

**November 2011**

**Volume 10,**

**Issue 3**

*Our Mission is to preserve and enhance Milner Gardens & Woodland, to educate and inspire. All gifts to Milner Gardens & Woodland help us to achieve this mission.*

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**Staff at Milner Gardens**

- Geoff Ball**  
Executive Director
- Charlene Forrest**  
Shoots with Roots
- Kim Hammond**  
Nursery Grower /  
Groundskeeper
- Carol Hansen**  
Tea Room Coordinator
- Michele Lacey**  
Secretary
- Matthew Palmer**  
Groundsperson /  
Labourer
- Helen Reimer**  
Visitor Services  
Coordinator



**Milner Musings**

Veronica Milner at the Milner House, July 1990

**Executive Director's Message**

Greetings Milner Members and Volunteers

So, here we sit at the end of our tenth season. Looking back over the years it is remarkable at what has been accomplished in such a short period of time. When Vancouver Island University (VIU, then Malaspina University-College) first acquired the old estate, it was in fairly rough shape; the beauty of it and all of the thoughtful work that had gone into building it was obvious, but equally obvious was the amount of work that would be required to bring it back to its glory.

Before the site was opened to the public, a tremendous project of taking an old estate garden and converting it for public use was undertaken. Roads were built, irrigation systems installed, maps created, fences replaced, interpretive systems installed, trails both re-discovered and new ones laid out, a society formed, and volunteers recruited...an entire organization started.

In the ten years since the gates swung open the work has not slowed. Even though the gardens were brought to a point of being able to accept public visits by 2001, there was much still to be done. Here is a list of projects that have been completed and programs initiated since that first opening:

Introduction of special events:

- Jazz, Classics and Music in the Garden events
- Rhododendron Days
- Spring and Fall Plant Sales
- Art & Photography in the Garden
- Milner Christmas Magic
- Numerous other small events

Construction of the Welcome & Interpretive Centre  
 Installation of the West Nature Trail  
 Renovation of the entrance gates from the East Trail to the back meadows  
 Renovation of the Food Garden to house the new Children's Education Program, *Shoots with Roots*  
 Initiation and expansion of the *Shoots with Roots* program  
 Construction of the Ursus Den, the outdoor classroom for the *Shoots with Roots* program  
 Connection of sewer and potable water for the Milner House, Cottage and Welcome & Interpretive Centre  
 Renovation of interior of the Gardener's Cottage  
 Replacement of the roof of the Milner House and Gardener's Cottage  
 Opening main house to public  
 Construction of administrative offices in the attic to remove them from the public portion of the house  
 Renovation of most of the public space in the Milner house  
 Launch of the Camellia Tearoom  
 Design and installation of Rhododendron interpretive panels  
 Design and installation of panoramic view of Georgia Strait and islands across the Strait  
 Installation of viewing scope at main lawn  
 Initiation of landscape and erosion protection designs at the shoreline  
 Expansion of season openings through summer, from four-day weekends to daily, as well as extended shoulder season

There are many other small projects and upgrades that have happened over the years, but the list above gives you a good sense of the energy and support that has gone into Milner Gardens & Woodland (MGW) over the years. All of the work I have mentioned, indeed the entire operation, has only been possible with the incredible work of our amazing volunteers, generous support of donors and sponsors, the advice and input of the Milner Gardens and Woodland Society, involvement by the VIU Horticulture Technician Program, support of the greater VIU, and dedication of my fantastic co-workers. It is the combined team that has brought the ideas, energy, resources and hard work to make Milner Gardens & Woodland what it is today.

A garden is an ever-evolving place and so it is at Milner Gardens & Woodland. The energy and support continue; we are close to finishing up the library renovation and the accompanying work on the patio outside; also, we are getting plans in place to refresh the Camellia Tearoom, and new ideas for events, projects and programs continue to spring forth. These new initiatives, added to the ongoing discussions within VIU on how MGW can play a larger academic and research role within the institution, all point to an exciting future for the site and community.

