

## *Newsletter*

*September 2012*

**Featuring:**     ***Spring Festival 2012 (p 5)***  
                  ***A well-spent Life in the Begonia House (p 6)***  
                  ***Annual General Meeting (p 10)***



***Ready, Steady, Spring!***  
Photo: Justine Hall, Wellington City Council

## President's Patch

Nearly 40 members attended our Annual General Meeting on 30 August. The meeting was held in the Skyline because the Treehouse was under renovation and our fall-back location, the Begonia House, had been suddenly and unexpectedly closed for earthquake strengthening. Paula Shelton kindly came to our rescue and allowed us the use of a function room at the Skyline which turned out to be a very convenient alternative meeting place. The AGM has important constitutional purposes – to receive the Committee's Annual Report, to approve the Statement of Income and Expenditure and to elect the incoming committee. It is also an opportunity for members to make their views known, to question the Committee on their stewardship of the society over the past year and to discuss what we might do in the future. This year's AGM ticked all these boxes.

One topic of discussion was the role of the hosts and guides. Jenny Hickman, convenor of the guides, reported that nearly 40 percent of the time of the guides was devoted to giving advice to visitors to the Garden on days when cruise ships are in Wellington and that while attendance on glow worm tours had increased, fewer people than usual had participated in the regular and special purpose tours. One possible reason was that adverse weather conditions had impacted on attendance; another was that information and publicity about tours was insufficient. Along the same lines, Phil Tomlinson, our Vice President, reported on the work of the hosts, volunteers who are mostly members of the Friends and whose role is specifically to provide information and advice to cruise ship visitors to the Garden. Phil noted the steady increase in the number of cruise ships to Wellington and the increase in the average size of these ships. The Garden was a prime destination for passengers on these vessels. Given the growing demand, it had become evident that the hosts could not adequately perform the task set for them. We have therefore been working with Positively Wellington Tourism (PWT) to bring additional volunteers to the Garden on cruise ship days. PWT will organise rosters, provide support for

the hosts and deploy some of their volunteers (known as Wellington 'Ambassadors') to bolster the efforts of hosts and guides.

Any members who might wish to help as a host or a guide should contact Jenny or Phil. More details can be found on our website [www.friendswbg.org.nz](http://www.friendswbg.org.nz).

One other outcome of the AGM I would like to highlight was the decision, carried by acclamation, to make four of our long serving members Honorary Life members of the Friends. The Constitution provides that any member "who, on the grounds of service rendered to the Garden may, with that individual's consent, be elected ...to Membership for Life". The four nominees were Elizabeth King, who was standing down as Hon. Treasurer of the Friends after having served ten years in that role; Jenny Hickman, convenor of the guides for the past nine years; Phil Tomlinson, Vice President, organiser of the hosts who has played a leading role in the guides; and Ted Woodfield who was President of the Friends from 2004-2009. All of these members have contributed selflessly and valuably to the Friends and I was delighted we could recognise their contributions in this way.

A new Committee was elected for 2012-2013 though "new" may be a misnomer as most office holders, including myself, are holdovers from the previous year. One of the questions raised at the AGM was what were likely to be the main activities of the Friends for the coming year. Your committee will be meeting soon to discuss exactly that but to my mind, at least, a priority will be to advance the concept of a children's garden. The Council has approved funding for this project but substantial additional financial resources will need to be mobilised to take this project forward. I look forward to working closely with David Sole and his team over the coming year on this project and in other areas in support of the development of the Botanic Garden.

*Frank Wilson*



## Botanic Bulletin

*This is an extended version of David Sole's remarks at last month's AGM*

It would be an understatement to describe the last 12 months as being anything but challenging! The deferrals and suspension of many capital development projects across the four gardens has proved disappointing especially for Otari after the signing off of the Landscape Development Plan. However, we have been fortunate to have our renewals programme remain largely intact which will ensure that the high standards of presentation of our assets will continue. Another positive outcome has been the increase in Plimmer Funding for the proposed Children's Garden from \$500K to \$750K. As before, further progress remains contingent on sourcing matching external funding. Alongside all of this, Council is undergoing organisational change to improve accountabilities, customer service and to hold or reduce debt.

