

Newsletter

June 2010

Shock!!

Friends caught digging up Botanic Garden plants!!



Horror!!

Large vehicle demolishes BG nursery!!!



There is time in the midst of all the mayhem for less vigorous pursuits... the Friends have put together a great Winter Seminar which is not to be missed.



President's Patch

As we approach mid-year, it may be of interest to members to be kept up to date with some of the issues and projects your committee has been involved in during the first half of 2010. I do not wish to give a long list but rather to highlight some of the more important ones, not least because your committee acts in the name of the full membership when we make representations or undertake projects on behalf of the Friends.

Based primarily on feedback from hosts and guides, we have concluded there is inadequate and in some cases inaccurate and misleading information about the Garden available to visitors to Wellington. A particular problem relates to the lack of information about the downhill path to the city through the Garden as an option for those taking the Cable Car to the Kelburn terminus. Many visitors seem unaware that they have the option of an enjoyable walk through the Garden back to the city when they purchase tickets on the Cable Car. Your Committee has therefore made a number of representations to the various parties involved, including Positively Wellington Tourism and the Wellington Cable Car Ltd and, with the strong support of Deputy Mayor Ian McKinnon, we are hopeful that in future better and more informative advice will be available for visitors to Wellington about the Garden and how they can enjoy what is, after all, one Wellington's most enjoyable tourist experiences.

For a number of years now we have been working on creating a Register of Memorials in the Garden. This project is nearly complete and a database of all extant memorials (seats, plaques

etc) is now posted on the Friends' website www.friendswbg.org.nz. We think this will be a useful reference document and of some historical value.

Many will be aware of the annual bulb sales ably organised by Angela Hill and assisted by Monica Deardon and others. These sales are one of our main fund-raising exercises. This year we have raised more than \$900 and I thank all involved for their efforts. These funds, along with other sources of revenue such as annual subscriptions and donations, are used to finance projects supported by the Friends. This year one of the major projects to which we will be making a significant financial contribution is the new signage for the bush walk. Again this is a project with which we have had a long association and I am pleased to report that members will soon see the new signage in the bush area.

Finally I would like to mention the work of the volunteers in the "butterfly garden" on Druids Hill. Each week a dedicated group of Friends members, ably led by Ros Iles, have been renovating this attractive perennial garden and preparing it for replanting in the spring.

For the future I would highlight the Winter Seminar, details of which are included separately in this newsletter. The subject is "Trees in the Botanic Garden" and I am confident the seminar will provide a worthwhile opportunity to traverse this interesting topic.

Frank Wilson

Botanic Bulletin

As I pass the nursery site I marvel at the sudden progress in the erection of the new glass house after a few months of 'invisible' work around the foundations. There is no question that at the end of construction we will have a great facility which will serve us for many years to come. It will also be one which we can take visitors into more comfortably and safely and we look forward to

the opportunities to do so. In the meantime Curator Cindy Telford is maintaining the plants at Berhampore Nursery until they are returned to the garden in August.

The annual Parks & Gardens revegetation programme began with a hiss and a roar (of rain!) in late May with the Botanic Garden and Otari



teams planting on the tree removal site at Berhampore Golf Course. A great effort by everyone saw 3,000 plants in the ground in the largest planting scheduled for this year. The team assisted again on Arbor Day at the Chest Hospital planting in association with Project Crimson and their sponsors Meridian Energy. This is always an opportunity to work alongside volunteers and schools, who seemed to really enjoy the contact with staff on the day.

New interpretation is being installed at the Duck Pond, the Threatened Species garden and at the Stables and Lower Mess. This, along with the Friends Bush Walk signs which are in the final stages of editing, will be almost the last of interpretation signs to be installed in the Botanic Garden for the next few years.