For now though, at the end of the tenth year, it is time to stop and recognize all of the work and support that has gone into getting us this far. There are a great many people to thank, too many to be able to list them all individually. To everyone, current and past volunteers, donors and supporters, past and present Milner Gardens and Woodland Society Board members, VIU Horticulture Technician students and faculty, VIU employees and Milner staff, I thank you for all that you have done to make Milner Gardens & Woodland such a special place for thousands of people each year. It is an honour to be part of such an incredible group of people and such an amazing place.

**Geoff Ball**  
**Executive Director**

### Message from the Chair of the Milner Gardens and Woodland Society Board

This has been a wonderful summer celebrating our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a public garden. Although not the best year from a weather perspective, there have been many days when it has been easy to see why Milner Gardens & Woodland was named one of the top ten public gardens in Canada.

We owe so much to the small group of people who came together as the Advisory Committee in 1999 including:

Jane Gregory	Ross Fraser	Fran Jones	Corrie deKluyver
Dick Beamish	Jon Lampman	Linda Berry	Rich Johnston
Jim Cadwaladr			

They had the foresight and determination to make this garden a public reality. It took tremendous effort in those early stages to make this happen and we are grateful they stuck to it.

So many people have had a hand in making Milner Gardens & Woodland the meaningful place it is today. They brought, and continue to bring, their talents and enthusiasm to the dozens of jobs it takes to keep Milner thriving, whether it is serving tea, raising donations, pulling weeds, stringing Christmas lights or helping our little *Shoots* with their first Milner experiences. As members and volunteers most of you have a pretty good sense of what is involved in making the Gardens work. We all know this 70 acres and our heritage house take a lot of tending.

The contributions of our members and volunteers cannot be overstated, whether it is writing a cheque or washing tea cups. As well, our Society Board members have played an important role over the past 10 years, moving us from a small, closed organization of about 20 people to where we are today with 2,000 members.

Vancouver Island University (VIU), under the able direction first of Rich Johnston and now Ralph Nilson, make it possible for Milner Gardens & Woodland to be the important asset it is in our community, today and for future generations. Without their support in so many ways, the front gates would not have opened nor remain open today.

VIU is also responsible for the staff who really make the difference at Milner Gardens & Woodland. With the wise guidance of Jim Cadwaladr and now Geoff Ball, this small but powerful group of people have brought Milner Gardens & Woodland to what it is today. They keep the 250 volunteers motivated and our 2000 members renewing their memberships each year.

So to all of you, past and present, our heartfelt thanks and we hope you enjoy the next 10 years at Milner Gardens & Woodland.

**Lee Teal**  
**Chair, Milner Gardens and Woodland Society**

**2012 Sunday openings - February 5th to March 25th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Enjoy the early spring bulbs and relax with tea in the Camellia Tearoom. Admission is by donation; members free.**

**2012 Regular season opens on March 29th, Thursday through Sunday and holiday Mondays, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with last entry at 4:30 p.m.**

**Thank you to all of our generous donors from last year (2010/11 fiscal year).**

**Milner Partners**

Windsor Plywood  
Randle & Fran Jones  
Roy & Janet Taylor



**Garden Benefactors**

Christopher Foundation  
Coastal Community Credit Union  
Quality Foods



**Rhododendron Circle**

Bill & Jean Cave  
Craig & Joyce Clarke  
Louise Dwyer  
Janet Farooq  
Lou & Marj Gueho  
Lynda Lindsay  
Maureen Marshall  
Qualicum Beach Seedy Saturday  
Harvey & Lee Teal



**Douglas-fir Circle**

Geoff Ball & Candice Coghill  
Corrie & Shauna deKluyver  
Allen & Mary Gillespie  
Ian Lindsay & Associates  
Robert & Dorothee Kieser  
Alice Marquardt  
David & Joyce Mitchell  
Martha Pow  
Joyce Ronyecz  
Vivien Sears  
Murray & Marilyn Sinclair