EcoCity suddenly appeared on the horizon early in the year. It certainly placed the Botanic Gardens in a difficult position. I am very grateful to the Friends and Trusts for their action and advocacy on behalf of the four gardens. A positive outcome has been that we have been able to work more closely with Zealandia in supporting each other through Spring Festival. We continue to work alongside the Zoo team as we always have. A further positive is that Council has expanded its EcoCity focus to include the whole city and not just its attractions. This is a reaffirmation of the city's biodiversity action plan. The term Biophillic Cities – the innate connection of man and nature – has emerged and will become more prominent. We are very lucky in that Wellington is naturally a Biophillic city but there is more that can be done! Have a look at what Singapore has done at:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XMWOU9xIMk&feature=youtu.be&data\\_player](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XMWOU9xIMk&feature=youtu.be&data_player)

As part of the Long Term planning process it became apparent projects we had scheduled over two financial years had to be quickly reprioritised. From this, the Otari House was deferred (and subsequently reintroduced in 2014/15 after submissions from the Otari Trust) and the Treehouse brought completely into the 11/12 financial year. Work is well underway with the interior of the Treehouse re-opening for Tulip Sunday and Spring Festival. We will be re-

carpeting and reinstating the interpretation in November. The management team will shortly all move down to the Treehouse - the first time we have all worked together in the same office! The space frame holding up the Treehouse will continue to be worked on through to late October. This has fortunately proved to be in much better condition than originally thought.

Scheduled earthquake strengthening for the Begonia House was brought forward after a new assessment showed that the building was less than 10% compliant with the Building Code. A combination of excellent work by our own staff, Council's project management and regulatory teams, and the contractors Hawkins Construction saw the café, shop and temperate end of the Begonia House closed for only three weeks. The 'knee braces' on the critical columns have added real character to the house giving it a much more Victorian feel. The tropical end will remain closed until mid October. While the work is not technically difficult, access is more restricted resulting in the work taking longer. It will certainly be good to have this work completed before the tourist season gets under way in earnest.

As I reflect back on the past year we had some great outcomes including completion of the Tree Management Plan, installation of barriers on Mamaku and Serpentine Ways, the concept development for the Children's Garden and the installation of 'Live on Air' in the Begonia House which continues to draw positive comments. Our events went very well, especially the Rugby World Cup flags which were appreciated by visitors to the City. They were a tribute to the ingenuity of the staff. Spring Festival's alignment with Lambton Quay was particularly successful as was our desire for the festival to be more inclusive. Parliament, the Reserve Bank and the Museums Trust all came on board. Harvest Festival was of concern when we only had one pumpkin as the closing date quickly loomed. A flurry of entries at the end made this a success. The 'Meet the Curator' series proved to be a success again this year and we will continue with these. Over the next few years we will shorten Spring Festival so that we can support a more evenly distributed year round public programme.

Coming up, we will be replacing the



Begonia House terrace paving (provided the earthquake strengthening comes in on budget) and completing the Treehouse. The Australian garden is to undergo refurbishment as is the Centennial Entrance planting. We have almost finished the Red Garden renewals and wait for the installation of the 'Red Tower'. All will be revealed later! Spring Festival will run from 30 September to 7 October. Look out for the programme as it will be a very full week.

We will be doing some further research and planning to better understand our role both as the regional garden it is now and any impacts of regionalisation as, in some form or another, it looms closer and closer. EcoCity will continue to encourage us to work together with the City's other attractions and also to better align our events, where possible with the Parks and Gardens themed years. The Year of the Coast, which we have mainly been able to support though Otari, is drawing to a close and next year is the Year of Threatened Plants.

Our staff has remained reasonably stable over the past year. Team leader Tim Harkness was seconded out to a ranger position and Karl Noldan has been covering his role. Reuben Herrick was appointed as gardener in the Rose Garden and we are now trialling the combined Rose Garden and Cable Car teams into one operational team to increase flexibility across the garden. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the work of all of the team across the gardens especially in light of the challenges and change we have and continue to face.