Kaka remain a constant source of discussion with the damage they are causing to the exotic trees. James Jones and I recently met with Forest & Bird, DoC and our biodiversity coordinator to discuss a proposal to develop a research programme to investigate if it is a few birds causing the problem, or if is more generic, and to find out what it is that attracts the kaka especially to the northern hemisphere trees. As we continue with controls of predators throughout the city and restoration of natural habitats and bird corridors, combined with the long travel distances of kaka, it is likely that their introduction to the city has really only pre-empted an inevitable long term return to the Wellington peninsula.

The tulip bulb planting and the bedding changeover went spectacularly quickly this year with the fine weather through autumn. We had begun watering again as there had been so little rain, though the last week or so seems to have finally resolved that! I particularly enjoy this time of the year and, at the risk of being repetitive, 'putting the garden to bed for the winter'.

The team has recently been joined by Karl Nalden who took over Tim Harkness's gardener role at the Cable Car and by Lisa Harrison who has started the first appointment of her apprenticeship with us. Tim has fitted well into his new Curator position and is making great progress with his

collections. Good to see the staffing situation stabilising after a number of changes over the last 12 months.

We are finalising our budgets for next year. The biggest item will be the completion of the nursery which is funded by a second allocation of funds from the 10/11 year. Apart from routine renewals and upgrades there will be a focus on getting interpretive signage up to scratch at Otari and remedial work done on the forest trails. Our operational funding remains as forecast but, like all businesses in the current financial environment, we will have to work hard in containing our expenditure.

Look out through the year for Spring Festival updates. Charmaine has commissioned a rebranding which looks very smart and modern. The Festival will also be much more visible through the central city this coming year and we are also hoping to have an event to celebrate the recommissioning of the nursery.

Charmaine and I attended the RNZIH New Zealand Gardens Trust Conference in Gisborne. We had the opportunity to once again see some very good gardens and to celebrate and reflect on the ability and vision of horticulturists in this country, both from times gone by and through to the current day. Eastwoodhill, celebrating its centenary year, was spectacular and a real treat for many who had not been there before. I had the pleasure of visiting Trellinoe Park on the way home. This is a garden I have wanted to visit for some time and was not disappointed. It would be as spectacular in the spring as it was in the autumn. If you haven't been there I would certainly recommend it.

Looking forward to catching up with you all at the Winter seminar in August and updating you with our progress on the tree programme for the garden.

Best wishes

David Sole



2010 Winter Seminar

Trees in the Wellington Botanic Garden: Past, Present and Future

Members of the Friends and guests are invited to attend the 2010 Winter Seminar on the subject of "Trees in the Botanic Garden". This is an important and topical subject, taking into consideration the ageing of the trees in the Garden. Replacement or renovation? On what basis should they be replaced? What should be the principles underpinning the replacement policy?

The Seminar will examine how we came to have the main tree types in the Garden, current management issues relating to trees and how the Christchurch Botanic Garden is approaching the same challenges. There will be an open session for discussion of issues raised.

Saturday 7 August

9am - 1pm in the Treehouse, Wellington Botanic Garden

Opening and welcome: 0900 - 0915

Session One: 0915 - 1000: Past – Historical Perspective: why the major specimen tree types were planted in the Garden.

Walter Cook

Session Two: 1015 -1100: Present – Current issues and management of the trees in the Garden (including the Collections Review and the Tree Framework policy)

David Sole, Manager Wellington Botanic Garden

Session Three: 1100 -1145: Future – Future Options: where to from here? Restoration or renovation? The Christchurch Botanic Garden experience and principles underpinning "succession planning"

Dr John Clemens, Curator, Christchurch Botanic Garden

Session Four: 1200 - 1245

Open Forum with Panellists to discuss issues raised in their presentations

Moderated by Richard Nanson

Conclusion and thanks: 1245 - 1300



If you wish to attend,
RSVP to the
Treehouse
ph 499 1400
by Friday 30 July.

