

# Newsletter



www.newwesthortsociety.org

May 2015

## **SOLD OUT!!! SOLD OUT!!! SOLD OUT!!!**

Wow!! In retrospect, it was the perfect combination of factors for a sell-out. People have been thinking of gardening for months—far different from some sale days in the past when spring arrived simultaneously with our sale. By feeding information to the local rags, we got mentioned many times in the Newsleader and Record. The weather on sale day was gorgeous. The type of day on which any gardener thinks “Where can I get good plants at good prices?”

When doing set-up, none of us imagined the day would be one of suspenseful anticipation. But once things got going, we just knew.

**9:30am.** The sale starts early as we were ready and customers were waiting. 8 tables are packed full of plants with overflow on the driveway and under the tables.

**11:00am.** All plants under the tables and in the overflow area are now on tables.

**12:00 noon.** We consolidate and are now down to 4 tables of plants. Empty tables taken down.

**1:30pm.** All that is left is one table with plants. The excitement is growing—we would definitely sell out but when?

**2:30pm.** The last plant sold!! Hurrah!!!

The sale was an unbelievable success. Not only did sale proceeds dramatically increase from last year, everyone working the sale had a great time. Lots of fun sharing companionship and gardening stories and advice. When you sell out, the first thing you think is “Next year we will need more plants”. We must be careful to maintain the social atmosphere. Let’s not grow big again. Small is beautiful. Let’s just savour the “sell-out”.

Thanks goes out to all club members (and relatives) who volunteered their time to help sale day. And, of course, to those who donated the plants. Our biggest Thank You goes to Monica Mowat and her husband, John, who have permitted us to hold the sale on the boulevard in front of their home of for the last three years. They have great neighbours too.



## Tonight’s Meeting

**Tuesday, May 12, 7:30pm**

Speaker: Amanda Jarrett

Topic: “Common Mistakes Gardener’s Make”

## Mark Your Calendar

**Saturday Strolls at Dart’s Hill Garden**

**Park:** Sat, May 16,30; June 6,13,27

11am to 3pm - 16th Ave at 170 St, South Surrey - Admission by donation

**Dart’s Hill Garden Open House &**

**Plant Sale:** Sat, May 23, 10am-4pm

(see info above)

**NWHS Regular Meeting**

Tues, June 9, 7:30pm

Guest Speaker: Chris Jenks on

“Carnivorous Plants—Tropical and Hardy”. Chris will have plants for sale.

**Tool Sharpening Workshops with**

**Henk Suijs:** Sat, June 28th, 1pm &

3pm - NWHS members only. Fee \$5 Pre-registration required. (see article)

**Erikson’s Daylily Gardens Annual**

**Open House:** Sat & Sun, July 11 & 12,

10am-4pm - 24642 – 51 Ave, Langley

www.eriksonsdaililygardens.com

604-856-5758

**NWHS Regular July Meeting:**

Tues, July 14, 7:30pm

Annual NWHS In-Club Show

Speaker: Claude le Doux on

“Gardening Questions & Answers”.

Submit your questions ASAP to Ellen or Julia.

**NWHS Garden Tour & Picnic:**

Sat, July 18, afternoon (see article)

**TREASURER’S REPORT - April 2015**

Total Revenues: \$ 1039.50

Total Expenses: \$ 836.69

See bulletin board for Ellen’s report.

# New Westminster Horticultural Society

May 2015

## **TOOL SHARPENING WORKSHOP:**

We are lucky to have Henk Suijs, Lee Valley's tool sharpening guru, hold some workshops for us before he retires to Vancouver Island. He is good! Many of you will remember a few years ago when he presented to the club. That was followed by two sold-out workshops. The 2015 tool sharpening workshops are for NWHS members only and will be held on Saturday, June 28th, at Audrey Barnes' home, 117 Seventh Ave. 1:00pm and 3:00pm. Workshop size is 8 to 10 people. Ideally we would like to fill the 1:00pm first, then, if there is demand, fill the 3:00pm. A mere \$5 per member. Registration, with payment of the fee, will be done at "the table in front of the fireplace" tonight or through Audrey at non-meeting times. If you don't have money with you, you can register—but be aware that the coveted spots will be given first to those who have paid the fee.