Our congratulations were extended to Karl Noldan in early August as he comprehensively won the national amenity sector competition of the Young Horticulturist of the year Competition. Karl goes on to represent the amenity sector in the national YHOTY finals to be held in Auckland in November.

We have the distinction of having had three of our staff making the national finals in the eight years the competition has been running.

The 2002 Combined Management Plan for Anderson Park, Bolton Street Memorial Park and the Botanic Garden review is under way. We are currently undertaking a scoping process and expect to be undertaking pre-consultations with the Friends and other close stakeholders in October. We are looking to wrap the management plans for Truby King and Otari in with this to create a cluster plan. This will have generic policies as well as specific policies and plans for each garden. As the Otari plan still has some time to run we are still exploring how it might be wrapped up into this new plan. We look forward to your contribution.

Lastly I would like to express my continuing thanks to the Friends for their advocacy, especially during the EcoCity consultation and the Long term plan. Hosting and guiding is becoming more and more intensive as the cruise ship numbers build. The new hosting alliance with the Wellington Hosts, which will take some bedding in, will help to distribute the workload and provide an informed citywide service to visitors. Thank you for your work with the Druid Hill garden – it is looking very smart. We simply could not continue with this garden without your input. Lastly, thank you for your assistance with the Qualitative surveying. The score of 6.4 out of 7 was a great result. We will continue with these surveys at two yearly intervals.

We all look forward to seeing you at Spring Festival!

*David Sole, on behalf of the Botanic Garden Team*

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## Spring Festival

**Sunday, 30 September – Sunday, 7 October**

Welcome spring and say goodbye to winter at Wellington's iconic Spring Festival. The festival began as Tulip Day over 68 years ago and has been delighting visitors and locals alike with stunning displays of spring flowers since then, albeit with a few name changes!

floral beds display of up to 25,000 tulips – some of them started flowering merrily near the beginning of September this year whereas last year they'd hardly begun a month later than that, causing a bit of consternation for the team – both years!

Of course there are many other gorgeous spring flowers in the garden – of particular note are the



Spring Festival is timed, as best we can predict, to coincide with the main garden

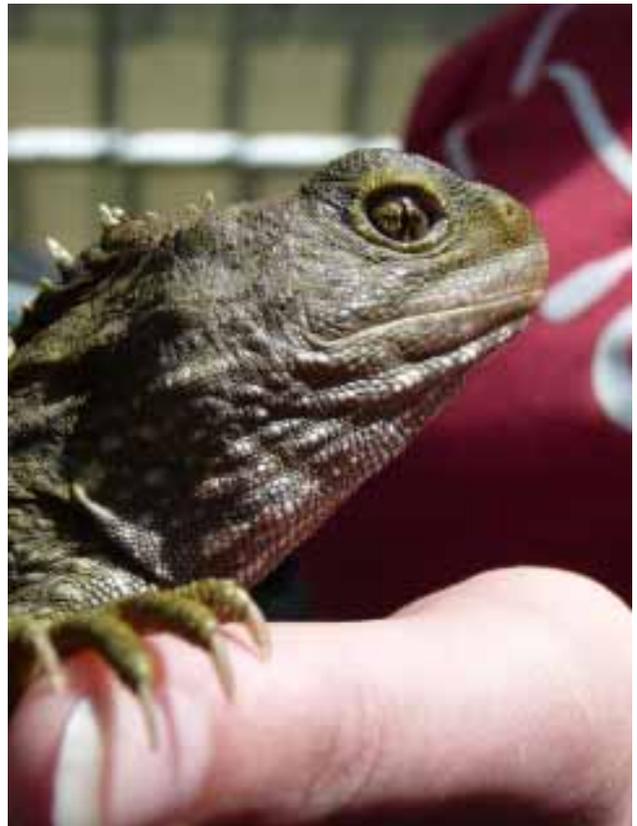
main garden magnolia trees, some of which are around 90 years old.