*Trees, trees and more trees.
New Zealand's greatest (and
most eclectic) collection of
trees - Eastwoodhill, the
National Arboretum – is at its
most vivid in autumn.*



Druid Hill Garden

*How often have your fingers itched to pull a weed, cultivate the soil or plant new species in the Botanic Garden? Here is your chance, says **Ros Iles**.*

The Friends are working on the perennial garden on Druid Hill. The aim is to replace the previous garden, which was infested with convolvulus, with new plantings, continuing its distinctive character.



Our work is in six parts:
Clearance of weeds to see what is growing.
Propagation of desirable plants.
Removal of remaining plants.
Digging the ground and removing convolvulus.
Replanting to new design and some new species.
Maintenance.



Flo de Ruiter emerging from the undergrowth

Volunteers are having great enjoyment, not only having license to “garden” in the Botanic Garden, a pleasure not normally available, but also the fun of working together with measurable progress every week.

Initially we changed an overgrown mess to a recognizable established garden of tall perennials in blues, purples and pinks. The theme was partly plants attractive to butterflies but I saw also kitchen plants, globe artichoke, cardoon, red sage; blues and pinks to complement the surrounding bush; distinctive foliage like spiky *Echinops*, soft *Sedum*, iris, stately lilies and bright

daffodils. [In late summer I counted 34 different species – and probably missed many! –Ed]

By the beginning of winter we have cleared, propagated over 300 divisions and removed plants. The committee voted \$500 for the digging to be done by young people. We worked alongside them removing convolvulus from the upper garden. The lower one nearest top of Druid Hill is dug but needs more



Convolvulus rules

Next stage: a theme is needed; a new design from Leanne (although I like to think we can have an input); replanting in spring at the earliest.

Our thanks to: Leanne Killalea, Team Manager Plant Collections, who is in charge and Dale Such, Curator of Herb and Perennials, who liaises and supplies tools etc. every working bee. He is also ‘growing on’ our 300+ pots. Our volunteers: Ted Woodfield, Flo de Ruiter, Rachel Underwood, Patsy Jorgensen, Elspeth Terry, Elaine Butler and lastly Kert Snater (pictured on front cover) and Ros Iles who are gardening and doing the organizing.

To volunteer, this month and in spring please email Ros Iles: iles@paradise.net.nz Phone: 4996560 Write: 12 Salmont Place, Kelburn 6012

Story Ros Iles, photos Ros and Charmaine



Profile of a Gardener – Cindy Telford

Curator Botanic Garden nursery, Cacti and Succulents, Ferns.

Hawkes Bay contributes great produce and great plantspeople. We are lucky to have netted one of the latter to look after the Botanic Garden nursery.

Dannevirke-born Cindy Telford is the new nursery curator and also has charge of the cacti and succulent garden and fernery.



Cindy with Nesta.

It took a while for Cindy to discover her passion for plants and make it a career. Leaving school after 6th form, she did a foundation course at Masterton Polytechnic, with the idea of building up a portfolio for design school, planning to major in photography. “You have no idea what you want to do when you leave school,” she says, but since art was her best subject she followed that, only to discover she wasn’t enjoying design school at all.

So she travelled around the South Island, working in orchards as a picker. “That’s where I discovered a love of the outdoors,” she says, “and my greenfingers. It’s also where I learnt the work ethic – the more you picked, the more money you got.” For eight years Cindy travelled round in a housebus, picking, thinning and pruning apples and kiwifruit. She also gained her HT licence, which proved invaluable when it came to the Garden nursery plant exodus!

Feeling a need to settle, Cindy came back to the North Island and completed Level 2 Amenity Horticulture at Taratahi polytechnic. With no idea yet where she wanted to live, she applied for jobs in Tauranga, New Plymouth, Palmerston North and Wellington – Wellington won when she was hired to work with the Council’s Hort team, “my first real job,” she says.

For 4½ years she was a ‘run leader’, in charge of a circuit of city gardens in Johnsonville, Ngaio, Khandallah and Karori cemetery. “I loved my job but felt the need for another challenge,” she says, so she left Council and went to work for Aspen Landscapes, doing garden maintenance and installing new gardens.

