

The Magic of Chelsea

2025

*A Flower Show
Like No Other*

Christine Thompson-Wells



How2
Books



Chelsea brings people together...



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The Magic of Moments – Peony Roses...

Moments quickly fade and go, for if not captured, the valuable time spent will only be wasted, and there will be a time to lament –

not for a moment must time be forgotten...

Life is for living, and even when times are rough and sadness creeps in, there are times for regrets and times for cheer, but each is filled with moments, and one must adhere...

The moments of the Chelsea Flower Show each year become memories, and from those memories we learn and grow...

Only for the next time, our thoughts wander, as many moments will linger as memories considered:

what a splendid time we had at Chelsea 2025...

With flowers as crystals gleaming on such a splendid day, the moments are cherished, and no one can deny that the exhibits of all were exceeded by none.

It is the moment we capture from the flowers we see, more than can be imagined from the seeds they sew, and the magnificence seen is beyond anything we know...!

From time to time, a moment is missed, and yet, we linger and still want to know, how did this magnificent creation in its glory and the beauty to show...?

The moment of seeing the peony rose this year was beyond anything we've seen.

Is it a perfumery or a jewel of nature created?

It is there, fragrant and perfumed, so the bumble bees gather too many to count...

They feverishly hover, so much pollen to gather, and yet so many people are there, all wanting to see...

The bumble bees buzz from bloom to bloom, the people look on at such magnificence seen, is this for real, or is it a dream...?

The magic of Chelsea has more to unfold from year to year, a different dream will reveal...

The moments make the memories we have, so count each one, for it might be just that - it connects you to your moonbeam, and then to your dream...

Welcome to The Magic of Chelsea 2025...

On our arrival at Heathrow Airport, we collect our pre-ordered rental car. It's always a challenge to know which type of vehicle we'll be travelling around the South of England in each year. Usually, it's a pleasant surprise, and this year our rental company did itself proud in issuing us with a new car that was royal blue, so the visit started well.

Leaving our daughter's home early, just as the sun was rising, was magnificent. Though the land was dry, the newly iridescent greens of the tree leaves were on show. The blue sky, birds chirping in the early morning air, made the day set to be magnificent, and it was set to be a superb day.

On the drive into London, my husband and I chatted; we spoke about everything and nothing all at the same time. Arriving at the parking lot and parking the car, we walked a short distance to the show entrance gates, which were just one of the pleasures of the day.

The atmosphere, as usual, was electric. People didn't have time to be miserable; it was Show Day and a day to be enjoyed by thousands of people, some travelling, like ourselves, from faraway places.

The weather was superb, with the freshness and perfume of the flowers lingering in every breath taken. The flowers on display had gems of dew



and a sharpness of colour, crystals of purity within the petals, and a magnificence to behold.

The foliage of the plants was so tender yet firm; they, too, had their mastery in the displays they created.

The Chelsea Flower Show 2025 was superb. From flowers and plants, to sculpture and individual displays of produce from farms and villages, some from Europe, were all there in the glorious early morning sunshine of the spring day of 2025.

Christine

Christine Thompson-Wells
Author of Many Books

A Wonderful 2025... Chelsea Flower Show



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Chelsea, 2025 – Roses

As we wander into the Great Pavilion each year, the perfume of the roses wafts through the air, introducing themselves.

The scent is like a signpost heralding, *'We are here, don't miss us, we have a great display this year.'*



splendid display, as evident in these photographs. Floribunda and single, beautiful specimens all have their story to tell.

The rose is believed to have originated in Asia Minor, which is today's modern Turkey. First



identified in approximately 250 BCE, roses have spread across the world, with many single varieties now cultivated in parts of Africa for the international flower market.





From the singular beauty of unfurling petals to the mass explosion cascading colours of different shapes and sizes, all could be seen at this year's show.

Roses have many uses beyond their beauty. They are used in medicinal products, perfumes, and for festive and celebratory cake decorations.



Of course, we cannot deny our emotional attachment to roses. We use this flower to let another person know that we care and that we are thinking of them. There is also the unspoken word of love when given to another person.



And so it is; this flower, loved by many generations, still holds its status as it displays its beauty in this year's show.

The yellow floribunda seen below was exceptional, not only in its shape and the formation of its petals and colour, but it has an exquisite perfume that might be a sprinkle of pleasure given from a passing angel!



While we wander the show, gasp, and take so many photographs for this book, it's easy to forget that the pictures must be continually taken; otherwise, we will run out of time. This perfect pink rose bud opposite stopped me in my tracks. It was a piece of nature's sculpture, and it was a pleasure to see.