The festival kicks off with Tulip Sunday (30 September), when the local Dutch community celebrate their culture with entertainment and delicious food. The day's proceedings will start with official welcomes from the Mayor, Celia Wade-Brown and the Dutch ambassador, Arie van der Wiel.

The Cable Car is offering free rides up to the garden during weekday lunchtimes – grab the voucher from the Spring Festival programme. Also on offer are guided walks, talks, storytelling, workshops, a visit from zoo critters and a WOW garment on display. Other nearby attractions such as Parliament and MetService have joined the festival, with exclusive tours. Picnic café in the garden is again offering two-for-one breakfasts on a festival voucher.

The Friends are assisting with the final day's Grow Your Own workshops – providing delicious vegetable soup and bread rolls for participants, and hopefully some way-finding guidance as well.

Because the Begonia House had to be closed for urgent seismic strengthening work and we weren't sure when it would reopen, several events have been moved to the Treehouse. The work in the temperate end was completed much earlier than expected, but as Spring Festival brochures were already printed, those events will remain in the Treehouse. The Treehouse will be open for every day of the festival.



*A return visitor for the Zoo Critters event*

Spring Festival has something for everyone, so we'll see you there!

Story: Charmaine Scott  
Spring Festival Organiser  
Wellington Botanic Garden

Photos: Justine Hall  
Wellington City Council



## A well-spent Life in the Begonia House

*This is the text of the address given by Peter Tijssen at the Friends' Annual General Meeting in which he recalls his time in the Begonia House since he started in 1965.*

I began working as an Amenity Horticulture Apprentice at The Wellington Botanic Garden on January 5<sup>th</sup> 1965. I arrived at the lower mess in the main garden at 7.25 am in readiness to start work at 8 o'clock – I came from a family where we were brought up never to be late – our sons too are the same – never late for appointments or engagements. On arrival I was offered a cup of tea by Claude Sneddon who was always early – he used to catch the first bus or train from Naenae getting to work well before 7.00am having a few cups of tea and several smokes before work began.

When the Foreman arrived I was told that I would be starting in the Begonia House – it was a very exciting day for me. After an induction which took all of three minutes – this included being shown where the toilets were, along the eastern side of Anderson Park. 'If you want a pee go into the bush', I was told.

Of course with growing plants in pots watering was always the first job of the day so Bob Lowe, the man in charge, took me through the process of watering – it was great to be learning things. The Begonia House was about 4 years old then and benches went around the entire outer edges of both ends of the house. The foyer was divided and smaller than having staging around its outer walls with tiered planks - also displaying potted plants. There was more staging on either side of the dividing walls and in the corners where the double doors once were.

There were pots that needed watering everywhere. All the pots were clay except for the 4 inch ones the Asparagus ferns, used as filler plants, were grown in – they were concrete and were stronger. We knew when the ferns had passed their use by date as the pots would break under the pressure of their fast growing fleshy roots.

The large pots were galvanised tin buckets painted parks and reserves green. The larger ones again, were beautifully made small wooden tubs made just as wine barrels are - also painted parks and reserves green. Lilies were brought into the house when they

flowered – grown in adapted drainage pipes which had been made at the local brickworks. Concrete was poured into them to create a bottom - a plug, removed when the concrete had dried, provided the drainage hole. They were very heavy and a sensible choice of container as they never blew over in the wind when the lily stems got taller.

I was shown a small hand tool - a long bamboo handled wooden mallet - which was used to tap the clay pots to determine whether the plants in them needed watering or not. A dull thud meant the soil was wet and a tinny sound meant the soil was dry and the plant was dry so it would need water. If the sound was very tinny the plant would need 2 waterings and if very, very tinny, the pot had to be taken off the bench, immersed in a tank of water and left there until the air bubbles stopped appearing – and then returned to the display bench.

The watering, once I got the hang of it (I tended to overwater a bit) could take till 1.30pm on a sunny day. With the repetitive nature of watering, it meant you got to know the plants and their requirements – to me the most important factor in growing potted plants. We would pick up the obvious fallen flowers, petals, leaves and flashlight bulbs as we went along throwing them into the bucket we kicked along as we watered.