This sort of garden work takes a physical toll and eventually Cindy felt that it was time to look after her body – and mind, feeling the need for yet another challenge.

When the Botanic Garden nursery job came up she applied and was ecstatic to just get to the interview stage! “I’ve always loved the Botanic Garden,” she says, so this was the dream job.

She has had to hit the ground running, learning how to run a nursery, learning all the plants, not just in the nursery, but also in her collections, which, from the dry-loving cacti and succulents to the shade-and moisture-loving ferns, couldn’t be more different from each other. “I felt like an apprentice,” she says, “but Peter Tijssen as a teacher and mentor has been fantastic.” She said that Peter has been incredibly helpful and generously willing to pass on his vast knowledge and “I don’t know what I would have done without him.”

Almost the moment she started, Cindy found herself managing the shift of thousands of plants to Council’s Berhampore nursery, as the old Botanic Garden nursery was on the verge of demolition to make room for a new state-of-the-art one.

Luckily, she likes to be well-organised. “I hate mess,” she says. And luckily she has that HT licence, because it transpired that the most efficient way of moving many of the nursery plants to Berhampore was to hire a very big truck, which Cindy piloted as if it was her everyday job.



“Once I got things organised,” she says, “I felt quite settled at Berhampore and able to catch up with things like Integrated Pest Management and repotting.” When practising IPM, daily monitoring for the presence of pests and disease is of major importance. Healthy, attractive plants to take over to the Begonia House for public display are the aim.

For the future, Cindy is looking forward to the new nursery which will have a much more controlled environment and, “won’t leak and we won’t have to worry about it in a strong wind,” she says. She is excited at the prospect of learning about the new computer-operated systems which will control heating/cooling, vent opening and closing, air circulating fans, shade screens and misting/fogging.

When she’s not at work, she enjoys renovating her home, “owning a home is something I’ve always wanted,” and establishing a garden, growing mainly vegetables to begin with. Ironically, she’d like to build a glasshouse there one day. She says it is hugely rewarding putting energy into something that is your own.

Cindy is thrilled and proud to have joined the Botanic Garden team. “It is such a great environment,” she says, “and there are so many people with different skills and knowledge to learn from.”

The Nursery – a potted history

The Botanic Garden nursery was recently demolished to make way for a new state of the art version. Historic buildings are usually a thing to treasure, but when your historic structure is a collection of glasshouses, historic simply equals scary and dangerous, as aged, brittle panes of glass shatter in the wind, timber warps, bits fall off, they all leak like sieves and cost a fortune to heat.

Still, it was a little sad to see it disappear, but some interesting relics were unearthed, like the pot-washing trough, old concrete and brick walls, and quite a few memories from the 20+-year club!

Originally the nursery was scattered over several areas in the Garden, but the first glasshouse on the current site was built near the Director’s residence (then pulled down in the early 70s) and gradually the area consolidated into The Nursery.

Numbers 1, 2 and 3 houses were built as

propagation houses in the late 1950s -number 1 was made from tops of the cold frames that were previously on-site.

Number 5 was built 1969/70 and used for growing begonias to decorate the Town Hall for the Queen’s visits. The current orchid house was then the begonia overflow house.

The potting shed originally housed a potting shed, office and sleepout for the Director’s house. A new, larger potting shed was later built on the mess room site and the ‘old’ potting shed became a mess room-office. The ‘new’ potting shed was not to last and eventually had to be pulled down, at which point the ‘old’ potting shed, being made of sterner stuff, once again became the ‘new’ potting shed. And still survives.

While the ‘new’ potting shed was quietly

decomposing, Director Ian Galloway's cat Penny used to climb into it through gaps in the floorboards and there was a potato vine growing up through the floor, but despite the delapidation, it was apparently a really nice work environment. Other animals to enjoy nursery-living have been hens that people dumped at the duck pond and budgies (in the mess room). Nowadays it's Basil the cat and a flush of ducks.