**Magnolia Circle**

Dave & Edie Alexander  
Helen Cole  
Pat Eagar  
John & Arlene England  
Gerry & Carolyn Gailey  
Tela Gayowsky  
Gordon Hudson  
Cindy Koutecky  
Patricia McLeod  
Jim & Birgitta Mick  
Mount Arrowsmith Rhododendron Society  
Parksville Qualicum Retired Teachers Association  
Phil & Helen Robertson  
Ian Seal  
Joan Williams



**Primrose Circle**

D. Brenda Cooper  
Jacqueline Cronin  
Ross Fraser  
Sara Frisch  
Dale & Myrna Graham  
Don & Jo Graham  
Jerry & Barb Hardy  
Eva Hilborn  
Michael & Joan Jiggins  
Tony Koers & Shirley Jones-Koers  
Hans & Juliana Kratz  
Ingeborg Lloyd  
Ken & Barbara Lyall  
Lynn Maynard  
Viola McKee  
The Moore Family  
Gale Mossman  
Nina Neufeld  
Beverley Potter  
Qualicum Beach Garden Club  
Joan Rich  
Beryl Speller  
John & Jill Stedman  
Bob & Iris Steele  
Bill & Marilou Thornbury



### Other Donations

Grant Auchincloss  
Lorne & Anne Ball  
John & Frances Dawson  
Jerry & Barb Hardy  
Margaret Harrison  
Anne & Joe Kraskin  
Chris & Susan Lee  
Ruth MacKenzie  
Barbara McNutt Eagles  
Larry & Nancy Newland  
Sharon Terry  
Lynn Tomlinson  
Harry & Betty Tudor  
Caroline Vining