Cleaning over the plants was the next task, with presentation, presentation being the operative word in a public display house open 365 days of the year. A thorough clean over of the plants was needed especially on a Monday after the weekend. This could also mean getting under the benches collecting the fallen flowers leaves and litter to help keep the fungus diseases and bacteria at bay.

On one such occasion I can remember quietly creeping along under the bench, totally obscured by the plants, to where one of the female apprentices was engrossed in cleaning over potted cyclamen. Temptation got the better of me and I carefully grabbed the back of a pot, where the apprentice was working, and shook it.



She let out an almighty scream which in turn started a chain reaction among a bus load of American tourists admiring the beautiful displays in the house. It was best to remain out of sight until they had gone and continue meticulously to clean up the litter under the benches.

Every week new and replacement plants, mostly Begonias in the summer and autumn, all grown in clay pots would be selected from the nursery. Before we could stage them the pots needed washing using a piece of scrim and a bucket of cold water. This could take a while as algae can be difficult to remove from a porous surface.

The large collection of Bromeliads was donated in 1965 when I was there – we had to pick them up from Mrs Muriel Waterman in Petone who had decided she was too elderly to look after them any longer. She also donated the large Stag Horn Fern (*Platynerium superbum*) which hangs above the pond and a good selection of cacti and succulents which were displayed in the foyer for a short time.

It was noticed that some of the cacti were disappearing so we were advised by the authorities it would be best if we grew them away from the public eye. Apparently some species contained ingredients that were not only used in preparation of Tequila but if boiled in water and sipped could for some time change the way you view the world.

Plants were donated when the house was opened – Coopers Seeds gave a substantial amount of money towards plants as did Anderson's Nurseries of Napier. The centre beds originally had Ficus trees as well as a Banana, variegated Bamboo, Philodendron, Passion fruit and Pawpaw growing in them – they grew too large and needed topping a lot. Eventually they became too unsightly and had to be removed.

Incidentally, I should mention most of the prunings of the Ficus, Philodendrons, Dieffenbachia, Draceana and other decorative plants would be sent to and propagated at the Botanic Garden Nursery. When they grew and became young plants they would be sent to the Berhampore nursery to be grown on. They were used as decoration plants throughout the public areas of the Wellington City Council and other buildings – this service was discontinued some years ago.

Tom Moss, a plantsman and itinerant gardener,

would pop in and bring in bits and pieces and talk plants – he selected gnarled bits of old branches and attached orchids and other epiphytic plants to them as if they had grown naturally – adding new species to our collections. In return all he would want was a chat – up to 3 hours. You would learn a lot in that time from him though.

Harrison's Nursery also sent us plants including some older varieties of Cymbidium orchids.

I remember one in particular being brown and almost unattractive compared with the others. It was named 'Jason' and had a fantastic scent. Many years later when our orchid expert Michael Wilton looked after the house he exclaimed when the plant was in flower, 'That's not Jason, it's Doris'.

We learned to be wary of some donations as a lot would be offers of plants that were too big or heavy for the donor's house. On one such occasion we had a lady from Karori ring, offering us a Ficus she no longer needed as they were redecorating – we declined but thanked her for thinking of us. She rang again, twice, telling us we were missing out on a very beautiful specimen and our visitors would appreciate being able to see it. We changed our minds and picked up the large, heavy, rubber tree. The next week she rang us again asking when she could meet us at the Begonia House so she could select some plants in return for the beautiful tree she had donated to us. We obliged.

Many people have donated wonderful plants over the years, Orchids, Begonia – tuberous and foliage, Palms, Water Lilies, Fuchsias, Streptocarpus, tropical plants and – they are much appreciated. We have kept in touch with many of these people as they generally are specialist plants people with much knowledge and experience which they enjoy sharing, giving the gardeners vital feedback, inspiration and encouragement.