Roses can catch us by surprise; we may be out on a casual walk, alone on a winter's day, and a single rose blooms in a garden – you stop, look, and marvel at this incredible pleasure that is just yours for the moment, and a moment shared...



Vegetable Surprises

A show stopper for sure. This remarkable stand stood alone in '*difference*.'



Then to purples, including the cauliflowers, purple zucchini, and various tonal greens.



With so many ultra-processed and processed foods, as well as artificial colours, being added to soft drinks, all of which are available on supermarket shelves, we need more innovative displays like this. Displays that show the public the goodness, variety, and colour of freshly grown vegetables and fruit.

Below, the richness of colour and the many reds from the stems of the rhubarb to the bunch of red tomatoes, from red to orange of the nasturtiums of abundance and in their orange tones to the left of the photograph.



From the heart of the purple cabbage, on the previous page, the fusion of different greens straddled through the display and composition. The complete display was circular, which made it easy for Chelsea spectators to walk around, ponder, and enjoy the display.



will develop a different appreciation for the 'real' value and quality of the food available to them.



The fascination of colour, texture, and shape is all brought about by the careful placement of each element, considering all design fundamental concepts used in creative work.

The smoky hue of different greens also had a role in the display and elements of this design.

When children are made aware that colour is also a part of the food they eat, they



Mixed Iris Blooms

Goodness, these iris blooms must be a gift from the heavenly spheres sent to us mortals to enjoy and take a moment to linger and absorb the pleasure of such beauty.



cascading from their leaves and the displays on show.

It is not surprising that the kings of France have used the fleur-de-lis as an emblem identifying the three petals as faith, wisdom and valour.

Indeed, the fleur-de-lis is still seen in many royal decorations today, so the shape is not outdated or old-fashioned.

The mastery of combining two intense colours, purple and gold, and the infusion of white on the outer petals, showcases the mastery of nature and its persistence in giving us the 'WOW' factor in the beauty this flower displays.

This year's display of irises was beyond the words written in this book.

Their magnificence was anything beyond anything I have seen from the iris producers, but here they are, on the pages before you, a magical gift for us all to see.

The blending of rich, red, velvety colours and textures, regent golds, all



The weather was lovely without a cloud in the sky, so different to last year, it was a truly magical day...



A Fantastic 2025 Chelsea

Inspiration from an Empty Space...



Enterprising ventures keep a country's economy moving forward.

On our quick trip to Devon after our day out at Chelsea, it was a wonderful surprise to see the Catkin Blooms coffee shop, florist, nursery and gift shop open in Winkleigh, Devon. At our last visit in 2024, the space was an empty garage, but now it is a thriving community hub.

The café serves up delicious homemade cakes and food, and has excellent coffee.



It is family- and dog-friendly, offering a variety of meetings and workshops.



In the photograph below, with such a fabulous asset for the community, it isn't any wonder these delightful ladies stop from their gardening and have morning tea...!



The coffee shop, florist and gift store sit at the 'T' Junction of this delightful Devonshire village.



All the flowers on sale are grown locally and delivered to the shop on the day they are picked, resulting in a minimal carbon footprint with these blooms.



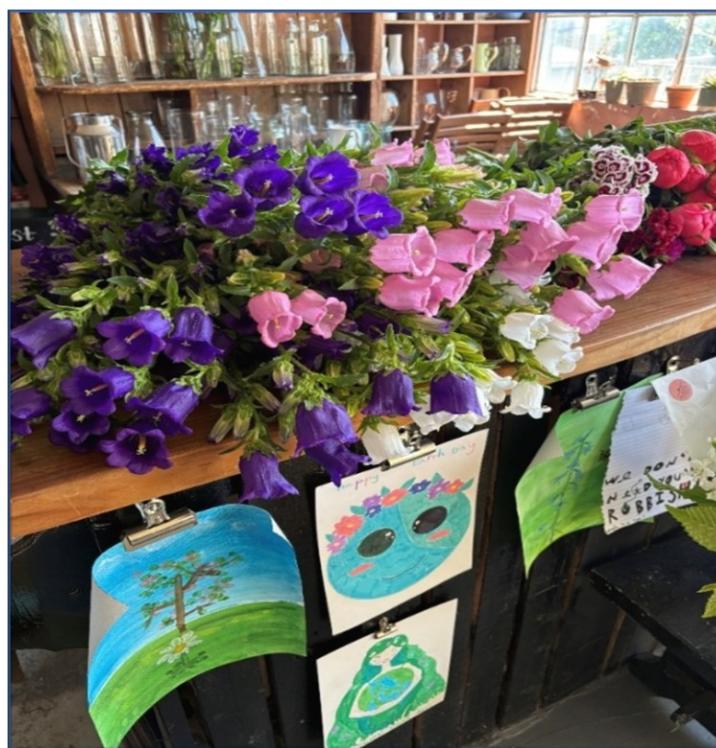
There is an excellent range of locally made gifts on display and at affordable prices.

