

Your support helps our projects & make excellent gifts

New T-shirts : 'Flowers that Fly'



Our Trustee Vicky is shown modelling the T-shirt created especially for the Ellerslie International Flower Show. Obviously the show's focus was for gardeners, hence the theme centred on flowers for butterflies.

Vicky designed the logo; There's a bigger photograph on our website. Shirts are \$37.50 each.

The butterflies on the front of the shirt are the Monarch then the Yellow Admiral, Blue, Boulder, Lesser Wanderer, the Common Tussock and then the Common Copper on the end.

We will be ordering more shortly, so get those orders in!

Butterfly Identification Posters

Few people would know what you are talking about if you say you've seen a Red (or Yellow) Admiral. How about a Copper?

We now stock these excellent posters/ID charts which can be folded for your pocket, detailing all of NZ's butterflies. Published by the Entomological Association they make excellent gifts. They are \$15 each plus P&P (\$2 folded or \$5 rolled).



Other Items for Sale

The above are just a few of what we have for sale. We have two lovely brooches – one is a Monarch side on, the other from above, @ \$4.50 each. We have a delicious range of bookmarks, \$3.50 each. We have CDs with lots of fun, educational material for children, \$5 each. Packets of *Gomphocarpus physocarpus* (Giant Swan Plant) seed, \$5 each.

Then there's posters, different sizes, showing the metamorphosis of the Monarch, A4 and A3, \$7 and \$12.50. Bumper stickers are \$4.50 and sheets of stickers (six stickers per sheet) \$2/sheet.

Sales of these help the Monarch Butterfly NZ Trust with projects.

Monarch Butterfly NZ Trust

December 2006 Newsletter

C/- NZ Post, Russell, 0242

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Report to Members

Things just keep getting more exciting! These last three months have been even busier than before – and with Jacqui away for a month travelling around the country visiting schools, holding workshops and meeting with the media, it really put the pressure on the other Trustees as well.

You will no doubt have read about **The Butterfly Project** in the media – or perhaps you caught the item on The Breakfast Show, when Jacqui was interviewed at Butterfly Creek, Auckland. This generated a flurry of activity and inquiries from schools.

Tagging (and recovery) of butterflies has never before been undertaken using web-based technology, and the manner in which we will be involving communities in counting butterflies (transects) is also a first. We would like to see more members tagging butterflies in the New Year – we need coverage all over the country.

Did you see the Monarchs on the TV program about the Ellerslie International Flower Show. It didn't include our stall - but on the fine days our Monarchs were released in the Wildflower World garden, and were very popular OF COURSE!

Did you know that our exhibit at Ellerslie won a SILVER MEDAL! According to the organisers, if you won a medal at Ellerslie, you would have won the same grade medal at Chelsea – what a coup! The success could be equally shared among the many people who got involved in the exhibit and helped in all sorts of areas. People came out of the woodwork to help, it was awesome.

You can see for yourself how the stand looked before and after, just go to this link here on the internet:

<http://monarch.org.nz/monarch/ellerslie-international-flower-show-14/>

or

<http://tinyurl.com/y7y75f>

It was planned to have a very colourful and entertaining PowerPoint presentation created by Vicky Steele running throughout the show – but sadly the distance between the projector and screen was too great and we had to abandon it. It is a large file but can be downloaded quite easily from the same webpage.

Edith, Gilly, Jacqui, Shelley & Vicky

WANT TO JOIN? It's so easy! If you dial 0900 MONARCH you can leave your name and address (phone and email are helpful too). Calls cost \$25 but you get membership (\$20) and a packet of Giant Swan Plant seeds worth \$5. Now, how easy is that?

Report from the Northern Hemisphere

Shelley Gifford is one of our founding Trustees and Chairperson. In April she left Russell for a working holiday in Ireland, and we accepted her absence as we knew Shelley would still contribute via email. She has written several times of her exploits in Britain, where she is working once more in hotel management.



Some months ago she wrote that ‘they have just found a butterfly in England they thought was extinct. It’s a silver blue butterfly and has been found in an area that is being preserved in its natural state, to attract birds’.

The authorities had been delighted to find that butterflies were being attracted to the area too.