I was speaking of prunings used for propagation and it reminded me of the time in the early seventies when there were strange goings on in the Begonia House. Over a period of about 2 weeks each night at around midnight lights could be seen flashing in the temperate end of the house by the very large specimen of the late *Philodendron bipinnatifidum*. It was about to come

into flower. Each night a certain gardener, who to this day still has a reputation for flashing lights, was spotted crouching in the middle of the plant with a thermometer. This particular morning after he arrived at work, with a grin from ear to ear, and said, 'It was on heat last – the flower'. He had pollinated the flower by drilling a small hole into its fleshy spathe using a small paint brush. The seed eventually ripened and produced over a thousand seedlings many of which were grown to be displayed in the Begonia House and decorate Municipal buildings. Thank you, Rob Lucas.

Rob has always been talented – the mention of his name makes me think of pests and diseases. The 70's also saw the introduction, from the north, of Whitefly into the Begonia House. Many of our regular plants could not be grown without constant spraying and fumigating. Fuchsias in pots, baskets and standards – plants we did so well became a nightmare to try and grow. If you touched a plant or shook it there would be whitefly everywhere – we knew we were living in 'the land of the long white cloud'.

Plants like the colourful Bougainvillea, many Gesneriads, Pelargonium and many softer leaved flowering regulars were not displayed anymore. They had to be sprayed every 3 days to break the lifecycle – not something we were prepared to do any longer. When the Tea House (Picnic Café) opened it was necessary to seriously look at other ways of controlling pests and diseases. We have achieved that with Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and very successfully making the entire Begonia House building a much healthier place for all.

There have been many changes and improvements in the Begonia House over the years. The Tea House being built meant toilets had to be nearby – Anderson Park was not ideal. The opening up of the foyer meant less room for plant displays but made the house adaptable. Weddings, art shows, demonstrations, corporate functions, Horticultural competitions e.g. 'Young Horticulturist of the Year' and of course shoppers all make use of the space. And it was the venue for the inaugural meeting of 'The Friends of The Botanic Garden' which I attended.

The creation of the Tropical End has been a great success especially with the addition of the lily pond (this was not the first pond – a small one was once where the Tillandsia tree now stands). The opening of the Tropical End

was a spectacular affair topped off with a christening - Neil Christensen fell into the pond, after vowing he wouldn't fall, as he was testing the capping around the edge while walking on it. The pond started off with 40 swordtail fish - who knows how many there are now.

We have had many visitors including some notable ones. In October 1966, Lady Bird Johnson was shown around by Dorothy Archibald (with a flower in her hair). President and Lady Bird Johnson were only in New Zealand for 24 hours. So impressed was she with the displays in the Begonia House and her visit to the Botanic Garden – she sent a plaque. The inscription reads:

THE KISS OF THE SUN  
THE SONG OF THE BIRDS  
FOR MIRTH  
ONE IS NEARER GOD'S HEART  
IN A GARDEN  
THAN ANY WHERE ELSE  
ON EARTH

The plaque was never displayed as an appropriate place could not be found. It remains in a small flower bed at the nursery.

Overseas dignitaries hosted by Internal Affairs are regular visitors along with Prime Ministers' wives, international horticulturists, artists with or without easels, students, actors, fishermen on shore leave, bridal parties – people from all walks of life.

The work being done to the structure at present is necessary and my personal view is that the Begonia House has been further enhanced with the addition of the strengthening steelwork.

The Begonia House has been a very big part of my working life and still is. I cannot recall how many people have worked in there, some for longer than others. It is a great place to learn and work with plants and for meeting people who are interested in them. Wellington has a lot to thank the Norwood family for.

I would also like to take this opportunity to especially thank you 'The Friends of the Wellington Botanic Garden' for the help, hard work and support you give in making The Lady Norwood Begonia House and the Garden a 'must visit' in Wellington.

# Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Wellington Botanic Garden was held on Thursday 30 August at 5.30pm in the Skyline Restaurant.

