



THE 4th ODERINGS SCHOOL GARDENS SHOW OPENS 16 MARCH

"Into the Future"

Schools participating this year are: Diamond Harbour, Heathcote Valley School, Isleworth, Linwood Avenue, Oaklands, Riccarton Primary, St Albans Catholic, Wairakei, Waitakiri, West Melton Primary, West Spreydon and Westburn Primary.

Image: 2017 Gold & People's Choice Winning Garden "The Three Little Pigs" by Sockburn School

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH - February Event Calendar

ALL ABOUT GARDENING

Monday 5 Feb 7pm & Tuesday 6 9.45am

In February our speaker is Simon Ensor from Waterforce on the impact of climate change on irrigation methods and current best practice methods. Also in the programme, Gardening Half Hour.

Christchurch Bridge Club

21 Nova Place, Free to CHS Members

\$5 non-members, includes tea, coffee and refreshments.

GARDEN CLUB REPS

No meeting this month due to Waitangi Day holiday.

CHRYSANTHEMUM CIRCLE

Monday 19 February 6pm

Pot Luck Dinner at David and Robyn Purcell's, 11 Ruakaka Street.

General cultural notes, pest control and bud securing of lates.

SUBS

There are still quite a few subs outstanding. Please pay as soon as possible.

Membership cards for those who have paid their sub are available at the office or can be collected at All About Gardening from February onwards.

If you have changed your email address please let the office know.

Tel: 366 6937

E: office@chsgardens.co.nz

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year

I hope you are all enjoying your garden this month. 2018 will see us take on some more challenges. An extended Autumn Garden Show in the Botanic Gardens, improvements in our school garden show and activities and more.

Late in 2017 we reached agreement with the Christchurch Beautifying Association to combine the Garden Competitions and from now on they will be run by them. We continue to support the competitions.

In December 2017 we started a joint venture with the Friends of the Botanic Gardens to open an Information Hub to provide information to visitors and gardeners. We have six of our members on the roster. If you would like to join let me know.

Working with others we can provide more services and information to a greater number of people. Join in our activities and events and bring your friends and neighbours along as well. Watch our CHS Facebook page for details and our HortTalk Facebook page for gardening information.

Have a great 2018.

Alan Jolliffe, CHS President

www.facebook.com/CanterburyHorticulturalSociety

www.facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk

GARDEN COMPETITIONS

New approach

The Canterbury Horticultural Society and the Christchurch Beautifying Society (CBS) have agreed to combine both competitions into a single Christchurch-wide Garden Competition. It will be managed by the CBS.

This will make it a larger and more important competition for Christchurch. It will also remove some duplication of effort by both organisations.

The CHS remains committed to the Edible Gardens, School Gardens and other initiatives in the community.

We look forward to being involved in the new competition in conjunction with the CBS by supplying judges and expertise.

Entry forms for the 2018 CBS Summer Garden Competition are now available on the CHS website under the Events tab.



EDIBLE GARDEN AWARDS

Entries close this month

Papanui-Innes Edible Garden Awards 2018

In partnership with the Canterbury Horticultural Society, the Edible Gardens Award within the Papanui-Innes ward is a wonderful way to acknowledge and celebrate those local residents, schools and communities who are passionate about their gardens and their bountiful harvests.

Entries close Friday 2 February

Spreydon-Cashmere Edible Garden Awards 2018

The Spreydon-Cashmere Community Board is delighted to partner with the Canterbury Horticultural Society to launch the Edible Garden Awards scheme this year for our local residents, schools, families and community groups to acknowledge their efforts to produce food on their properties and in their gardens.

Entries close Monday 12 February

RAMBLERS 2017

Tuesday 13 February 9.45am

Harewood Roto Kahuto Reserve

Meet airport end of Sawyers Arms Rd opp Urban Paving

Tuesday 27 February 9.45am

Addington

Meet Selwyn/Ruskin St cnr

No walk if wet. FREE

2018 Programme available online and from the CHS Office

The final Ramble for 2017 concluded with 25 members taken through Mona Vale.

Giant Gunnera at 2m plus towered over everyone and the colours reflected in the river were magic to view.

The gardens were a picture considering Christchurch was going through a dry spell.