Shelley says that in Donegal ‘there are amazing buzzy things, not bees and not butterflies, but beautifully coloured’.

Her husband, Aidan, take walks in the countryside with Shelley. They later identified the ‘buzzy things’ as hoverflies.

“They can beat their wings at a huge speed and some are fabulous colours. The ones I like have hot pink markings on their wings.”

As well as all the festivals, history, fine food and drink, Shelley is delighting in the butterflies. A Red Admiral came into their staff room and Shelley was the only one who could identify it – gently catching it and letting it outside.

“The outside world here is fascinating – there are so many bugs and buzzy things and beautiful flowers (mostly mauve and purple) among the hedgerows and sand dunes.”

For a break in the Autumn they went to Portugal. Little did they suspect that another MBNZT member was also holidaying very close – and Bernie discovered some Monarch butterflies (yes! in Portugal!) laying eggs on *Asclepias curassavica*. This created quite a flurry of excitement in the Monarch butterfly discussion group on the internet.

It’s always good to hear what’s happening in other parts of the world.

Prizewinners!

During September/October we held a contest for anyone joining, with a prize of a greenhouse donated by members Mike Fox & Jacqui Knight, won by Tania Scott – congratulations Tania!

With the Ellerslie International Flower Show new members went into the draw to win a \$250 voucher from Hammer Hardware. The winner of this was Kim Marshall of Ohope Beach. Well done, Kim.

It’s always great to have new members – even better to share good news with them.

Snippets

Did you know?

-  That butterflies taste with their feet? Their taste sensors are located in the feet, and by standing on their food, they can taste it.
-  All butterflies have six legs and feet. In some species such as the Monarch, the front pair of legs remains tucked up under the body most of the time, and are difficult to see.
-  The proboscis of a butterfly is in two pieces to begin with. As soon as it emerges, the butterfly begins working on the proboscis with two palpi (found on each side of the proboscis), forming it into one tube. It must do this successfully in order to be able to nectar.
-  That a caterpillar grows to about 27,000 times the size it was when it first emerged from its egg? If a human baby weighed 9 pounds at birth and grew at the same rate as a caterpillar, it would weigh 243,000 pounds when fully grown.
-  Because the caterpillar’s skin doesn’t grow along with it as ours does, it must periodically shed the skin as it becomes too tight. Most caterpillars molt five times before entering the pupa stage.
-  Butterflies range in size from a tiny 3mm (1/8 inch) to a huge almost 30cm (12 inches).
-  Butterflies cannot fly if their body temperature is less than 30°C.
-  There are about 24,000 species of butterflies. Moths are even more numerous: about 140,000 species all over the world! In NZ there are less than 100 butterflies – but about 1,000 moths.
-  The females of some moth species lack wings, all they can do to move is crawl.
-  The words ‘pupa’ and ‘larva’ are Latin; ‘chrysalis’ is Greek.
-  It is estimated that in Nature only 2% of eggs reach maturity. Predators attack at each stage. Lepidoptera predators include birds, ants, wasps, lizards and people.
-  Herbicides and insecticides do tremendous damage – varied and healthy plants are the key to butterfly health.

Gilly

Our best wishes for Christmas
and the New Year! Here’s a bumper newsletter
with plenty for you to read
over the holiday period.



Anyone can get involved - this means YOU!

Was reading a Monarch book recently, and this struck home about the role of 'citizen scientists' in helping identify what is happening to our Monarchs.

Donald Davis is one of the world's leading Monarch researchers, based in Toronto.

He has been tagging Monarchs since 1968 and has no idea how many butterflies he has tagged, but it is in the tens of thousands.

Don holds the Guinness Record for Longest Migration by a Butterfly. The record reads as follows:

"A tagged male Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*), released by Donald A. Davis (Canada) at Presqu'ile Provincial Park near Brighton, Ontario, Canada, on 10 September 1988, was recaptured on 8 April 1989 in Austin, Texas, U.S.A., travelling an estimated 2880 miles, making this the World's Longest Butterfly Migration.

It is believed that the butterfly had flown to Mexico and was making the return trip back! Anyway, Don was talking about getting people involved when he said:

"You don't have to be a rocket scientist or a Ph.D to make a contribution to a significant scientific project. People felt good about that."

