardens are situated on the edge of Sarasota Bay and a walk around the Gardens affords views across the harbor to the John Ringling Causeway and Downtown Sarasota.

There are a number of display gardens to enjoy at the Marie Selby Gardens. These include a rainforest with an impressive banyan grove, a tropical conservatory, a succulent garden, a mangrove and tidal lagoon, a palm collection and a butterfly garden.

The crowning glory of the Gardens would have to be the tropical conservatory, which houses an extensive collection of orchids, bromeliads, ferns and gesneriads (a family of tropical flowering plants of which the African violet is one)

Many of these plants are epiphytes \* and the Selby Gardens are considered the best in the world for their representation of tropical epiphytes. Their scientists have "ventured into some of the world's wildest places to identify, study, collect



Clock wise from top right: Map of Florida showing the location of Marie Selby Botanical Gardens; Early morning light catching a tree festooned with Spanish moss (*Tillandsia usneoides*) a common epiphyte in Florida; A board walk through the mangrove walkway; A view from the Gardens, across Sarasota Bay, of the John Ringling Causeway

and learn from these remarkable plants.” Currently this collection is added to at the rate of about 2000 accessions a year. This particular focus is a logical one given that Florida has a rich native epiphyte flora.

Further to the living plant collection, the gardens also house an extensive herbarium, spirit collection and library each of which continue the specialized focus on tropical plants and especially epiphytes. These collections are open to study and even loan to visiting scientists.

I was unfamiliar with spirit preserved plant specimens. These are flowers or other plant parts, kept in vials with preservative fluids. It means that a three-dimensional specimen of a plant part can be kept for future observation and study. A herbarium specimen on the other hand is only two-dimensional, but the spirit and herbarium specimens complement each other. The spirit collection at Marie Selby is the world’s second largest, with the spirit collection at Kew Gardens in London taking the leading spot!

### Annette Burnett

**\*Epiphyte:** Britannica definition: *any plant that grows upon another plant or object merely for physical support. Epiphytes have no attachment to the ground or other obvious nutrient source and are not parasitic on the supporting plants. Most epiphytes are found in moist tropical areas, where their ability to grow above ground level provides access to sunlight in dense shaded forests and exploits the nutrients available from leaf and other organic debris that collects high in the tree canopy.*



A selection of photos from inside the Marie Selby Tropical Conservatory, the plant in the top right photo is bromeliad *Aechmea fendleri*.

## **A VISIT TO FISHERMAN'S BAY GARDEN**

If you're looking for inspiration in the use of colour in your garden you will be totally inspired by the imaginative plantings and use of a prairie planting style, in the beautiful setting, of Fisherman's Bay Garden.

Started by Jill and Richard Simpson about 15 years' ago, the experience Jill has had as a landscape designer absolutely shows here. Richard's skills in the stone wall and paths construction, carving out new paddocks to expand the garden and the creation of sculptures from old pieces of machinery and metal found on the farm, adds a wonderful structure with some whimsical objects d'art.

We first visited the garden as part of the Inside Out garden tours run from Akaroa but have been a number of times since and still wonder at the colourful creations and layout of the garden and how it has expanded over time. Although mid to late summer is the best time to visit because of the perennial colours, it is also lovely to see the colours in early summer and, indeed, to come back each year to see the new additions and the changing colours. Jill and Richard started off with all native plants, and these are still growing throughout much of the garden, but more so on the exposed section facing out to sea. Jill has been experimenting with other plants which grow in similar climates around the world, and this provides a great inspiration for all gardeners.

Getting to Fisherman's Bay requires quite a drive from Christchurch along the Summit Road and beyond Le Bons Bay, then down the road to Long Bay, past Hinewai Reserve. You need to book ahead if you want to visit the garden, and this can be done online at <https://www.fishermansbay.nz/>.

However, if you are staying in Akaroa for a couple of days, then it's a more leisurely 30-minute drive up Long Bay Road and down the other side of the Summit Road towards Long Bay/Otanerito.

If you are staying in Akaroa it is also worth visiting The Giant's House, also a Garden of National Significance. The owner, Josie Martin, trained in horticulture as well as art and has combined both of her passions to create this extraordinary garden full of colourful mosaic sculptures and colourful plants, flowers, shrubs and vegetables. It is a sight to behold!