If 'time out' is all that is needed, then you can sit quietly and enjoy a favourite cuppa!



With friendly people, delightful cakes and savouries, fantastic coffee, what else could a traveller ask for...?

Beautiful Devon, gorgeous countryside, and such precious moments on our journey.



Children's artwork was a feature of the front counter where our coffee was served.

All in all, a wonderful, friendly experience while on our way back to Heathrow for the flight back to Australia.

My words to you...

Life is what you make it...!

We can't control all of the aspects of our lives, but we can learn from our experiences.



I first trained as a florist in London during the 1960s, and it was an interesting fact that I identified: 'Why do people buy flowers?' This one question led me to nine years of study at the University of Canberra and the Canberra School of Art in Australia, where I sub-majored in 20th-century art history and sculpting. I have also graduated from the university with a degree in teaching, complemented by a major in psychology.

Psychology is essentially the study of how we each behave in various situations. All behaviour is prompted by our perception and understanding of the circumstances we encounter. Once perceived, the message is relayed through the body's electrical system, allowing it to be sent to the brain. The brain then releases different hormones, which enable our muscles to move, and we respond accordingly.

This book, *The Magic of Chelsea*, focuses on relaxation and enjoyment for the reader. It encourages savouring and loving every moment on each page. Turning the pages helps you to mellow and easily absorb the information, which naturally promotes relaxation. In turn, your brain and body respond positively. Your muscles relax, and the enjoyment of the photographs takes you on a visual journey. The brief descriptions support your understanding of each exhibit.

My foundation in becoming a florist comes from an extensive five-year training program. Although it was challenging at the time, it provided me with the deep knowledge necessary for my articles. Similarly, nine years of university education have helped me to develop my writing skills.

I am thankful to all the teachers I have had throughout my life. I have also learnt a lot from my learning experiences, both good and bad, and gained more from the challenging and humiliating ones than I possibly could have from continuous positive outcomes. From the difficult times in life, I have learnt resilience and determination, and every moment I have is a moment to use to create something beneficial and positive for those I love or to work on a book.

Christine



ONLINE COURSES FOR FAMILIES, TEENS, ADULTS,
COMMUNITY GROUPS, INCLUDING SCHOOLS, COMMERCIAL
AND GOVERNMENT

The Life Skills Education Association has been established because many young people and adults struggle to cope with the demands of living in a highly competitive and technologically advanced age.

Life skills education is often missing in mainstream education, which leaves many children, teens and adults vulnerable to being abused, used or misled. Life skills education provides the child, teen, or adult with the information that builds in the individual's memory to act accordingly when they find themselves in trouble.

Life skills enable a person to think forward and take proactive actions. In many instances, we may learn after the incident has taken place and have the common thought, 'I wouldn't do that again...' or 'I wish I had known that sooner...'! This is a reactive learning approach and is the standard way of learning after being hurt, either physically or emotionally.

We now have the opportunity, thanks to technology and online education, to support our younger people, including teens and adults, in building their life skills. Our online education can also help people who face numerous challenges, including managing stress, children and teens navigating puberty, and many other real-life situations.

Our books on the following pages will give you an idea of the number of topics covered, some of which have been converted into online packages.

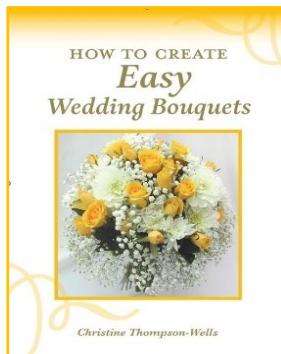
Please get in touch with us by email: admin@fullpotentialtraining.com.au for more information.

Other Books

Available Online & THROUGH LEADING BOOK OUTLETS

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The book, 'How To Create Easy Wedding Bouquets,' introduces you to many techniques in wedding bouquet construction, the different methods used to wire various flowers and leaves, how to tape ribbon onto the wedding bouquet handle, how to make a corsage, hand-tied bouquets, buttonhole, and other industry skills that will start you on a floristry career.

