

CHS NEWS

NEXT MEETING

Monday, 3 October 2022 at **19:30** at
The Athenaeum

-- PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW STARTING TIME --

Entrance fee for visitors: R30.

SUNBIRD STEPPING STONES – PLANTING FYNBOS GARDENS FOR PEOPLE AND POLLINATORS

Ceinwen Smith, Executive Director of Ingcungcu Sunbird Restoration, will share the inspiration and hard work that underpins Ingcungcu's vision to create a stepping stone corridor across the Cape Flats. The work focuses on planting locally indigenous gardens at schools and community spaces, and engaging people in hands-on learning experiences in nature, with the aim of reconnecting people, plants and pollinators.

NEXT OUTING

Sat, 15 October at 10:30: Permaculture in practice: Tennis court to food forest conversion

In June 2018 the Caldis family in Rondebosch lifted their tennis court to discover lifeless white beach sand. Using permaculture design, they began the process of regenerating the land by using banana circles. In August 2020 the first fruit trees were planted and the fertility, complexity and abundance of life on the property continues to build each year.

Limited to 20 members. Please RSVP to Glenda by Wednesday, 12 October, if you want to join us.

Keep **Tues, 1 November at 10:00**, open for another garden visit in Constantia. Details to follow.

REPORT BACK

September Plant Table

Top row below, left to right:

- *Knowltonia* now *Anemone vesicatoria*: indigenous to Peninsula forests eg. above Groot Constantia; shade; drought-hardy; evergreen; related to the *Hellebore*
- *Scilla peruviana* – from the Mediterranean, not Peru: striking flowers from late winter into spring; summer dormant; old-fashioned bulb, often found in older neglected gardens.
- *Hyacinthoides hispanica* – “Spanish Bluebells”: not regarded as invasive here as they are in the UK where they are a threat to the English Bluebells.
- *Veltheimia bracteata*: deciduous bulb; likes shade.

SEPTEMBER 2022

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“Garden: one of a vast number of free outdoor restaurants operated by charity-minded amateurs in an effort to provide healthful, balanced meals for insects, birds, and animals.”

*Henry Beard and Roy McKie from
“Gardening: A Gardener’s Dictionary”*



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Instagram – capehortsoc

Middle row:

- *Streptocarpus saxorum*: good for a hanging basket; kept out of wind and rain; frown from a slip; loves a little diluted food; do not overwater.
- *Tetradenia riparia* – “Misty Plume Bush”: grows to 2m; flowers from early August and lasts a long time.

Bottom row:

- Pincushion hybrids: sandy soi in Betty’s Bay; do not get much water.

You can view these blooms, and others, on <https://youtu.be/GMv8b0L1E-E> .

Melianthus major: grows to about 3m; prune back into a rounded shape so it doesn’t get too lanky.

Kniphofia praecox

Dioscorea “Elephant Foot”

Cyrtanthus brachycephala: self-seeds.

Aeonium: the leaves turn reddish in the sun, green in the shade and winter.

Marguerite Daisy

Impatiens niamniamensis – “Parrot Impatiens”: grows well in a pot in semi-shade.

Begonia from Isabella’s mother; flowers sometimes pink but this year are more red; multiplies quickly; shade.



Diep River garden:

A small but select group visited Susan Armstrong's garden to see what could be done with a small space. Susan has certainly made the most of every nook and cranny.

For our visit she had the gardener in to do a bit of a tidy up – and he did! In his opinion there were plants that needed to be cut back or removed, leaving some well-trimmed bushes and the beds looking very neat and tidy. Thank goodness there was still more than enough left for us to ooh and aah over.



The group; gorgeous *Babianias*; *Ixia scillaris*; two views of the garden and the makings of a Spekboom edging.

SPRING PLANT SALE – SATURDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2022!! – 09:30 to 13:30

And now it is just 2 weeks away!! Your well-grown plants can be brought on **Thursday, 6 and Friday, 7 October** from 09:00.

Hopefully, the little bit of rain we've had has kept your plants going.

