

Pembroke Plants and Poultry

News September 1 2007

Online for first day of spring

Well, it's the first day of spring, and what better time to launch our new website.

We've just had a glorious 200ml of rain and now the sun is shining again. The nursery is bursting with new life, the bees are a-hummin' and the chooks are laying their eggs.

The magnolias have been magnificent this year (see photo) (although a bit late due to the drought) and the wisteria is already budding up. The only problem is all the weeds!



The lovely flower of *Magnolia heaven scent* and *Magnolia brozzonii* in full flower. We have about 15 varieties in the ground at the nursery.

We've been contemplating doing this website for several years, but we're both a bit computerphobic – Morna because she dislikes being chained to a desk, and me because I've spent too many years sitting at one.

However, the gradual realization the world is changing fast, and our connection to broadband, finally made us take the plunge. It's actually been a lot of fun - especially working with the collection of photos we've built up over the years. It's also forced us to organize our catalogues and do some valuable long-term planning.

This is probably a good time to introduce ourselves and our nursery. Morna is the horticulturalist in the family. She had a great passion for her plants and poultry, and an encyclopedic knowledge to go with it. She looks after all our propagation and sales and is generally happiest when she has her hands in the soil.

I look after the business side of things. Having grown up on the land I also know how to fix our pumps and that sort of thing. The rest of the time I'm a journalist and run a small publishing business. We've now been here for 15 years, raised two kids and survived the drought (only just).

We have a lot of help from our two loyal part-time employees, Colin Coombs and Sonya Bosch. We'd be lost without them (I'll try and post a photo of them in the next newsletter). Also, our special thanks to Lyndal Coote from Scooter Marketing. Lyndal has led us through this web design process and made it seem easy.

We'll be updating this newsletter every fortnight, offering a little bit of everything from garden advice to our adventures with wildlife. We hope you enjoy it.

Peter