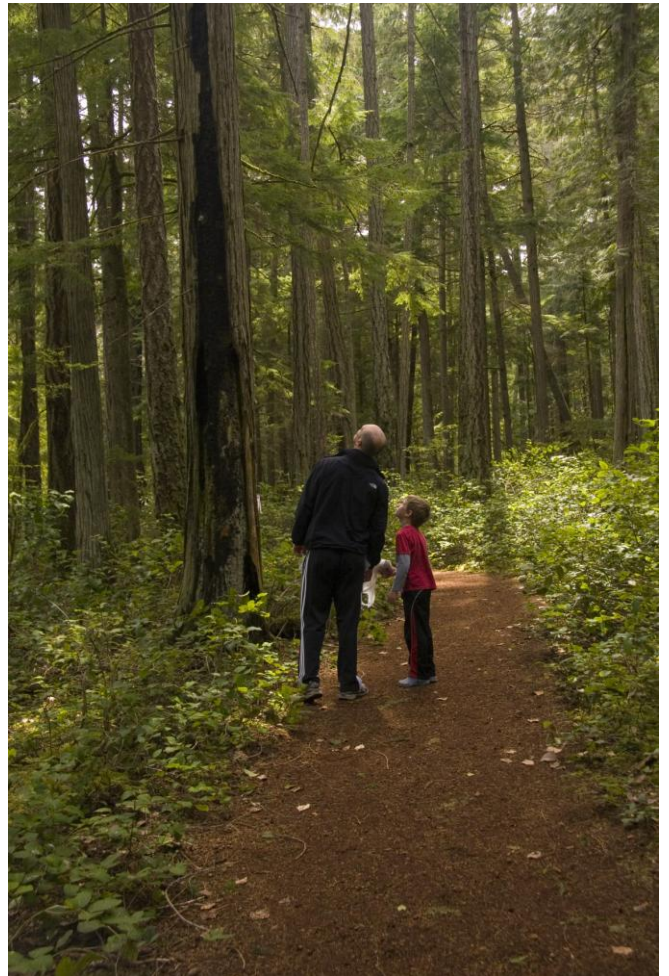
### Gifts in Kind

Larry Aguilar  
Elissa Anthony  
Geoff Ball  
Margaret Bonneau  
Peggy Burkosky  
Noel & Marion Burnham  
Chris Carter  
Eunmi Conacher  
Alan Cornall  
Dan Gray  
Kristen Jeffrey Hitchcox  
Anton Kruyt  
April Lafferty  
Ingeborg Lloyd  
Barbara Lorimer  
Jason Marlow  
Sherry Mitchell  
John Mortenson  
Pauline Pike  
David Rowe  
Marlies Schottke  
Ben Strating  
Lee & Harvey Teal  
Elena Travanut  
Ina Von Wistinghausen  
John Whitelaw



### Library Project

Corrie & Shauna deKluyver  
Pat Eagar & Barry Gladesdahl  
John & Arlene England  
Janet & Ghazi Farooq  
Lou & Marj Gueho  
Cindy & Kelvin Koutecky  
Alice Marquardt  
David & Joyce Mitchell  
Lee & Harvey Teal



**Thank you also to our many anonymous donors.**

**MILNER GARDENS & WOODLAND COULD NOT EXIST WITHOUT THE EFFORTS AND SUPPORT OF OUR INCREDIBLE VOLUNTEERS.**

**WE ARE GRATEFUL TO ALL WHO HAVE VOLUNTEERED OVER THE YEARS.**

**WE WOULD LIKE TO ESPECIALLY THANK THOSE WHO HAVE SUPPORTED US FOR**

**FIVE OR MORE YEARS...**

Edie Alexander  
Margaret Barnes  
Margaret Brightland  
Marion Burnham  
Heather Crosson  
Richard Crowley  
Janet Farooq  
Julia Garland  
Birthe Jensen  
Joan Kool  
Judy Matwyko  
Ginette McDonald  
Mike Miller  
Judy Pascall  
Marg Parker  
Martha Pow  
Leila Redford  
Joyce Ronyecz  
June Schram  
Jean Smith  
Christina Taylor  
Marilou Thornbury

Anne Ball  
Mae Bell  
Gwen Burgess  
Eunice Cleaver  
Charlotte Crowley  
Brian Cullingworth  
Bernice Fawthorpe  
Eva Hilborn  
Heather Kohut  
Jennifer Lecky  
Donna McCririck  
Pat McLeod  
Joanne Moger  
Sophie Palmer  
Liz Petersen  
Ollie Quail  
Maureen Robertson  
Susan Rowe  
Marilyn Sinclair  
Ruth Statham  
Harvey Teal  
Mike Wansink

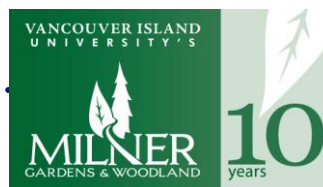
Lorne Ball  
Sheila Bright  
Noel Burnham  
John Coady  
Pat Crowley  
Ed Erickson  
Donna Furneaux  
Kay Howard  
Jarvis Kohut  
Alice Marquardt  
Crista McDonald  
Birgitta Mick  
Jeannine Oakes  
Brian Parker  
Vic Petersen  
Duane Quily  
Phil Robertson  
Liz Ryan  
Murray Sinclair  
Anita Steineckert  
Lee Teal  
Yvonne Wardas

**TEN OR MORE YEARS...**

Dee Brock  
Linda Cooper  
Audrey Derrick  
Pat Dickason  
Arlene England  
Roberta Fraser  
Jan Graham  
Arlene Johnston  
Phil Kennedy  
Inge Lloyd  
Joyce Mitchell  
Iris Page  
Carole Slaney  
Roy Taylor  
Nancy Whelan

Gillian Coady  
Corrie deKluyver  
Ron Derrick  
Joan Doyle  
John England  
Carolyn Gailey  
Lou Gueho  
Fran Jones  
Sharon Kevis  
Sherida Magas  
Doreen Moore  
Pauline Phillips  
Beryl Speller  
Carla Termes

