

Autumn 2007

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## It's official: "Team, PS" the Newsletter has arrived

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For those of you who don't know, Alyson and Grant James started Property Solutions five years ago after a long and illustrious career (they told me to say that) within the horticulture business.

With a combined knowledge base spanning almost 30 years—yes, the majority with Grant there is not much that they don't know about plants, irrigation, pergolas, decks and all those general landscaping needs. With an enthusiastic and reliable team behind them you can count on "Team, PS".



The Property Solutions team: a handsome bunch.

## Hot autumn weather continues.....

You've heard us all go on about it so now you can read it: **keep the water content up** in your plants and lawns during these dry periods. Water the tubs every day and check the efficiency of that irrigation system for the lawn. Drippers and 'dripez pipes' should deliver water straight to the plants—if not, or the system is struggling install a more efficient system.

Property Solutions is an approved agent for



This multinational company is recognized and acknowledged throughout the irrigation industry so you can rest assured, you are giving your garden the best possible chance for survival.

If an irrigation system is not for you, try to conserve water by watering in the morning or evening to give the moisture time to penetrate.

Water the roots and not the leaves.

Also, use good quality mulch around your plants as the main aim is to try and avoid as much evaporation and transpiration as possible.

### This month's special topic: Stonefruit

- You should be carrying out the last of your stonefruit pruning this month
- Always prune stonefruit in the summer months while the tree's sap is still flowing to help prevent diseases
- Typical diseases you should watch out for are leaf curl, bladder plum, aphids, thrips, mites and general fungus
- Never prune stonefruit in the cooler months
- If in doubt, ask.

## ..... but winter is just around the corner

It's time to start thinking about what lawn maintenance is needed. Do you need to fertilize before the winter sets in or repair damaged or low areas of lawn?

Also, start pre planting for new lawns but bear in mind you will need to still deliver an adequate water supply to encourage growth and to get the grass established.

Choose a lawn seed mix which is best suited to our region such as a combination of fescue / brown top and amenity rye seed.

Now's the time to be thinking about pruning around the section to let the winter sun in. Remember, winter sun comes in at a lower angle so some shrubs and trees may need thinning out to let more light in.

Trim hedges to allow some growth before the winter sets in. Young shoots can give a rich colour in winter.

Finally, make a list of winter annuals you want to grow in tubs or gardens. You can still plant up until Easter in the Nelson region as they need some warmth to get them to a stage where they can survive the winter cold.



## PS, our designer Gordon and the process

The majority of architects and designers follow a process whereby they can determine your style, specifications, requirements and objectives. It is important that you have a realistic budget in mind so that Gordon can design accordingly.

Have a scrap book already prepared to show him what you like –and importantly, what you don't like. The more information you can give him the better the end result will be.

Gordon has had many years of design experience coupled with the practicality of building several of his own designs. You are paying for his skill and knowledge so enjoy the process.

Not only will the plan look good it is an accurate document from which we can give you a confirmed quotation so you know how much it will cost. It might be possible to stage the building of the design thereby making it more affordable.

Did you know PS has finance options available (subject to normal lending criteria) to help you get the landscape you want now? This is especially useful for new houses where the budget may have been overblown leaving little or no money for that new deck, lawn or fence. You can enjoy the new house but what about the garden? Just ask us about the options available.

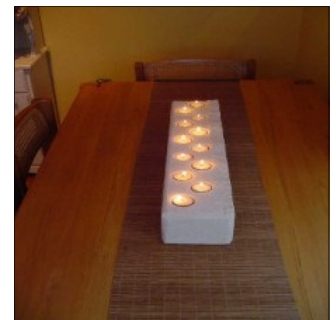
We would love your feedback and welcome any thoughts for Volume 1, Issue No. 2, due in the winter. Too much information, too little, too hard to read or just plain boring? Go.... give us your suggestions!

## Oamaru Stone Sculpture

PS have an arrangement with Aaron McSorley, who specialises in creating unique and individual visual sculptures from Oamaru stone found only in New Zealand. Aaron creates a variety of pieces, of which various samples can be found below which will give your home, garden or business a unique New Zealand focus.

Since each piece is individually created to order, your sculpture may take up to 4 weeks to be crafted so your patience is appreciated. The photos you see here are samples and the end result may differ from that which is shown. Prices start at \$40 for the candles to approx. \$160 for the larger pieces which are about 600mm high.

Aaron is also happy to carve individual pieces as specified by you. Just contact PS or E-mail your request to '[sculptures@propertyolutionsnelson.co.nz](mailto:sculptures@propertyolutionsnelson.co.nz)' and we can give you a specific quote and delivery schedule.



**How would you like to win a fabulous individually crafted Oamaru Stone Sculpture like the one above? Just recommend our services to a friend and once they have contacted us we'll enter you into the draw—it's a simple as that.**

**See our website for more Oamaru Stone examples.**

## Ask Alyson or Grant a question

If you have any questions regarding landscaping, just ask any member of 'Team, PS' and we'll try and offer the best advice we can. With almost 30 years of experience between Alyson and Grant there is a fair bit of knowledge in those grey cells.

PS (our small print). All our comments are given with the best intentions and we cannot accept any liability or consequential damages whatsoever for any of the advice given.