Please think seriously about joining us tagging – or tell your friends and school-teachers, they might like to get involved.

Metamorphosis times

Our South Island Trustees have raised some interesting points about the length of time it takes for Monarchs to grow through metamorphosis in the South Island.

The information on our posters tells us that eggs can take 1-4 days to hatch, that the larva (caterpillar) will grow over a period of 9-14 days, and that the pupa also takes between 9-14 days to transform into a butterfly.

They tell me the timing varies as you travel further south, so over the summer we will be making some notes to see how long the process takes. Look for a report from Vicky and Barbara in the March newsletter!

Freeze Milkweed!

Did you know that you can freeze milkweed, if you have too much and suspect you'll need it later? Store freshly-picked leaves in ziplock bags in the freezer. It dries out quickly after being removed from the freezer, so it is important to provide freshly-thawed leaves frequently.

If you've printed this out and read it... why not pass this to a friend, put it on the community noticeboard, give it to a school...

Annual General Meeting

Our first Annual General Meeting will be held at 2pm on Saturday, 13 January 2007 at the home of Jacqui Knight, 27 Matauwhi Road, Russell. We plan to link up over the internet, so if you are keen to be at the meeting (all are welcome) you can either come to Jacqui's home or we will explain how to get into the chat room.

Either way, please contact Jacqui on jacqui@monarch.org.nz or 09 403 8543.

Agenda:

- (a) Chairperson's Report (Shelley Gifford)
- (b) Statement of Accounts for 2005-2006
- (c) Auditor's Report
- (d) Budget for 2006-2007
- (e) Elections of Members of the Board
- (f) Election of a Chairperson
- (g) Election of Secretary/Treasurer.
- (h) Fix annual subscriptions for 2007-2008
- (i) General Business

The accounts have been audited and are available for everyone's perusal – if you would like a copy please contact Jacqui.

Barbara, Edith, Gilly, Jacqui, Shelley and Vicky – Trustees

Have you registered for **The Butterfly Project** yet?
WE NEED YOU! Please click on the mauve button on the website

www.monarch.org.nz



We acknowledge with thanks our sponsors' assistance with funds for Ellerslie International Flower Show "Flowers that Fly"

The Butterfly Project (transects/tagging)

New Zealand Post Community Post

Pub Charity

FOREST & BIRD

Mazda Foundation

LION

NI Lottery Grants Board

The Ellerslie International Flower Show

This took place mid-November at the Auckland Regional Gardens in South Auckland (not at Ellerslie!). The organisers anticipated that 60,000 people came through the show over the five days – abysmal weather (high wind and heavy rain and mud) mainly.

The planned exercise of getting members to grow some nectar plants didn't work out, so we were already on the back foot.

Vicky and I were both able to attend with the contributions of Auckland members Adele Dallimore, Mary Graves, Betty Greenbury and two friends, Mike Fox, Bert & Bev Kater, John le Sueur, Pam Moresby, Desiree & Ross Osmond, Val Parker, Susan Ryan, Bev Sinclair and friend and Carol Stensness.

Bill Fogarty from Manurewa East School, Mike Fox and Ross Osmond constructed the glasshouse over a three-day period and EasyGrow Greeneries donated the use of a lamp, shade and transformer for the duration of the event. There are bound to be other donors and members who helped who have been overlooked – our apologies.

Sadly, the projector and screen and planned PowerPoint which Vicky Steele had created didn't work out; the distance between the projector and the screen was too great. This meant that we had to take a completely different tack at getting the maximum information out there in the limited time we had with people coming by. Maureen Trotters' beautiful wallhanging beautifully filled the black hole where the screen had been.

Exhibiting is a lot of hard work. We don't think anyone can really imagine what is entailed; certainly, we didn't. In terms of raising the profile of the Trust it was very worthwhile. Our stand generated more interest than a lot of others. We had queues of people trying to get closer to the glasshouse and the interest from school teachers and parents was tremendous.

After the show surplus plants were taken to Manurewa East School, raising \$203 for them from sales.

Some ideas for future exhibitions: More signage about our special offer 'Join now and go into the draw to win a \$250 voucher' – it was probably too small on the card to be noticed. The winner's name is shown elsewhere.

Several people vowed to plant nettles for the Admirals!