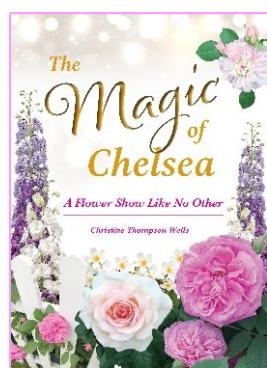


Our education company, Full Potential Education & Training, was established to help individuals develop skills in the floristry industry. The course is a CPD-accredited 20-week online program in commercial floristry and wedding bouquet making. It aims to support individuals who want to start their own business or pursue a trade career in floristry. To purchase this book, please visit www.how2books.com.au.

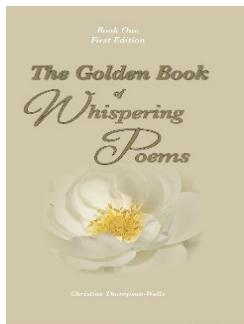


'How To Create Easy Flower Arrangements' introduces floral art and commercial floristry in flower arranging. The book is designed to help individuals who want to learn flower arranging and construction techniques, providing the foundational knowledge necessary for those who wish to pursue a career in the floristry industry.

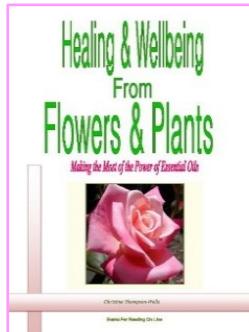
It will also help people who want to learn flower arranging for enjoyment and gifting, as well as creating arrangements for special occasions. To buy this book, please visit www.how2books.com.au.



The Magic of Chelsea, 2022, includes information about the Chelsea Flower Show. It features over 250 photographs and more than 125 pages of detailed content about the show, its exhibitors, flower stands, displays, and other helpful information, including some contact details for stand exhibitors. To buy this book, visit www.how2books.com.au.



Because we love the books we create and poetry is a significant part of our work, we couldn't resist including this collection of different poems. To buy this book, please visit www.how2books.com.au.

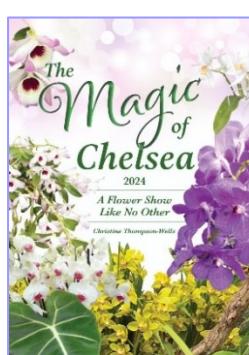


Without plants, we would not be able to survive. As all flower lovers know, many plants and trees are under threat! Plants not only help to keep our planet and wildlife healthy, but they also contribute to our human well-being.

This book outlines the benefits of using herbs in our everyday lives. It is colourful and gives a breakdown of herb uses. To purchase this book, please go to www.how2books.com.au.

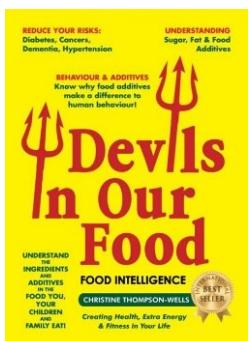


The Magic of Chelsea, 2023, features comprehensive information about the Chelsea Flower Show. It includes over 250 photographs and more than 125 pages of detailed content about the event, its exhibitors, flower stands, displays, and other helpful information, including some contact details for stand exhibits. To buy this book, visit www.how2books.com.au.



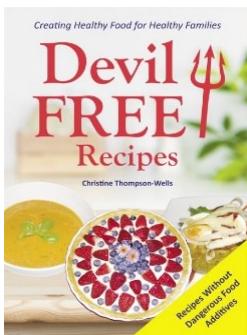
The Magic of Chelsea, 2024, features a wide range of photographs that take you on a journey through the entire magical show.

With so many different displays and amazing exhibits, it's not easy to cover everything we saw, and this remains true for each year we attend. Many talented and extraordinary individuals bring their products to the annual event, having worked hard throughout the year to showcase new and exciting items, including plants, sculptures, and more. To buy this book, visit www.how2books.com.au.

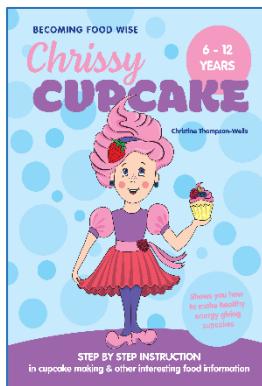


There are many concerns about the quality of food currently consumed by our global population. With the increasing number of health issues and illnesses scientifically linked to food additives, this book highlights the 'nasties' in the global food supply chain. Now endorsed by many doctors, this book will guide you on

discovering and understanding how contaminated foods affect your well-being and good health. To purchase this book, please visit www.how2books.com.au.



