

green tips

a bi-monthly newsletter from the
NEW BRIGHTON COMMUNITY GARDENS

AUTUMN

SOWING & PLANTING

April & May are the best months for putting in broad beans, both for cropping and for use as a green cover crop for digging in (when 25cm high) to improve soil quality. Continue to sow green salad crops. Also, with late winter & early Spring in mind, sow or plant out brassicas, silver-beet & spinach, peas, onions, swedes & turnips. As frosts arrive, cover vulnerable plants with frostcloth or old net curtains or whatever you have. It is amazing what a difference a little shelter can make.



"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams"
Eleanor Roosevelt

Choosing OPTIMISM

isn't a way of saying, in the manner of Pollyanna (it was actually Voltaire, though he was joking): "All is for the best in the best of all possible worlds". I like to think, however *pessimistic* we may feel in these "dark, anxious and ignominious times", we almost have a *moral obligation* to concede that there *may* be a way forward; and surely we owe it to ourselves and our children to work our butts off towards a sustainable future.



VOLUNTEERS' LUNCHES

will be as usual on the first Monday of the month, 3rd April and 1st May. All welcome, bring something to the table if you can; if you can't, there is always abundance!

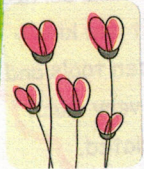
"Pessimists are usually right and optimists are usually wrong, but all the great changes have been accomplished by optimists."

Thomas L Friedman
(in The Optimistic Environmentalist,
by David R Boyd)



In January a beautiful handcrafted macrocarpa seat, near the library and looking out at the pier, was dedicated to the memory of Jenny Lineham. Jenny was the beloved partner of our David, and a much-loved and sorely missed member of the Gardens and of the New Brighton community.

Small streams of caring can become rivers of hope



Te reo ↘

Hurihia to aroaro ki te rā
tukuna to atarangi kia taka
ki muri i a koe

"Turn your face to the sun and
the shadows fall behind you."

EASTER HOURS
we will be closed on Good
Friday 14 April, open on
the Saturday, closed again
on Monday 17 April.

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PAPERPLUS NEW BRIGHTON



Fifty enthusiastic pilgrims arrived at the Gardens by bus in February to celebrate Diana Madgin's birthday. She wanted to show her friends her favourite gardens around Christchurch.

The cure for a headache is to stretch out on our chamomile bed. Unfortunately on this day it had just been watered and the patient got rather wet.



UNSUNG HEROINE

Tracy likes to be anonymous but she is our absolute champion pricker-outer of baby seedlings. Thank you Tracy!



Our very young and very cute volunteer Jacques, and a somewhat older (but still very cute) David, rest from their labours after scoring a barrow load of potatoes while digging for oxalis.

(photo by Tamsin)



RHUBARB FOOL

Cook rhubarb as usual and allow to cool. Whip 150ml cream, fold together with an equal amount of plain yoghurt, and fold both gently in with the rhubarb. Serve in glass tumblers, with silver spoons.



At the "I LOVE NEW BRIGHTON" event in Rawhiti Domain in February, two complete idiots sacrificed their dignity to dress up as "rhubarb fools" in order to hand out flyers promoting our Gardens.



In February a classful of ESOL students from Hagley Community College came to visit with their teacher Kay.



If volunteers forget to bring their own lunch to the Gardens, there is always a gourmet salad from the garden, usually made by Catherine, this one by Ayse.

**Ray White New Brighton
Easter Carnival
Saturday 15 April 10-1pm
Rawhiti Reserve**

Is life worth living? It depends on the liver.



At least a few animals will now sleep more easily in their beds, thanks to an inspiring and well-attended vegetarian workshop in February. We all scored some great recipes and great ideas, and were able to sample delicious polenta with mushroom sauce and salsa.



Big smiles all round when Vera & Ed from "Recreational Services" came to visit and kindly donated garden tools and vouchers - very much appreciated.



"There's nothing I can do for you, Ms. Brown - Your optimism is incurable!"

The Gardens at 136 Shaw Ave are open 10 - 4pm Monday Wednesday Friday & 10 - 2pm Saturday ph 388 6506 nbgardens@xtra.co.nz www.nbgardens.org.nz

compiled by Hilary ph 388 7616 to have anything included in the next newsletter