As it was the last outing a picnic morning tea in Mona Vale's Rose Gardens followed to celebrate another year of amazing walks led by Elizabeth Peacock and helpers.



MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS with Michael Coulter

We are now at the height of Summer which this year is one of many extremes. December was hot and dry, stressing plants and bringing on many crops early. It also caused the berry fruit season to be short with many of the different berries all cropping at the same time.

January has been warm but with plenty of rain which has plants making rapid growth, while also providing perfect conditions for fungal diseases on many of our crops and plants. These conditions look like they are going to continue for the rest of the Summer which will keep us all busy in the garden.

Summer pruning on fruit trees will be needed to allow light on to the ripening fruit and give good air movement to help reduce diseases spreading. Grapes are growing at a rapid rate so keep trimming back the leaves as I think they will ripen early and be very sweet.

Weeding will be an ongoing requirement as they seem to pop up overnight but as it is still hot a quick hoe in the morning soon fixes them.

We will need to start thinking about our Winter gardens so remove any crops that have finished to get the ground ready for planting those vegetables and flowers in a few month's time.

Fruit and Vegetable Garden

1. Prune out berry fruit canes that have finished fruiting.
2. Prune back excessive growth on pip fruit especially on espalier plants.
3. Continue successive sowings of brassicas, lettuce, dwarf beans, spring onions, silver beet and carrots etc.
4. Water tomatoes evenly, remove lower leaves, treat for the psyllid and keep well supported.
5. Mould up potatoes, keep weed free, treat for blight and psyllid.
6. Treat stone fruit with a copper spray after the fruit is picked and prune if needed.
7. Give asparagus a fertiliser and keep well watered to encourage the top growth.
8. Thin out root crops to allow the roots to develop to an even shape.

AUTUMN GARDEN SHOW

New look show for 2018

The Canterbury Horticultural Society (CHS) and the Christchurch Botanic Gardens will present a new look Annual Autumn Garden Show to be held in the Christchurch Botanic Gardens over three days from 20-22 April 2018.

The event will be free to attend and will:

- Provide an engaging range of horticulture related exhibits, seminars, workshops and entertainment for adults and children
- Offer knowledge sharing opportunities via strong expert-led sessions and activities which will provide stimulation, education of gardening practices and will encourage intergenerational information sharing
- Showcase gardening as a lifestyle enhancement
- Create a destination event which attracts a wide audience
- Promote and elevate Christchurch's 'Garden City' status
- Reflect CHS's values: fun, engagement, innovation, education and relevance



HELP NEEDED

Gladioli Breeding

Approximately two years ago the Press featured a request for contacts with anyone who may have older gladioli corms that produce red flowers with gold centres. The nature of the enquiry was to obtain such corms as part of a breeding programme for new hybridising.

Graeme Robinson believes he has such plants which were recovered from a pile of rubbish clay from an old garden in Bishopdale. He has kept the corms for 9 years and planted them out each season, this year being the best yet. Large spikes 1.5 meters tall and full flowering from Christmas until now when they are nearly finished.

If you have a contact or person interested in this please contact Graeme. He is more than happy to pass on corms for next season when they mature.

Graeme Robinson: tel: 352 8930
graeme.jenny@xtra.co.nz

FLORAL DESIGN GROUP

Wednesday 21 February 3pm

CHS Office: 2/153 Lichfield Street

Introduction to basic flower arranging.

FRUIT & VEGETABLE CIRCLE

Wednesday 28 February 7.30pm

The new meeting place for 2018 is at the Deaf Society of Canterbury, 80 Fitzgerald Ave, (corner of Fitzgerald Ave & Tuam St).

Speaker Peter Osborne from Artistic Plants will talk about the art of topiary and will also give a practical demonstration.

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thursday 15 February 3:45 - 5pm

CHS Office: 2/153 Lichfield Street

The Junior Gardeners made Christmas table arrangements at their last meeting of the year.