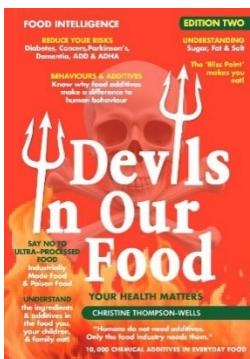
With so many questions about what to eat, we have researched and published Devil Free Recipes. These recipes take you on a journey into new ways of preparing quality, healthy food full of natural nutrition that sustains the body and brain's performance, boosts sustainable energy levels, and restores the natural taste of food to your taste buds. To buy this book, please visit www.how2books.com.au



When children are between 6 and 7 years old, or even earlier, they often start to show an interest in how their food is prepared and generally want to help in the kitchen.

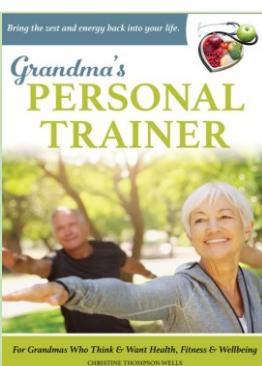
One of the areas often overlooked is the safety a child needs to know before they start making their tasty treat, their first cupcake. Chrissy Cupcake guides the child through the first steps, including identifying cooking and cake utensils, staying safe in the kitchen, and the correct way to work with knives and other utensils. To buy this book, please visit www.how2books.com.au

General Reading



Devils in Our Food, 2nd Edition, is a recent release that highlights the increasing number of food and drink additives entering the global food supply chain, with up to 15,000 additives now present.

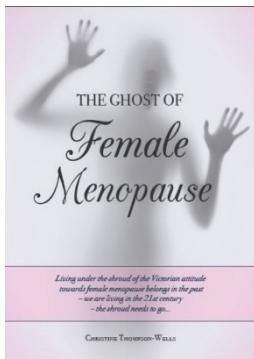
Everyday foods, such as bread and biscuits, are now being added without either consumer consent or the correct food information being entered into the food ingredient panel of the product. Many soft drinks, including fresh juices, can also be manufactured. To buy this book, please visit www.how2books.com.au



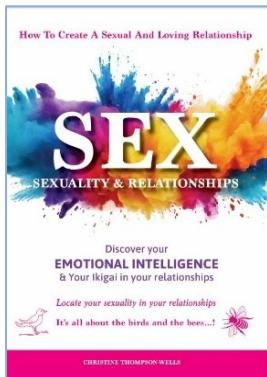
Age is a privilege that should be cherished. However, as the body ages, it needs to be worked to stay healthy, pliable and resilient. Regular, yet passive, exercise is a way to build muscle tone and stay fit.

Science now shows that exercise benefits not only the body but also the brain. Regular physical activity helps you think more clearly, be more assertive, and develop a

range of interests as you age. Exercises can be done in the quiet of your home, sitting on a chair or using the end of a bed for balance. To buy this book, please visit www.how2books.com.au.

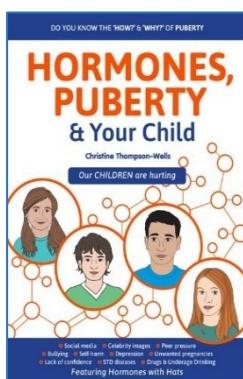


Menopause doesn't only start when a woman is in her fifties. Some younger women, in their twenties, may go into menopause. Menopause is a sign that the body is changing. In older women, it is a sign that the child-bearing years are over. Each woman's experience of menopause is different; therefore, every woman's story is different. There is no 'one-size-fits-all' solution for the naturally changing conditions. This book helps identify some of the changes and guides how to manage them. To buy this book, please visit www.how2books.com.au



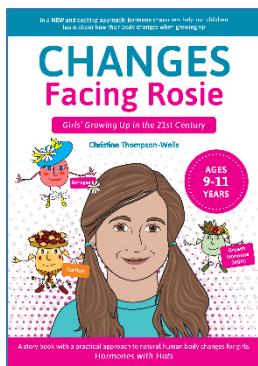
With respect and admiration for the human body's remarkable functions during various experiences. The book examines the changing chemistry of the biological and physiological processes during different experiences in human relationships.