Vicky went to the Judging review and learned that Ellerslie uses the same judging standards as the Chelsea Flower Show. In other words, if you are capable of getting a medal at Ellerslie, you would get one at Chelsea – which makes our Silver very commendable.

You would have been proud of us!

The Butterfly Project : Tagging and Transects

With your help, we will learn more about our butterflies in NZ this summer.

► By **tagging Monarch butterflies** we will learn about overwintering and migration. Data will be recorded on our website as tagged butterflies are released and recovered.

► Data will show numbers and locations of endemic and introduced butterflies from people **walking transects**. Over future years data will be compared to show shifts in population, and declines/increases in the various species. Walkers imagine they have a 'box', 2.5 metres on each side and 5 metres in front of them. They record the number of butterflies they see in that space as they walk.

Butterfly transects were devised in 1973 by the UK's Centre of Ecology & Hydrology. The information gained from transect monitoring has proved invaluable, especially where the same transect is walked year after year. Early warnings are generated of species' decline at a time when conservation action can be most effective and before species are lost from whole sites and areas.

We encourage individuals and clubs, schools, walking groups, outdoor groups to undertake transects. People who raise Monarchs in their home or classroom situation will find it easiest to tag Monarchs.

Hey!!! Taggers

At the northern end of the country tagging has been going on for some weeks. We had a letter from a Tauranga lady who found a tagged Monarch in her garden – sadly, she didn't record the number, but it has introduced her to the woman who released the tagged Monarch in the street around the corner!

Aren't Monarchs great little ambassadors?

An Auckland tagger has also seen her tagged Monarchs returning to her garden almost on a daily basis.

The website has been enhanced to include data of multiple sightings – and so butterflies that return again and again can be recorded. Only taggers have access to this information – but here's a sample of what it looks like:

Tag	Date/time	Postcode	City	Suburb	Site	Trees
AB059	22/12/06	0604	Waitakere	Parau	home garden	Pohutukawa/fir
Released:		14/12/06		Parau	Gender:	female
AB061	22/12/06	0604	Waitakere	Parau	home garden	Pohutukawa/fir
Released:		14/12/06		Parau	Gender:	female

thank you, as will the moths.

Moths get a bad press. Their caterpillars are responsible for a lot of damage in the garden and the moths themselves are mostly dull, brown jobs that come out at night. But sit in the gloaming beside an old-fashioned, tall, scented nicotiana, such as the white *N. sylvestris*, and you may be blessed with one of the giant hawkmoths, hovering in front of the ghostly flower as its long tongue probes for nectar.

If you choose nectar plants, they will bring butterflies, but these will linger only long enough to replenish their energy.

To persuade them to stay, and to guarantee a supply next season, you have to provide a des-res with nursery as well as pub. Most butterflies will feed from a wide range of flowers, but they are much more conservative when it comes to laying their eggs. Each species tends to be restricted to just a few 'host' plants, most of which are not garden ornamentals. Even if they were, after being munched to lace by a crowd of caterpillars, they wouldn't be much to look at.

Nevertheless, the list of host plants is long, and most gardeners could find a place for one or two: buckthorn for brimstones, brambles for the gatekeepers, grasses for a long list of larvae. But if there is one host plant every garden should have, it is the hated stinging nettle.

Painted ladies, peacocks, comas and red admirals and the ubiquitous small tortoiseshell, all lay their eggs on nettles. So a small patch is all you need to keep those species in your garden.

If you grow their food plants nearby, you are likely to see courtship dances and even mating. Make the nettle patch a bit bigger, and there is little chance of the caterpillars destroying it. Any excess makes a brilliant compost activator and plant food, and a handful of the young leaves in spring creates a good soup.

Wasps

We are told that the wasp bait for the control of *Vespula* wasps is still under development and not yet commercially available – perhaps March 2007. We will email members (where possible) as soon as it is on the market.

If you want an updated fact sheet regarding wasp control, please email wasps@monarch.org.nz and we will send you the information we have. If you have a good idea how to fight the wasp campaign, please go to our website and contribute there, in the forum.