## **JULY IN-CLUB SHOW:**

Pick up your "hot off the presses" show schedule tonight! The basic rules are the same as last year. We're sorry, but it is the nature of an organized show to have rules. Unlike our "Bring to Share" where anything you bring in has an immediate spot on the tables, for the July show, what you bring in must match a specific class and the specifications of that class. That said, if you have grown something you would like to bring in and exhibit, there is probably a class for it. Read the schedule and figure out which class is appropriate.

Don't grow anything? Why not try your hand at some Floral Art? We have some very interesting classes this year. Check them out on the last page of the schedule. Do that now and mull over ideas in your mind. Plant material used in the Floral Art does not need to be grown by the exhibitor—easily purchased at those Dollar Stores on 6th Avenue or elsewhere. It is quite a rush to have an idea and then physically play with

it—and find you saying to yourself "Hey, that's pretty good!" If you have any questions regarding the schedule, please email Audrey. Your query might just be an topic covered in next month's newsletter.

## **GARDEN TOUR & PICNIC:**

Mark Saturday, July 18th, on your calendar. It is Tour & Picnic Day. You will want to attend one or both events. They are one of the club's prime social events of the year.

The tour is during the afternoon. We visit 5 or 6 gardens (ideally member's) in sequence according to a set itinerary. By visiting them in sequence, those who are opening their gardens can visit the other gardens. Timing depends on how many gardens we have and how much time is spent driving between them. Also, some gardens are just more complex than others and are granted a longer viewing time. The tour is intended for members and their adult friends. The "no children & no pets" policy is a courtesy to the garden hosts. So far we have 2 gardens - one in Sapperton, one near 12th Street. If you live in New Westminster, the route can stop at your place. How about your garden? Being on tour is widely renowned as the best way to get a gardening project completed. Mid-project gardens are also interesting. Speak with Audrey if you would like us to view your garden.

Although the picnic follows the tour, it is a separate event. It usually starts about 4:30pm. It is pot-luck. The pot-luck volunteer sheet will be available at our June & July meetings. Although member's families are welcome, it is definitely an adult oriented event. No pets please. The picnic is in the Barnes' garden.

## **CHAFERS BEGONE!!!!**

The city of New Westminster is repeating its popular Nematode program for New West. Between June 15 & 19, go to the Parks Office next to Century House with you picture ID and proof of residency. They will give you two coupons for a 50% discount on

nematodes. Before July 3rd, contact GardenWorks Mandeville or Lougheed to order your nematodes, telling them that you have the coupons. They will contact you when the nematodes are available. Then you go to the store, present your coupons and pay 50% of the cost plus taxes. Each package of nematodes covers 750 square feet and regularly costs \$70 plus taxes. See the detailed copy of the program on the Bulletin Board.

## **PHOTO CONTESTS:**

With this fantastic spring, we know that you have all been enjoying gardens. Hopefully with your camera in hand. Just the perfect time to take photos. Everything is so fresh and lush. Don't forget our contest categories:

- **Visitors in the garden** (your own garden)
- **The colour burgundy** (in any garden)
- **Overall or partial view of a NWHS member's garden.**
- **Macro image** (in any garden)

The detailed contest handout is available at "the table in front of the fireplace".

If you are really keen on taking fantastic photos, why not join the New Westminster Photography Club. More information: [www.nwphoto.org](http://www.nwphoto.org)

## **Contacts**

### **Julia Goulden-President**

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### **Lorna Cloutier - Vice President**

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**Ellen Berg-Treasurer** - 604-525-7827  
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**Lea McDonald - Contest, Show**  
604-942-9416

**Audrey Barnes - Contests, Show, Tour** 604-526-8284 (Before 8pm) or  
[audrey@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:audrey@newwesthortsociety.org)

**Dan Tessaro: At Meeting Sale**  
604-563-3361

**Richard Harrison: Seed Exchange**  
604-544-2468 or  
[richard@newwesthortsociety.org](mailto:richard@newwesthortsociety.org)