Understanding how we each react during different and intimate moments in our lives helps us reach certain levels of understanding and acceptance that we are all different, and that each relationship works in its own way. Respect for oneself and others is the ultimate knowledge within all successful relationships. Having said that, many variables are interacting continuously in all relationships. To buy this book, please visit www.how2books.com.au.



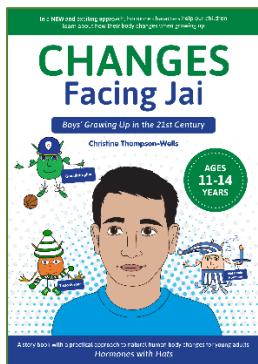
Many young people are sensitive to the physical changes that occur during puberty. New research has found that puberty may start as early as six years old; geographic locations may influence this, but awareness remains essential. Each young person is different and will follow their own body's timetable. To buy this book, please visit www.how2books.com.au.

Our series of 'Changes' books is designed for individual, group, or family participation. Each of the four 'Changes' books features an engaging six-chapter story at the start. These stories depict children from diverse parts



of the world, showcasing how they form friendships and encounter various experiences as they transition from childhood to adulthood. The second half of the book is a workbook that can be used as self-reading, working with the family or in one-to-one discussion.

In this series, there are separate books for boys and girls. Each is written with the knowledge of being age-appropriate, targeting readers aged 9 to 11 years and 11 to 14 years. To buy this book, please visit www.how2books.com.au.



From the ages of 11 to 14, the books maintain the same format, featuring an exciting six-chapter adventure at the start. The second part of the book allows the young person to read alone, work in a group, or collaborate with family members.

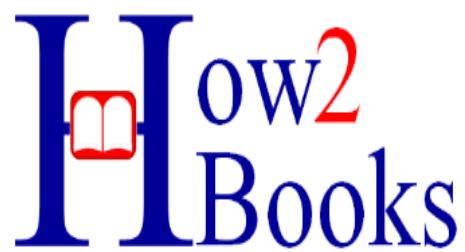
With books designed to build life skills, such as our puberty awareness books, working with sensitivity supports the child during their period of change.

Each of us experiences change, and some of these are key to growing and maturing into adulthood. Recognising that not only the body is changing but also the brain, the more knowledge shared, the safer the young person will be.

Note: Although the human brain develops around the age of 7, it does not fully mature until a young person is approximately 25 years old. By then, the neuron pathways are connected, and the individual gains a deeper understanding of their world, responsibilities, and commitments to reality. To buy any of these books, please visit www.how2books.com.au

Only a few of our books are mentioned here; there are more Life Skill books available on our website: <http://www.how2books.com.au>

This book is brought to you from the publishers of:



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BACK PAGE

Another year has passed, and we have had another trip to the Chelsea Flower Show. Unlike last year, the weather was a typical late spring day without a cloud in the sky, and now here we have the newest edition of the 'Magic of Chelsea' 2025.

Since we had booked our tickets early for this year, we managed to secure two passes for Day 2, which is reserved for members of the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS), of which we are members.



As with our previously published Magic of Chelsea books, this one is also published with those in mind who cannot visit the event but would love to, as well as those who did see the show and want to cherish their memories. We are now bringing this book to you.

The exhibits and flowers, and possibly due to the beautiful spring weather, were spectacular. The flowers were glistening in the lovely morning sun, and everything looked fresh and sparkling.

There is no doubt about it; with enthusiasm and excitement filling the air, we were out to have a good time, and that's precisely what we did.

The people attending enjoyed a day full of fun, and that's precisely what took place. Happy faces, laughter, and everyone having a great time – it was a very special moment shared, and we're fortunate to have been part of it.

Now that I am back in Australia, we have shared our experiences, which have enabled me to write this latest book.

From stunning floral displays, various flowers and plants in the Great Pavilion, to remarkable pieces of creative sculpture, all were showcased at this year's Chelsea Flower Show.

My enthusiasm never falters for the appreciation of the art displayed. From sculptures to the exotic plants and flowers, all of which bring home to me the skills, talent, and determination that so many people have to fulfil their dreams of creating and delivering their beautiful exhibits at the Chelsea Flower Show.

It is through reflection and working on this book that I celebrate the treasured moments spent and the gratitude now felt, while the nostalgia of that time becomes one of life's precious memories. I, too, know that by turning the pages and feasting our eyes on the photographs, this book will leave you with feelings of peace, enjoyment, and satisfaction that I experienced during its creation.

Christine

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