The bulb store used to be in the nursery too, against the bank and next to the then-Director's garage. It was pulled down to enable access to the terraces. The bulb store was relocated to the stables where it remains today.



The water tank will store rainwater run off the roof.



The foundation of the new nursery

What didn't get pulled down: the beautiful potting shed (the contractors have been very careful to not damage it), the mess room and tractor shed and the orchid houses behind the main part of the nursery.

The purpose of the nursery has changed over the years. In the 1950s it was used to propagate begonias, other display plants for indoors and out, and trees and shrubs for the Garden and roadside plantings around Wellington. The trees and shrubs then went to Makara (opposite where the cemetery is now) in winter to be lined-out for one or two seasons. They would then be wrenched, dug out and the roots balled up in scrim.

Once Berhampore started being used for this purpose, in 1968 the Makara nursery closed. The terraces beside the nursery's orchid house were used to grow masses of cut flowers for Town Hall events, Royal visits, other functions and weekly displays in Council chambers

and the Mayoral quarters. These beds, which must have been a lot sunnier then, grew delphiniums, lupins, paeonies, tulips, gladioli, tuberose, watsonias, proteas, narcissi, and Dutch irises. The displays also relied heavily on baskets of fuchsias. How fashions have changed! The beds were also used as a teaching garden.

In Richard Nanson's time the roadway down was widened, making the nursery more accessible. The standing-out "deck" was built on poles over the old orchard which in the 1950s had apple and plum trees providing fruit for the Director. There had also been a chook house, vegetable garden, cold frames and a dog run.

Prince Philip paid a visit to WWF and was given a tour of the Garden. When the diplomatic squad discovered, rather late in the piece, that the standing-out deck wasn't on solid ground, there was a mad, last-minute rush to check for bombs underneath.

These days the nursery is almost exclusively used for propagation and maintenance of Begonia House plants, and for propagation and storage of plants for the outside collections and beds. The only plant we now breed is the tuberous begonia.

*With thanks to Peter Tijssen
Photos by Cindy Telford, David Sole
and Peter Tijssen*

Cuttings

🌳 A gentle reminder that subs will be due from 1 July (renewal form enclosed) - pay up or Flo will be breathing down your neck soon after!

As David Sole noted, the tulip planting went very well this year. One reason is that the whole team, regardless of where their 'patch' is, turns out to help.



🌳 Peter Tijssen recently celebrated 45 years with Wellington City Council and the Botanic Garden. The Friends paid tribute to Peter with a gift and accompanying letter, some of which we reprint here (with Peter's kind permission):

The members and committee of the Friends of Wellington Botanic Garden would like to extend our congratulations to you on your recent milestone of having dedicated 45 years to the Wellington City Council and the Botanic Garden. This is a wonderful achievement and certainly makes you a member of a very exclusive club.

The Friends and in particular the Garden guides would like to express their thanks and gratitude to you for the assistance and support you have provided to them over the years they have been in existence. You have answered many questions, identified plants and attended assiduously to all enquiries. Your

responsiveness and fund of knowledge has helped ensure the guides have been factually correct in providing information about the Garden and the walks. The Garden staff have always been supportive of guide activities, but your interest and encyclopaedic knowledge has been appreciated by all.

🌳 Any minute now the Sir Robert Peel rhodo will be blooming in the Garden. Named, of course, after the man who started the 'modern' police force. As policemen did in those days, Sir Robert Peel rode a horse, which they said was too old and thus might fall and injure him. So they bought him a new horse, which fell, killing him.

🌳 From the Handy Hints department – if you are among the many people plagued with passion vine hoppers this year, now is the time to deal to them – get outside and destroy their eggs. They are easy to spot, they look like rows of tiny off-white spines along branches, grape tendrils and the like.

🌳 I had planned to include a book review, but, typically, have run out of room. So can I just highly recommend *A History of Gardening in New Zealand* by Bee Dawson (Random House). It's well-researched, beautifully illustrated and an informative and fascinating read.