Brenda Cooper  
Shauna deKluyver  
Joanne Diack  
Mike Dunn  
Alan Fraser  
Gerry Gailey  
Sally Hemingson  
Randle Jones  
Dorothee Kieser  
David Mitchell  
Jean Ogle  
Linda Rehlinger  
Janet Taylor  
Lynn Tomlinson



# Help make Milner Gardens & Woodland blossom!

Each year, the Milner Gardens and Woodland Society helps to raise funds to support preservation and enhancement as well as education and community programming at Milner Gardens & Woodland.

Please donate today to help support Milner Gardens & Woodland

\*\*\*\*\*

Donor name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_ Province/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of donation: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate below how you would like your name or names to be listed in the annual list of donors

My donation is \$ \_\_\_\_\_  cash or  cheque [payable to **Milner Gardens and Woodland Society**] or  credit card  Amex  Mcard  Visa; No. \_\_\_\_\_: Expiry date/month \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
 Name on card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Official tax receipts will be issued by Milner Gardens and Woodland Society under Canadian Federal Charitable # 88675 3615 RR0001 for all donations \$10 or greater.

Please circle the following to receive more information:

- Annual membership categories
- The Book of Honours
- Donating a stock security
- Planned giving opportunities
- Making a bequest to the MG&W Society
- Installment donation by credit card

2179 West Island Highway, Qualicum Beach, B.C. V9K 1G1  
 Office: (250) 752-8573 Fax: (250) 752-3826 Email: milnergardens@shaw.ca www.milnergardens.org

<b>OFFICE RECORD</b>  <b>ONLY</b>	Date received: _____; Admission passes sent: _____  Other information requests sent: _____
-----------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------



December 2<sup>nd</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup>,  
 9<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup>,  
 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. nightly  
 Admission by donation, members free.  
 A family-oriented festival of lights and  
 music in the Garden. Gift Shops and  
 Tearoom open, children's storytellers  
 and live music in the Milner house,  
 Teddy Bear Cottage and Silent Auction  
 in the Gardener's Cottage, and Santa  
 and Mrs. Claus in the children's Ursus  
 Den. Shuttle cart available for those  
 with mobility issues.

We recommend you bring a flashlight.

*BRING THE FAMILY TO ENJOY*

## *MILNER CHRISTMAS*

### *MAGIC*



*If you would like to  
 volunteer with the  
 event, please contact  
 250-752-8573,  
 extension 226*

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

If you purchased or renewed your membership last fall, please take a moment to renew your membership now

### CATEGORIES

<b>Individual</b>	<b>\$25 + HST= \$28</b>	<b>Member benefits for one</b>
<b>Household</b>	<b>\$40.18 + HST = \$45</b>	<b>Member benefits for adults and children living at the same address</b>

### BENEFITS

- ◆ Free admission to the Gardens during regular garden hours (excluding ticketed special events)
- ◆ Priority registration for education courses
- ◆ 'Milner Musings' Newsletter
- ◆ Gift Shop and Nursery – 10% discount off regularly-priced merchandise and plants
- ◆ Discounted Guest Passes - \$7.59 + HST = \$8.50
- ◆ Membership in the Milner Gardens and Woodland Society

<b>ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION</b>	<b>Individual \$</b> _____	<b>Household \$</b> _____
Ms. Miss Mrs. Mr. Dr. Full Name (1) _____		
Ms. Miss Mrs. Mr. Dr. Full Name (2) _____		
Address _____		City _____
Province _____	Postal Code _____	Email _____
Phone (Home) _____		Phone (work) _____

**Amex/Visa/Master Card:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Credit card expiry date:** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**Cheque:** Payable to Milner Gardens & Woodland **Cards issued** \_\_\_\_\_ **Membership expiry date** \_\_\_\_\_