The main thing to remember is that paper wasps keep returning to plants that have proved good feeding grounds. Having milkweed in pots means you can shift the plant to other spots regularly, to alleviate the habitual foraging effect. Or to cover the plants with old curtains or a mosquito net when you see eggs/larvae, to prevent them becoming wasp food.

Plant Health

One of our mentors (Edith, a Florida butterflyfarmer) says that there are more problems when host plants are not clean.

“Right now we have spider mites and disease has set in from the mites,” she said. “When they eat plants with spider mites, thrips, and/or aphids on them, they tend to sicken, eat a bit slower and less, and are generally less healthy. They sometimes die and lay on their sides, black. They're filled with bacteria when they die.”

It's important to keep your milkweed at optimum health, and – if you can – move half-eaten plants away from your caterpillars to give the plants a chance to recover.

To get rid of whitefly, you can try mixing 1 cup soya bean oil with 1 tablespoon dishwashing liquid in a jar. Add 30ml of this mixture to 1 litre of water and spray affected areas every 7-10 days until eliminated. Repeat as necessary.

Another organic grower tells me that regular spraying with seaweed fertiliser seems to control whitefly. Another remedy is to put a teaspoon of Neem granules at the base of every plant. This has a systemic action, being taken up from the plant roots.

I am trying out a parasitic wasp which predaes the whitefly, called *Encarsia formosa*. These lays their eggs in the whitefly pupae. As they mature the parasite turns the pupae black and is an indicator that the process is working.

The black pupae of the *E. formosa* wasp are supplied impregnated on a card where they will hatch and emerge as parasitic wasps to continue their predatory control. And it won't hurt my Monarchs!

Neither will *Aphidius colemani* which I'm using to reduce my aphids on my milkweed. This is an amazing little wasp that stings its aphid victim and lays its egg directly inside the aphid. In a couple of days, the aphid die and begin to swell up, and as it swells a new parasitic wasp is developed and will soon emerge. Once the new parasitic wasp emerges and is able to fly, it will sting more aphids, lay more eggs, and continue the cycle again.

I'm very excited about these organic controls in my garden.

Caterpillar Health

Over the past few months I've learned a very important lesson from my Monarch mentors!

Thinking I was being kind, I used to rescue caterpillars that had wandered away from their host plant. I was told that they often move away from the plant to molt or shed their skin. These stages, five of them, are called instars and the new skin is very soft, providing little support or protection. I was told that when they come to shed their skin they actually weave a silk net to fasten themselves to the leaf – and I was probably damaging them.

Now if I need to move a caterpillar, I let it climb aboard a leaf or piece of paper and leave the leaf/paper on the bush for the caterpillar to move off in its own time.

Monarch Watch (US) recommends that larvae be handled as little as possible.

“If necessary, a moistened artist brush can be used to transfer younger larvae without hurting them.”

“Larvae of any size should not be handled when they are molting. They are getting ready to molt when they remain very still, often on the side or top of their container, and when you can see their black head capsule about to come off. Just after they have molted, their tentacles will look droopy, and you may see the old skin behind the larva. They will usually eat this skin!”

The easiest way to move lots of caterpillars onto a fresh bush is to move the ‘new’ bush alongside.

Instar sizes (approx): 1st instar 2-6mm; 2nd instar, 6-10mm, 3rd instar, 10-14mm, 4th instar 14-25mm, 5th instar, 25-45mm.

Have you registered for **The Butterfly Project** yet?
WE NEED YOU! Please click on the mauve button on the website

www.monarch.org.nz

Wine & Monarchs?



We were approached by Lars Jensen of organic vintner Richmond Plains Wines, about how best to encourage Monarchs into their vineyard. This began a relationship whereby they have offered us \$2 from each bottle of wine sold directly to members.

Quite an offer!

Russell MBNZT members got together and tried out the wine – with favourable results. So here are the delicious wines:

Richmond Plains Nelson Sauvignon Blanc

Sauvignon Blanc is ideally suited to the Nelson region where a combination of warm, sunny days and cool autumn nights, help to create the intense varietal flavours for which this flagship NZ wine is recognised.

The wine shows fresh herbaceous characters with gooseberry and capsicum notes. Delicious gooseberry, capsicum and limey/citrus flavours with a lovely background of mineral and nettle tones. Fresh, fruity and vibrant with good weight and length. A very versatile and popular wine that complements seafood superbly, many other differing food styles or is lovely as an aperitif.