Please remember to:

- cut the rim off the 1 Kg yoghurt containers (or any container made of rigid plastic) and cut the sides into wide-ish strips, possibly with a point. Bring these with you on the 6th or 7th as we will need them for both the labelling of plants and prices.
- bring boxes of any shape or size for buyers to carry their plants home in. Bring your collection along on the 6th or 7th.
- give your plants a name. If you don't know it, please ask when you arrive with your load.
- write your initials on the label with the plant name.
- collect pieces of slasto or rock for the crevice gardening demo we are having at 10:45 on the 8th. Let us know before the time if you have anything. Susan's effort (right).
- to tell your friends and family about the sale.



🌱 If you have a garden-related product to sell, you are welcome to have a stall on the day. Please contact Glenda for more information if you are interested.

There have been several offers of help and to provide eats for the tea garden. I will be in touch with these people within the week. If you haven't got around to offering help of some kind, we still need extra hands in the tea garden – as well as more plates of eats, someone to sell the tickets to win the crevice garden and help at the cash point, especially when there are people clambering to pay for their purchases. Please let me know if you are able to fill in the gaps.

And get your hat or floral crown ready to wear on the day.

GLEANINGS IN OLD GARDEN LITERATURE

by W Carew Hazlitt, 1887

Chapter 1 Preliminaries

Mrs Matthews, in her Memoirs of her husband, 1839, mentions the gratification which it afforded Coleridge, when he came from the Gilmans', to visit them at Highgate Hill, to walk round the garden and gather a handful of flowers to take home with him.

We know how some of the wisest and best of mankind have delighted in gardens. Even such an inveterate Londoner as Charles Lamb, when he went down to live at Edmonton, took a pleasure in superintending the small plot of ground behind his house there, and watched with interest the progress toward maturity of his Windsor pears and jargonelles.

How affectionately attached to their gardens and the pursuits connected with the culture of trees, fruits, and flowers Bacon, Evelyn, Temple, Walpole, and other eminent Englishmen have been, it will form part of my duty in the following pages to demonstrate.

General Lambert, who was lord of the manor of Wimbledon in 1656, was very fond of his garden at that place, and grew, it is said, the finest tulips and gilliflowers procurable. It is to his passion for this pursuit that he owed his place on a pack of satirical cards published during the Commonwealth, where the Eight of Hearts bears a small full-length of him, holding a tulip in his right hand, with "Lambert Kt. of ye Golden Tulip" beneath. He had withdrawn into what was then the country from political life; but, amid his recreations as a florist, was doubtless watching the opportunity for a return to the field of his professional work. Next to Monk he was probably the most able of the generals of the Commonwealth and Protectorate, and it was an error on the part of Cromwell to have estranged him. But to his temporary retirement we owe this little glimpse of his taste for a pursuit more genial and more humane than that of war.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

- 🌱 **Fish Hoek Garden Club's Gardening Expo and Flower Show:** Sat, 1 October from 09:30 – 15:00. R20 entry fee.
- 🌱 **Clivia Show:** Sat, 1 (09:00 – 17:00) and Sun, 2 October (09:00 – 14:00) at the Tygervalley Centre. R20 entry fee.
- 🌱 **Cape Orchid Society's Spring Orchid Show:** Sat, 1 (09:00 – 17:00) and Sun, 2 October (09:00 – 16:00) at Kirstenbosch. Plants and supplies for sale. R20 entry fee; R10 for students and pensioners.
- 🌱 **Garden Day:** Sun, 9 October – celebrate as a group and win prizes. Watch this https://youtube.com/shorts/h_mep0RBG2c to give you an idea of what you can do. We will celebrate this at our Plant Sale, so get out your best garden attire and florally adorned hat and come along to celebrate this day.
- 🌱 **SARDA Open Garden:** Sat, 22 October (09:00 – 17:00) at Watroak Farm. R50 entry fee.
- 🌱 **Elgin Open Gardens:** Sat/Sun, 29/30 Oct and 5/6 Nov – brochures can be found at Ferndale, the Greenhouse Nursery, Starke Ayres and Kirstenbosch, or visit www.elginopengardens.co.za.

If you should hear of plant exhibitions, open gardens and the like taking place, please send details to Glenda.