The following officers and committee members were elected at the AGM:

President: Frank Wilson  
Vice President: Phil Tomlinson  
Committee: Ros Iles  
Richard Nanson  
Florence de Ruiter  
Angela Hill  
Sue Batley  
John Larkindale

Ann McLean  
Sarah Norling  
Elizabeth King

In accordance with para 5 (b) (i) of the Friends' constitution (*viz, Any individual who, on the grounds of service rendered to the Garden, (and) has been nominated by a member of the Society may, with that individual's consent, be elected by the Society at the AGM to membership for life.*), four life members were duly elected by acclamation. These were:

Jenny Hickman  
Elizabeth King  
Phil Tomlinson  
Ted Woodfield

Congratulations to all!

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## Coming Events

### 30 September – 7 October Spring Festival

Say goodbye to winter and welcome spring! The Botanic Garden's Spring Festival programme is available at the Treehouse, Begonia House gift shop, libraries, cafes and rec centres, or download a copy from <http://www.wellington.govt.nz/services/events/index.html>. The festival includes guided walks, talks, workshops and exclusive tours. It kicks off with Tulip Sunday (30 Sept).

### Monday 24 September, 11am Poems, plants and possums

A miscellany of stories and poems, with a touch of spring. This moderate 90-minute walk starts at the Cable Car entrance. Cost: \$4

### Fridays 5 and 19 October, 8.30pm Glow in the dark glow worm tour

Meet at the Founders' Entrance (main gates) on Glenmore Street for this fascinating tour into the world of the glow-worm. The tour takes about one hour. Please bring a torch. Adults \$5, children under-12 free.

### Sunday 21 October, 11 am Food, fire, fibre and physic

On this easy, 90-minute walk we look at some of our New Zealand native plants, and discuss their

traditional uses. Meet at the Cable Car entrance. Cost: \$4.

There is no 4<sup>th</sup> Monday walk in October

### Sunday 28 October, 2 pm Botanic Garden bush trails

A guided tour of the Pukatea and Waipiro native bush walks, in association with the Otari Trust. Meet at the Cable Car entrance for this moderate, two-hour walk, with one uphill section. Cost: \$4.

### Sunday 11 November Truby King Park Meet the Curator

The historic house and botanic garden in Truby

King Park are among Wellington's best kept secret attractions. Enjoy the spectacular views and meet the people who look after the house and garden.

11.02 am House guided tour

12 noon Garden guided tour

Manchester Terrace, Melrose. Park on

Manchester Street, Rodrigo Road or

Sutherland Road. Bus Route 23 – a 10-minute walk up from Wellington Zoo.

### Sunday 18 November, 11 am Off the beaten track

We explore some of the smaller and



less-frequented paths in the Botanic Garden. Meet at the Founders' Entrance, Glenmore Street for this energetic 90-110 minute walk. Cost: \$4.

### **Rose Festival 23-26 November**

The focus is firmly on roses - see masses of blooms, take a guided walk, talk to the curator, vote for your favourite rose, have fun with Fairy Trina or just revel in the rosy atmosphere. More info at [www.Wellington.govt.nz](http://www.Wellington.govt.nz).

#### **23-24 November, 1-3pm**

The Lady Norwood Rose Garden Curator will be on hand to answer your questions about growing roses.

#### **25 November, 11am The Lady Norwood Rose Garden**

Hear rose stories and legends with Bethney

McLennan on an easy one-hour stroll in the Lady Norwood Rose Garden. Meet at the Rose Garden fountain. Cost: \$4.

#### **25 November, 2pm Old roses**

Take a one-hour stroll through Bolton Street Memorial Park and discover the many heritage roses and their stories, with the Friends of Bolton Street Memorial Park. Meet at the Seddon Memorial. Cost: \$4

#### **Monday 26 November, 11 am Shakespeare's flowers**

Many of Shakespeare's plays and poems mention flowers. On this easy 90-minute walk we look at some of these flowers, and the quotes in which they feature. Meet on the Treehouse verandah. Cost: \$4.



#### **Friends of Wellington's Botanic Gardens, P.O. Box 28-065, Kelburn, Wellington 6150**

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