FEBRUARY TASKS AROUND THE GARDEN

Flower Garden

1. Encourage continuous flowering on annuals, perennials and roses by dead heading spent blooms.
2. Any Summer annuals that have become untidy give a prune back and a liquid feed and they will give another blooming this season.
3. Prune out any branches on trees or shrubs that have made excessive growth but prune to keep the natural shape of the plant.
4. Cut back roses as they finish flowering to where there are five leaflets on a leaf to get a second flowering.
5. Put in supports to dahlias, chrysanthemums and other fast growing plants before they get too large.
6. Treat plants for pests and diseases before the infection spreads too far to be controlled.
7. Keep up the mulch around the plants to keep roots cool and suppress weeds.
8. Hoe the ground regularly to control weeds.

Lawns

1. Water lawns to keep them growing about once a week with a good deep soaking.
2. Cut each week but not too low so as to protect the roots from the hot sun.
3. Using an edging tool now is a good time to trim up the edges at about a 30 degree angle.

TOURS WITH THE CHS

Tour Diary 2018

High Country Day Tour

Thursday 8 February 2018 \$135 pp

A Day of Heritage, History & Rural Hospitality

This tour offers a group-experience of the Coleridge basin and Windwhistle areas.

The tour includes meeting the families of three local properties, each showcasing their different lifestyles, homes and gardens.

The Point Station, Middle Rock and Rockwood



Autumn Colours in Central Otago & the Dunedin Peninsula

Monday 23 - Saturday 28 April 2018

Register your interest now. Flyer available soon.

Queensland Mooloolaba - Towoomba - Noosa Heads & Surrounds

September/October 2018

Register your interest now

AUTUMN COLOURS TOUR - Otago Peninsula & Central Otago, 23-28 April 2018

Day One: We travel to Dunedin stopping on our way at Riverstone Castle to meet Dot Smith, 'Queen of the Castle' for a guided tour, followed by lunch at the Riverstone Kitchen and a walk through the vegetable gardens and gift shop.



Day Two: We visit the sights of the Otago Peninsula, including Glen Falloch Gardens, Larnach Castle Gardens, Hareweka, "Lavender Blue Cottage" the garden of Elizabeth Jenkins, the artist who moved to the Peninsula several years ago.

Day Three: We head off to our 3-night base in Cromwell, on the way taking in the scenery of the ever-changing landscape, travelling through the Maniototo, visiting Jane Falconer's large garden "Clachanburn" before visiting Oturehua, Gilchrist's Store and the original workshops and homestead of Ernest Hayes Engineering, as well as St Bathans, the Blue lake and Ophir.

Day Four: Using Cromwell as our base we will visit the historic sights and the Autumn colours of Bannockburn, Clyde, Lawrence, Gabriels Gully and environs.

Day Five: We will visit the Queenstown area, Lake Hayes and beautiful Arrowtown with garden visits to "Chantecler" a garden of National Significance with its many themed gardens within the 12

acres, as well as the NZ Garden Trust Garden "Blair Garden" and Davella Gore's garden at Lake Hayes, before heading home on day 6 via the inland road through Omarama, Tekapo, Fairlie and Geraldine.



This six day tour has something to offer everyone, scenery, history and stunning gardens and generous hospitality.

Contact the office for a copy of the brochure. or visit the tour on our web page to download one.

www.chsgardens.co.nz



What's coming up

ODERINGS 2018 SCHOOL GARDENS SHOW

Friday 16 & Saturday 17 March 10am - 5pm & Sunday 18 10am - 3pm

The Woolston Club
43 Hargood Street

Plenty of Parking, cafe open
Gold coin donation entry

AUTUMN GARDEN SHOW

Friday 20, Saturday 21 & Sunday 22
April 2018

Christchurch Botanic Gardens
more details to follow next month

CHS SPEAKER SERIES

The theme for the 2018 series is
"Native Plant Regeneration"

Thursday 17 May 7pm - Greg Byrnes
Thursday 14 June 7pm - Keith Briden
Thursday 12 July 7pm - Steve Bush

M J Barnett Memorial Lecture

Thursday 16 August 7pm - Jason Butt

Venue details to be confirmed soon



The CHS gratefully acknowledges the valuable contribution of its sponsors and supporters. The sponsorship categories are as follows: Principal, Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze and Base and will be populated as sponsors join. Details of the programme may be found at www.chsgardens.co.nz/sponsorship