🌳 Correction: J. G. MacKenzie (spelt correctly this time) was not Director of the Botanic Garden, he was [the first] Director of Wellington City Council's Parks and Reserves department (including the Botanic Garden). Thanks to Peter Hector – Ed.

Woman in the Trees – Redwoods

Following on from the last article on redwoods, Jenny Hickman has been looking into two genera, one of which was, until less than a century ago, thought to exist only as a fossil.

Coast or California redwood, *Sequoia sempervirens*

The coast redwood, *Sequoia sempervirens* belongs to the ancient family of trees called the Taxodiaceae, or bald cypress family. At one time its members played an important role in the forests of the Northern Hemisphere. Now the family has only 15 species left, in ten genera, seven of which have only one species, and these

are found only in small isolated populations. Today coast redwoods are found only in the Coast Ranges of the Western USA, from SW Oregon south to Carmel, on the south side of the Monterey Peninsula.

During the age of the dinosaurs 125 million years ago, redwood forests covered most of continental USA, Greenland, Europe, Russia and China. Fossils have even been found



in the south of England. They still dominated the Northern Hemisphere 25 million years ago, but mostly disappeared during the ice ages. The redwood forests of today are less than 1% of their former size. Their fossils closely resemble the present day redwoods.



Sequoia is named after Sequoyah, the inventor of the Cherokee alphabet; “sempervirens” means everlasting. They are the tallest trees in the world, reaching 112 metres in height and 4.2m in diameter. They can live for over 2,000 years. How do they live for so long? They have very thick bark, up to 15-30cm thick. There is tannin in the bark and timber, which fights off fungi, insects, parasites, bacteria and viruses. There is very little resin in the bark, making it more resistant to fire. The timber is very durable, straight grained and strong, hence very valuable. An unusual feature of the coast redwood, for a

conifer, is that it will grow again from a fallen tree or cut stump.



The coast redwoods grow in the fog belt of the Coast Ranges. Researchers have shown that the redwoods create their own “rain” by condensing moisture from heavy fog on their needles. This moisture drips to the ground to supply water to the roots during the region’s dry summers, providing 30-40% of a redwood’s water supply.

With time the canopies of very old trees trap needles, dust and seeds, creating peaty soil mats, like a sponge, a metre thick, and as big as a bus, that grow plants, sustain animals and absorb water hundreds of metres above the ground. Molluscs, crustaceans, and other animals usually found in or beside streams, even a salamander, have been found up there. The redwoods sprout canopy roots from their branches, which presumably can then absorb water from these spongy mats.

Dawn redwood, *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*

Fossils of the dawn redwood, *Metasequoia glyptostroboides* were found in North America, but as no one studied them closely, it was assumed that they were fossils of the coast redwood or of the swamp cypress, *Taxodium distichum*. Then in 1941, a dawn redwood fossil was discovered in Japan. The scientist, Shigeru Miki, called it *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*, because of its similarity to both *Sequoia* and *Glyptostobus**, another member of the bald cypress family. The leaves were similar to those of the coast redwood, and the cones were similar to those of *Glyptostrobus*. He pointed out the opposite arrangement of the leaves, unlike that in *Sequoia*, which is spiral, and *Taxodium*, which is alternate.





Then, incredibly, that same year, thousands of miles away, in Mo-tao-chi, a small village near Chongqing in eastern Sichuan, China, a professor of forestry, Kan Dou, was sent by the Red Army to check on supplies of firewood, and discovered three trees of the same genus. The villagers called it 'water fir.' He asked for leaf samples to be sent to him, but they were lost. It was not until 1946 that Professor Tsang Wang collected specimens and published its discovery. Professor Hsen-hsu Hu and Dr W. E.Cheng realised that this was Shigeru Miki's *Metasequoia*, alive and well three million years after it had died out in the rest of the world. They established that it was a new tree belonging to a genus previously thought to consist of fossil species only.