Butterfly Bay Report

Dr Peter Maddison, entomologist, was engaged by the MBNZT to report on the butterflies at Butterfly Bay. To be specific, at the time we wanted to know why it was that the Monarch butterflies overwintered there – we hoped to learn ways and means to help others create or improve overwintering sites.

Peter did a thorough job of evaluating the whole ecology of the bay – the document he produces should be useful for anyone who wants to improve the flora and fauna and biodiversity in coastal areas. When available it will be on our website.

‘Go Organic’

Jeremy Cherfas is an English botanist who lives in Rome. He has his own website; I loved this piece he wrote (although some of the wildlife he refers to is not found here in NZ).

“Most people view the garden as a canvas on which plants paint a living picture. But for some us, even the most beautiful Buddleia in full bloom is almost moribund until it attracts a cloud of butterflies. Now alighting to sip from the flowers, now hovering above the bush, they breathe life into the Buddleia – not for nothing known as the Butterfly Bush – and into the garden as a whole. Wildlife brings colour and movement and never-ending watchability into the smallest plot, and it isn’t difficult to adapt to its needs.

Just put yourself in the wildlife’s place: what would you like? For a quick visit, food and drink are the obvious lures. It was Dame Miriam Rothschild, doyenne of butterfly gardeners and a formidable scientist, who first developed the idea of butterfly ‘pubs’. In her garden, she has combined nectar-rich flowers to refresh the butterflies with horticultural rarities, and has placed blooms the butterflies adore among the roses they ignore. To a flower-lover, her garden is just a beautiful place. To a butterfly, it is a succession of refuelling stops on an endless flight.

To achieve the same effect, you need to find out about the preferred plants. Buddleia is an obvious choice, but there are many others. Hawthorn blossom provides an early feed, while Michaelmas daisies and the ice plant (*Sedum spectabile*) extend the season into late summer. Candytuft (*iberis*), goldenrod (*solidago*), lavender and lilac are all good sources of nectar, as are lady’s smock (*Cardamine pratensis*) and old-fashioned pinks. Smaller plants, too, can be valuable – thyme and sweet violets.

Plant any of these in your garden and you are sure to attract a few butterflies, but beware: many modern plant varieties have been bred to please people rather than wildlife. They lack nectar, or are so big and blowsy that insects can’t get to what nectar there is.

Choose older varieties, less ‘improved’ by the breeders’ art, and the butterflies will

Butterfly Bay Update

What started all this?

In March of last year a group planned to purchase Butterfly Bay, which was the overwintering site of our Monarch butterflies, near Kaeo in the Far North. Having seen the results of ‘development’ here near Russell, we formed the MBNZT to ensure that the butterflies did not lose their habitat at this beautiful little bay, which could only be accessed by foot along the beach at low tide.

Butterfly Bay has to be seen to be believed. Walking around the rocks the last part of the route takes you under a natural stone bridge. The bay has streams at either end, but it was the southernmost stream where I saw countless numbers of butterflies in 1984...

The Monarchs were there in their hundreds, drifting around above the pohutukawa trees, like autumn leaves scattered by a gust of wind. They’d land on a branch which would take on the gleam of the brightest copper. They seemed to be attracted by the warmth and shelter the valley provided, with the manuka, pohutukawa and wild orange and red lantana.

So the purpose of the MBNZT initially was to raise enough funds to employ an entomologist to study the butterflies at the bay. However, what we found was that the butterflies don’t appear to use this overwintering site in any great way. We realised there needed to be more information about Monarchs and our other NZ butterflies made available for schools and gardeners – hence this added direction.

Meanwhile, the Butterfly Bay application had been progressing very slowly – and with much opposition – through the Resource Consent application process. Just this week a letter came from the FNDC stating that the applicant has not provided the information requested pursuant to Section 92 of the RMA and has not withdrawn the applications, despite being requested to do so.

“As Council has a duty under Section 21 of the RMA to avoid unreasonable delay and as the application is incomplete, neither (the Far North District and Northland Regional) Council is in a position to be able to process the application any further.”

Accordingly the applications have been returned to the applicant.