We're incredibly lucky to have these amazing gardens on our doorstep, and ones which we can be proud to share with visitors as well as enjoy ourselves.

### **Jane Cowan-Harris**



Above: A selection of photos of Fisherman's Bay Garden with its colourful creations and stunning views.

## **SCOTLAND'S 'LOW ROAD'** **PERFECT FOR GARDENERS!**

You don't *have* to take the 'High Road' on a visit to Scotland or, if you do, consider adding in the 'Low Road' and visit the region of Dumfries and Galloway in the south-west. Once a Kingdom in its own right as hills and rivers kept it separate from the rest of lowland Scotland. It is especially noted for its castles and gardens. The Gulf Stream\* washes its coastline providing opportunities to grow plants that would be killed off by the cold elsewhere in Scotland. A New Zealand visitor will be amazed to bump into dear friends like tree-ferns and cordylines; which are treated as royalty in their adopted northern home.

A castle of note is Drumlanrig Castle. This 'pink palace' of sandstone is 600 years old and home to the Duke of Buccleuch who is head of the Scott clan. The castle is surrounded by impressive gardens and woodland. Pride of place goes to a large Douglas fir. The Douglas-fir was named in honour of Scottish botanist and plant collector David Douglas. John Douglas, David's brother was the estate's Clerk of Works and planted this, the first Douglas-fir in Britain, in 1829.

A cross-country drive will take you to the town of Castle Douglas and Threave gardens, owned by the National Trust and home to the School of Heritage Gardening. Nearby is the impressive ruin of Threave Castle which sits on an island in the river.

A coastal detour leads to the artists' town of Kirkcubright. The quality of the light here drew painters and designers, mostly graduates of the prestigious Glasgow School of Art. They set up an artists' colony that was in its heyday from the 1900 to 1930's. One of these is a small but charming garden behind the home of Scottish painter, Edward Hornel.

Heading west, a short detour will bring you into Scotland's book-town, Wigtown. It has at least 10 second-hand bookshops, all sited around a central village green. Now you are in the true west where the air is milder, and it becomes hard to decide which beautiful garden to visit. Will it be the historic Castle Kennedy estate with a walled garden behind the castle ruins, sitting above a great ornamental lake? The gardens extend to 75 acres. Huge earthen ramparts make for a stunning walk and views over the twin lochs surrounding the castle and gardens.

Close by, sitting on an exposed hillside, is Glenwhan and a garden created from moorland over the last 40 years. This is the challenge Kiwi gardeners will understand. Tessa Knott turned rock and bog into a series of garden

From the top: A map of Scotland with the region of Dumfries and Galloway in red; The 'pink palace' of sandstone that is Drumlanrig Castle; The impressive ruin of Threave Castle, which sits on an island in the river; The historic Castle Kennedy ruins with a walled garden behind.



rooms, crammed with acid loving shrubs and perennials. There is additionally a moorland walk that shows off the native plants and trees.

The final, 'not to be missed' garden, is Logan Botanic Garden, sited a mile from the coast, looking across to Ireland. This is part of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE) and where they grow their tender plants that would succumb in an Edinburgh winter. It began as a private garden, created by the McDouall family over 120 years ago. This was the time when plant-hunting took place on a vast scale and the McDoualls imported plants from temperate areas around the world, especially South America and New Zealand.

Their collections were added to by later curators, who took part in modern plant finding and conservation expeditions, most recently to mountainous Vietnam. The Garden was gifted to RBGE in 1969 and is a plant-lover's delight. Even a non-gardening companion will be happy here — and it has a (small) castle ruin!

### *Top tips*

Most of the gardens here are open year-round but it pays to check and book ahead (Drumlanrig is open from April to September.). You may be able to book a guided walk which will really enhance the experience. Late Spring is the best time with superb displays of rhododendrons and azaleas, but these gardens have interest in all seasons.

Open gardens are very popular and [www.scotlandsgardens.org](http://www.scotlandsgardens.org) is the website for these.

\*The Gulf Stream, is a warm and swift Atlantic ocean current that originates in the Gulf of Mexico and flows up the eastern coastline of the United States, moving on toward Northwest Europe.

**Laura Jones**

## **Botanic Gardens Guide**

### **MONA VALE: THE BATHHOUSE:**

The committee are very happy to report that the Bathhouse repair scoping has begun.

