



HARGRAVES

Gardening News

HARGRAVES NURSERYLAND'S SEASONAL NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2008 No. 55

Dear Garden Club Member,

Here we are in winter, well not exactly because we're in London and yesterday we went to the Chelsea Flower Show! It's our third visit, and it just gets better each time. The first time we went was in 1986 - remember the 80's? The second 2004 and then yesterday. The difference between the first and last is the show gardens. If they were there in 1986 we don't remember them, the focus was on the mass flower displays in the marquees. Now just as much importance is placed on the show gardens - where people can relate the design features to their own gardens. There are so many categories from courtyards to commercial gardens - all amazing!

We arrived at Chelsea just in time to see the Australians being filmed by Australian T.V. on their gold winning show garden. Yes, we received gold again! We hope our photos give you a feeling of the amazing garden. The garden was sponsored by Fleming's Nursery (bare root fame), designed by Jamie Durie and constructed by Ian Barker. There were certainly some big smiles around. Gardeners are wonderful people, even though there were 1000's of people at the show, all were considerate of each other, dodging cameras, not staying too long in one spot, so everyone could see, helping identify unknown plants. We made 8 new friends in our revival breaks! If there were more gardeners in the world.....? In 3 weeks the Chelsea Pensioners' home is transformed into a gardeners paradise for 1 week, then dismantled until next year. If you ever get the chance - go to Chelsea.