Cerulean Properties, the developer, is an American corporation, owned by Christen Bartelt (30%) and Scott Hart (30%), with the other 40% being made up of nine other shareholders. From discussions that our entomologist (Peter Maddison) and Jacqui had had with her, she was most receptive to the proposal to restore the butterflies’ habitat and encouraging other NZ butterflies to the site.

However, over recent months Christen has been seriously ill and has had to put the proposal on hold.

Richmond Plains Nelson Chardonnay

The Nelson region has a strong reputation for this classic variety, producing many top award-winning wines. The Richmond Plains Chardonnay is an elegant wine made without oak to showcase the fresh fruity flavours. It can be enjoyed on its own or with various dishes – particularly good with seafood and white meat dishes.

The wine has attractive white peach, nectarine and citrus aromas. Citrus blossom and stonefruit aromas follow through onto a smooth, rich palate with a subtle mineral background.

Richmond Plains Nelson Rosé

Richmond Plains Rosé is a fruity and elegant wine made from 100% Pinot Noir grapes. Nicely chilled, this wine is perfect as an aperitif or summertime drinking.

The nose is fragrant with red cherry, raspberry and strawberry aromas. The wine has delicious cranberry, raspberry and redcurrant flavours. This wine has a refreshing, dry mineral finish which makes it an excellent accompaniment to a wide variety of lighter flavoured food dishes.

Richmond Plains Nelson Pinot Noir

Richmond Plains Pinot Noir is made in an elegantly appealing style so that it can be enjoyed when young but will also benefit from a little cellaring allowing it to develop more complex characters.

Cherry, plum and raspberry aromas offer hints of savoury, chary oak. The palate has cherry and raspberry flavours with some earthy forest floor and spicy notes. It is a medium-bodied, fruity Pinot Noir that is soft and easy drinking but with good weight and length. It is ready to be enjoyed with a salmon, lamb or poultry roast.

Richmond Plains Nelson Pinot Noir Reserve

The Reserve Pinot Noir is Richmond Plains’ premier red wine produced in seasons where fruit quality meets their high standard for this wine. The Reserve wine is made in a richer and more complex style than the standard Pinot Noir.

Pinot Noir is one of the most difficult and expensive wines to make well, but is one of the most rewarding, displaying a wide range of flavours and aromas

It has fragrant pinot with red cherry, raspberry and violet aromas with spicy notes. Delicious raspberry, blackberry and plum flavours are backed by fine fruit tannins and spicy oak with a fine long finish. It is a well-structured elegant Pinot Noir that will continue to develop with cellaring.

Note: All Richmond Plains grapes are grown on their own property; both the growing of the grapes and winemaking are certified organic by Bio-Gro NZ.

Please use the Order Form that comes with this newsletter – or email wine@monarch.org.nz for an order form. \$2 from the sale of each bottle is to be donated to the Monarch Butterfly NZ Trust.



FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
POSTAL ADDRESS	
DELIVERY (STREET) ADDRESS	
PHONE	
FAX	
EMAIL	

RICHMOND PLAINS		
Selection	Qty	Value
06 Rosé		\$16.90
06 Sauvignon Blanc		\$17.90
06 Blanc de Noir (sold out)		\$19.90
05 Chardonnay		\$18.90
04 Pinot Noir		\$19.90
03 Res Pinot Noir		\$24.90

PLEASE FIND CHEQUE ENCLOSED FOR \$

OR PLEASE CHARGE MY

<input type="checkbox"/> VISA	<input type="checkbox"/> MASTERCARD

EXPIRY DATE

	AMT	\$
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I authorise the Grape Escape to debit my credit card on despatch of the wine. I certify that I am 18 years of age or older.

Signature:

FREIGHT	
Freight if less than a case	\$8.00
TOTAL COST	

Orders / Enquiries
 Ph/Fax: 03 544 4054
 Email: grapeescape@tasman.net



A \$2 donation from each bottle sold will go to the Monarch Butterfly NZ Trust, www.monarch.org.nz

Cellar Door @ Grape Escape - McShane Road, RD1 Richmond, Nelson, New Zealand
 Richmond Plains - www.richmondplains.co.nz

GUARANTEE

If you are not completely satisfied with your wine we will arrange for a full refund or replacement.