In 1946, Dr. Merrill of the Arnold Arboretum at Harvard University in Boston realised its importance, and obtained a grant for a Chinese

expedition to collect seed. This was at considerable risk to those in the expedition, because of the revolution in China at the time. They discovered a further 1,000 trees. In January 1948 the seed was generously distributed to Botanic Gardens of the world, including New Zealand. The New Zealand seeds were sent to Christchurch, Dunedin, and Wellington. The rescue came just in time, because the following year the Red Army took control in China, and Chinese botanists were cut off from the west for the next 29 years.

Since then it has been shown that dawn redwood trees can be propagated from cuttings quite easily. The dawn redwood is deciduous with autumn colouring, like the swamp cypress. It has the unique habit of having the next year's buds underneath the branchlets. It grows best on sites near water, grows faster than the swamp cypress and may reach 60m.

Unfortunately kaka are attracted to both of these species, and they have been removing bark from their upper branches. When branches are completely ring-barked, they will ultimately die. It would be a tragedy for the Garden to lose or even just to see these heritage trees suffer major damage.

Story Jenny Hickman, photos Charmaine Scott

* The Canton water pine, *Glyptostrobus pensilis*, is featured in the June 2010 NZ Gardener magazine.



Coming Events

Glow in the dark Glow-worm tours

Fridays 11 Jun, 9 Jul, 13 Aug at 7.30pm, 10 Sep, 1 and 8 Oct at 8.30pm

Meet at the main gates (Founders' entrance) on Glenmore Street for a one-hour journey into the world of this fascinating creature. Bring a torch. Adults \$5, children under 12 free.

Sunday June 20, 11am

History of the Main Garden

An easy 90-minute historical walk with interesting stories from the early days of Wellington and the Botanic Garden. Meet at the Founders' Entrance, Glenmore Street. Cost: \$3

Monday June 28, 10.30am

Sundials, Sculptures and Solstice

View the Botanic Garden's new - and old - sculptures and its sundials on this moderate 90-minute winter solstice walk. Meet in the Begonia House foyer. Cost: \$3.

Sunday July 18, 11am

Begonias, Bromeliads and Bananas

Escape from the winter weather with a tour of the temperate and tropical plants in the Begonia House. Meet in the foyer of the Begonia House for this 60-minute viewing. Cost: \$3.

Monday July 26, 10.30am Plants and Poems

A short winter walk looking at a selection of plants with a New Zealand poem about each. Meet at

the top of the playground for this moderate 60-minute walk. Cost: \$3.

Saturday 7 August, 9am - 1pm

2010 Winter Seminar

Trees in the Wellington Botanic Garden: Past, Present and Future

The Treehouse

Sunday August 15, 11am

Captivating Camellias

A short winter tour of our Camellia Garden. Meet at the Founders' entrance, Glenmore Street for this 60-minute walk with a short uphill section. Cost: \$3.

Monday August 23, 10.30am

Plants of Asia

Discover some of the plants from Asia and how their history and cultivation affect our lives today. Meet at the Founders' entrance, Glenmore Street for this moderate 60-90 minute walk. Cost: \$3.

18 September – 3 Oct Spring Festival

Botanic Garden and Otari

The September guided walks, as part of the Spring Festival programme, will be included in the Festival brochure, available through www.friendswbg.org.nz and www.Wellington.govt.nz.

They will also be notified in the next Newsletter.



The old potting shed and new glasshouse framework

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

President: Frank Wilson, phone 475 7337, email: fmwilson@clear.net.nz

Secretary: Ted Woodfield, phone 499 6005, email: tedwoodfield@xtra.co.nz

Website: www.friendswbg.org.nz

Newsletter Editor: Charmaine Scott, phone 383 6285, email: thecats@xnet.co.nz

Typeset and printed by NS Services phone/fax 970 5036, email: gderb@ihug.co.nz