The site manager for the repairs, Selena Robertson, is enjoying the challenge of bringing this lovely heritage building back to life.

Selena reports that a rebuild concept will be reviewed and a detailed design drawn up in February/March and she hopes to have any consents approved and put the rebuild out for tender in April.

This is very exciting for the committee and the Mona Vale sub-committee, who have worked hard to make this happen.

The Waimairi/Fendalton Community Board has given the Friends \$50,000 towards the repairs. This money was part of 'Better Off Funding' given by the Government to Community Boards to help projects in the community. The Friends are very grateful to receive this money for the Bathhouse restoration and the Christchurch City Council appreciate the \$100,000 that the Friends and Community Board have allocated to bring this project forward.

Watch this space as we report on future progress.

### **Glasshouse**

The Friends' committee have also funded a glasshouse for Mona Vale which will be in place shortly. The staff are very excited to receive this glasshouse as Mona Vale has not had a place to propagate plants or winter-over cold-susceptible plants.

The Committee would like to extend their thanks to all who support the Friends through subscriptions, donations and purchasing plants. It is you who make it possible for the committee to fund projects in the Botanic Gardens and Mona Vale, over and above what the City Council can provide.

**Jeanette Christensen**



## CANTERBURY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

### GARDEN LIFE MARCH

Wednesday 6 March 1pm and 7pm

Main Speaker - Sarah Mankelow

Regenerating the red zone - projects, planting and possibilities

There is enormous potential to transform the Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor into the jewel in Christchurch's crown, creating a place for residents and visitors to explore, play, connect and learn. At 602 hectares, the Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor regeneration area is three-and-a-half times larger than Hagley Park. Hear about the projects that are getting underway this year, including nearly 30,000 natives ready to be put in the ground, and the ways you can get involved. But it's not just the river corridor, our red zone team also looks after Southshore, Brooklands and the Port Hills properties as well – and there's moves afoot in those spaces too! These are inter-generational projects that may take 30-50 years to reach fruition – but what a city we will have! Can you imagine!



#### About Sarah

Sarah Mankelow is Community Partnerships Ranger for the Christchurch City Council's red zone parks team. Sarah works with community and transitional leaseholders to ensure everyone has an opportunity to connect and contribute to the future of these spaces. Sarah is an active citizen herself and is on the board of three charitable organisations: Canterbury Community Gardens Association, Humans of Christchurch Ōtautahi and Matuku Community Theatre.

CHS Members and Friends of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens: \$5.00

non-members: \$10.00

Tea, coffee and biscuits included



## FRIENDS CONTACTS

### Committee

President	Jane Cowan-Harris	021 043 5342
Secretary	Graham Chick	021 055 4111
Treasurer	Carol Halstead	
Webpage queries	Jane Cowan-Harris	

Jeanette Christensen, Vicki Steven, Susan Lawrence, Ray McTeigue, Rachel Wood, Margaret Metherell.

### Other Contacts

Guides Co-ordinator	Susan Lawrence	021 120 6258
Group guided walks:	Pat Whitman	384 3475
Newsletter editor	Annette Burnett	<a href="mailto:dananbur@outlook.com">dananbur@outlook.com</a>

### Enquiries About Membership

**Phone:** Ray McTeigue 027 569 9402

**Email:** [friendsofthegardens@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofthegardens@gmail.com)

**Post:** PO Box 73036  
Orchard Road  
Christchurch 8154  
New Zealand

**Gardens enquiries:** Information Centre 03 941 7590

## Plants and Intellectual Property

### Unknown but Everywhere: Chris Barnaby

Chris Barnaby runs the Plants Variety Rights Office, part of the Intellectual Property Office of New Zealand. Plant Variety Rights is a key component of the commercial plant world, upon which commercial plant breeders depend to protect their business and enable them to develop and produce new varieties of plants.

Chris will discuss his varied and interesting work which encompasses botany, taxonomy, nomenclature, plant breeding and commercial plant production.

**DATE:** Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**TIME:** 4.00 pm (Afternoon tea provided)

**COST:** Members and CHS members \$5.00; Non-members \$10

**VENUE:** The Kiosk



Part of the Plants Variety Rights rose collection at Palmerston North