

# CHS NEWS

## NEXT MEETING

**Monday, 7 August 2023 at 19:30 at The Athenaeum**

**Members: No entrance fee**

**Visitors: R30 per person**

## GEMS OF THE CAPE

Alan Horstman will be encouraging you to go out and explore and enjoy our rich floral heritage as well as promote conservation.

## NEXT OUTING

**Fri, 25 August 2023 at 10:30 to Intaka Island (Century City)**

Take a boat ride and guided tour of the island. You will have plenty of plants and birds to see and you will be told about the progress made over the years and what the future plans are for this area.

Cost: R90 for senior citizens; R100 for younger citizens. Limited to 20 members. Please RSVP by no later than Tues, 22 August.

## REPORT BACK

**July Plant Table – read this in conjunction with the Plant Table video which gives more explanation.**

*Agathosma ovata* ‘Glentana’ – “False Buchu” – grown in a pot

*Lachenalia reflexa* – very localized in W Cape – Darling to Cape Town to Franschhoek; first described by Thunberg in 1784; closely related to *L. viridiflora*; only in Cape Flats Sand Fynbos; in many verges in Pinelands; habitat lost due to development.

*Chasmanthe floribunda* – W Cape Bokkeveld mountains to Hermanus; ideal garden plant as bees and sunbirds love it; flowering July when not much else in flower.

*Plectranthus chimanimani*

*Bonatea speciosa* (see page 4)

Red *Bougainvillea* – flowering well, unusually, in winter.

White carpet rose – a low-growing Iceberg, growing in clay.

*Hellebore* – is an ‘introvert’ as their flowers face down; good for a difficult shady area; flowers in winter; fan-like leaves are also attractive year-round.

*Tibouchina elegans* – “Glory Bush” – a genus of about 350 species of neo-tropical plants; the *T. elegans* has slightly hairy leaves; grows 1.5 – 2m tall; flowers late Autumn into Winter; wonderful in a mixed border.

*Salvia rosmarinus* – Rosemary

Flowering plants growing in a Sea Point garden:

- *Calendula officinalis* – the “pot Marigold” growing with Broad Beans
- *Begonia* “Malanseuns green leaf sprint ‘white’”
- *Chamaemelum nobile* – Chamomile

JULY 2023

### President

Marianne Alexander

### Chairlady

Jenny Scarr

### Hon Treasurer

Vacant

### Hon Secretary

Glenda Thorpe

### Committee Members

Susan Armstrong Gerald Robertson

Cherise Viljoen Cherry Mann

Chris Wren-Sargent

### Honorary Members

Marianne Alexander Mary Smith

Anne Bean Adam Harrower

Bill Elder Ernst van Jaarsveld

“What is a weed?  
A plant whose virtues  
have not yet been  
discovered.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson



120 YEARS

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Instagram – capehortsoc

- *Jasminum polyanthum* – “Star Jasmine” or “Chinese Jasmine” – flowering early
- *Lavandula dentata* – “French” or “fringed lavender”
- *Viola odorata* – sweet Violets



Top row: *Agathosma ovata*; *Lachenalia reflexa*; *Bonatea speciosa*

Middle row: *Bougainvillea*; *Hellebore*; *Tibouchina elegans*; *Salvia rosmarinus*

Bottom row: *Calendula officinalis*; *Chamaemelum nobile*; *Viola odorata*

### Outing to Hout Bay

The small group that attended the outing to Future Found Sanctuary, hosted by Cherise, had a most interesting time. Accompanying her was Simba, a very knowledgeable gardener, who willingly plants what she provides. In front of the owner's home is a gravel garden with flat-topped conifers, bulbs, and a few small shrubs. Behind the home is a 'cloud ' garden with beautifully clipped small-leaved shrubs. Above this is an area depicting the elements – earth, wind, fire and water – a plant-covered mound of earth, windmill, firepit and a circular rill, which flows down to different levels. There are also boxes planted with herbs and vegetables for use by the chefs.

We then followed paths beneath the trees, passing streams flowing with water from the mountain. This is mainly a green garden with seasonal colour such as Scadoxus and other shade-loving bulbs under the trees. We completed our tour with a look at the spa, followed by a delicious tea served in one of the guest suites.

*Susan Armstrong*



## NB!! PLANT SALE – 9 SEPTEMBER 2023

Continue to take cuttings and pot them up for the Sale. Don't forget to label them.

If you received potted plants from Cherise, please ensure you look after them and return them to the Sale.

Help is needed on the Thursday, Friday and Saturday (7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>) so make a note in your diary not to book any other engagements.

## GARDENING IN MEDITERRANEAN CLIMATES

A link for you to have a look at:

<https://m.facebook.com/groups/gimcw/permalink/6643908012286173/?sfnsn=scwspwa&mibextid=VhDh1V>

## ATTENDING MEETINGS

Attendance at monthly meetings has not returned to the pre-COVID numbers we used to enjoy. The Committee understands that this is partly due to some members having become complacent about staying at home while others would like to attend but do not want to drive at night.

If you are interested in attending meetings, please let me know as we are aware that there are members who would be willing to offer lifts. Therefore, would everyone who requires a lift, or can offer a lift, please let me know so you can be put in touch with someone in your vicinity? It's also more enjoyable, and safer, to travel with a companion.

*Glenda*



## BONATEA SPECIOSA

A surprise sighting ... an indigenous ground orchid!

One of the delights of gardening in Betty's Bay is the little surprises which pop up and flower mid-winter – and one is the *Bonatea speciosa*, or the green wood orchid.

They seem to prefer a sheltered, semi-shade position in the undergrowth, but one has appeared at my back door!

This is an easy to grow ground orchid, which is happy in a container kept in a semi-shady spot. Plant in a well-drained mix.

The plants die down after flowering, so label your pots to remind you what's in them!

Did you know it is night scented? The flowers are pollinated by hawkmoths who are attracted by the perfume; the pollinaria are quite large and stick to the moth's eyes!



Marianne Alexander

## FOR YOUR INTEREST

- **CHS Plant Sale:** Sat, 9 Sept from 09:30 – 14:30 at 2 Dressage Close, Constantia.
- **Calitzdorp Succulent Society's Vetplantfees:** Fri/Sat/Sun, 15 – 17 Sept from 09:00 – 17:00 (15:00 on Sun).
- **Prince Albert Open Gardens:** Sat, 30 Sept and Sun, 1 Oct.
- **CalHort July presentation** is available for download from this link [July issue of the California Horticultural Society Bulletin](#) or direct viewing on their website, [www.calhortsociety.org](http://www.calhortsociety.org).
- **Eco-Pest** products on the market:

