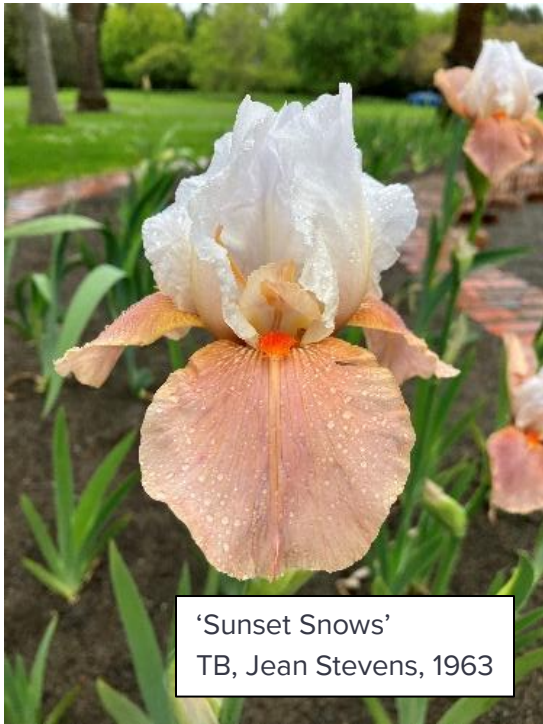


2025

Winter Webinar Series

By

The American Iris Society



'Sunset Snows'
TB, Jean Stevens, 1963

Start Time: 5:30 p.m. Pacific, 8:30 p.m. Eastern

Duration: approximately 1 hour

Via: ZOOM

Info: AISwebinars@gmail.com

DETAILS

1. An email invitation to register online will be sent to all AIS members a few days before each event. Once you register you will be sent the webinar's link.
2. All webinars will be **FREE** of charge to all members of AIS, AIS sections, and local iris clubs.
3. Not an AIS member but want to attend? Email us.

Wednesday, February 19

Presented by Karen Wigglesworth

Jean Stevens and the 'Blooming Impossible' Project

Jean Stevens was a pioneering New Zealand iris hybridizer. She developed the first yellow amoena TB 'Pinnacle' and the first pink amoena TB 'Sunset Snows' and won many awards. Karen Wigglesworth is writing a book about Jean's story. She and others were unsuccessful in trying to save Jean's garden, but have recently established the Jean Stevens Iris Garden at the Bason Botanic Gardens in Whanganui in her honour.

About the Presenter

Author Karen Wigglesworth has been intrigued by Jean's story since she was a girl. She grew up just down the road from Jean's garden, then owned by Jean's daughter Jocelyn and son-in-law Ian Bell (Karen's aunt and uncle). After Ian died in 2021, Karen initiated efforts to save the horticulturally-important garden, but time was short and the property was sold. Some family papers and plants were preserved, and these form the basis of Karen's project to share Jean's story.

Last year Karen undertook a research trip to Italy, the UK, Oregon and Australia and presented a talk about her project at the *Giardino dell' Iris* in Florence. The trip was generously supported by the NZ Ministry of Culture and Heritage, the AIS Foundation, and the Bason Botanic Gardens.

For those in New Zealand wishing to attend the webinar:

(Auckland NZ Date/Time: Thurs Feb. 20, 2:30 pm)