



Canterbury Horticultural Society Newsletter No 247 **June 2018**



June, July & August at 7pm WINTER SPEAKER SERIES

Wilding Conifers – Landscape scale weeding

Keith Briden is employed in DOC's Regional Office working as NZ's key technical advisor for ecological weeds.

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH JUNE EVENT CALENDAR

ALL ABOUT GARDENING

Monday 4 June 7pm & Tuesday 5 June 9.45am

CHS President Alan Jolliffe presents recent shows he has attended.

Also in the programme, Gardening Half Hour.

Christchurch Bridge Club, 21 Nova Place

\$2 Members \$5 non-members

Includes tea, coffee and biscuits

WINTER SPEAKER SERIES

Our Living Landscape: Native Plant Regeneration

Thursday 14 June 7pm

Harcourts Grenadier Auction Rooms

98 Moorhouse Avenue

Keith Briden

Wilding Conifers – Landscape scale weeding

\$5 CHS Members and students, \$10 non-members

Includes refreshments.

Book online www.chsgardens.co.nz



Comfortable Venue



ORPHANAGE GARDEN ZIMBABWE

Beth Goodwin (CHS Member) and recent All About Gardening guest speaker is helping establish this potentially sizeable garden (4 acres).

The CHS is looking for someone to drive this worthwhile project for Beth.

The project requires a one-off contribution initially, then ongoing funding for diesel fuel to pump water from a nearby river to the garden.

This is an opportunity for members to make a valid contribution in helping orphans in an impoverished country.

The Board is supportive of this project and welcomes the opportunity to discuss it further.

Read more online: www.chsgardens.co.nz/zimbabwe-orphanage-garden

Contact **Liz Parder** in the office: tel:366 6937

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Budget was released last month and it's great to see the Government setting up a Climate Change Office at the highest level. We need it as there is still not enough information right across all our communities. Also DOC has more funding to help reduce and eradicate pests.

Climate change requires effort by all of us to reduce CO2 emissions and the planting of trees to remove carbon from the atmosphere. We can play our part in this by planting more trees on our land and encouraging them in public places and they don't have to be big ones that may cause an urban problem. Planting fruit trees is one way we can help that with the added benefit of fresh food locally grown.

While we are a small country every little bit helps and our example can educate the world by introducing tourists to the amount of planting we undertake.

We should all look to plant an extra tree or two this year.

Remember to keep up to date on our website, www.chsgardens.co.nz and Facebook page.

Alan Jolliffe, CHS President

WINTER SPEAKER SERIES

Our Living Landscape: Native Plant Regeneration

Wilding Conifers – Landscape scale weeding

Keith Briden was born in Christchurch in the late 1950s. He holds a national role in DOC's Regional Office working as NZ's key technical advisor for ecological weeds.

With a strong background in ecological weed work and wilding conifer control, Keith could see a looming issue facing New Zealand and has worked tirelessly to support the development of a national wilding conifer strategy.

Wilding conifers originate from introduced conifers that were planted in New Zealand for timber, farm shelter, amenity, and erosion control. Seed from cones is spread by wind. In the 1930's wilding conifer spread was observed and has been spreading at around 5-6% per year, even with control efforts in place.

Wilding conifers can completely displace native vegetation and impact native animals, cause loss of farmland, affect important landscapes, impact cultural values, and reduce water yields.

Good news is New Zealand now has a national strategy titled, "the right tree in the right place" New Zealand Wilding Conifer Strategy 2015 – 2030.



Join us on **Thursday 14 June at 7pm** to hear Keith talk more about this important program.

CHRYSANTHEMUM CIRCLE

No Meetings in June. Next meeting 16 July

GARDEN CLUB REPS

Tuesday 5 June 12pm

Christchurch Bridge Club, 21 Nova Place

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thursday 21 June 3:45 - 5pm

FLORAL DESIGN GROUP

Wednesday 20 June 3pm

The group is working on basic ikebana techniques for the next few months.

New members welcome. Contact the office for more information: tel: 366 6937 office@chsgardens.co.nz

Location of meeting venues to be confirmed - please telephone the office : 366 6937

RAMBLERS UPDATE

The CHS Ramblers walked the Merivale area in ideal walking conditions in early May. The Ramble went from Rugby Street via Naseby Street to Carlton Mill Road and onto Papanui Road with a detour through St Margaret's College. An interesting tree sculpture was on view as we passed through.



Two weeks later the Ramblers met at Horse Shoe Lake Carpark for a walk in the area. Twenty seven rugged up against the elements to complete the walk which included a 'not so level' bridge crossing!

NEWS FROM FACEBOOK

Great response to Michael Coulter's Award



Elizabeth McCormick Well deserved Michael, I always enjoy your gardening tips. Congratulations.

Jacinta Stopforth Oh so cool. Well done Michael Coulter.

Amanda Clifford Congratulations Michael. Well deserved. I have always appreciated your gardening gems that you have passed on.

Elizabeth Jarman Very deserving

Anna Anja Fahey Congratulations Michael, well done

Barbara Hempseed Congratulations, Michael, on a well deserved award!



HortTalk Chat



Elizabeth Jarman posted this photo of a Narcissus 'Spoirot' on the 14th May, "One out on Tuesday and 3 by Friday. Very early this year." **David Adams** commented, "Similar to those seen at AAG on Monday and Tuesday. As Elizabeth says it normally flowers in July."

The group also identified an unusual Japanese Quince and helped Karl with a thrip problem. Join today: www.facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk

FLORAL DESIGN GROUP

Exploring Ikebana

The CHS Floral Design group are currently exploring the beautiful art of Ikebana.

Ikebana - or "living flowers" is the Japanese art of flower arrangement. It is also known as Kadō "way of flowers".

The tradition dates back to the 7th century when floral offerings were made at altars. Later, they were placed in the tokonoma (alcove) of a home.

Ikebana reached its first zenith in the 16th century under the influence of Buddhist teamasters and has grown over the centuries, with over 1,000 different schools in Japan and abroad.

Kadō is counted as one of the three classical Japanese arts of refinement, along with kōdō for incense appreciation and chadō for tea and the tea ceremony.



RAMBLERS 2018

Tuesday 12 June 9.45am

Elmwood

Meet Wairarapa Tce near Queens Ave

Tuesday 26 June 9.45am

Redwood

Meet Grimseys/Prestons Rd crn

No walk if wet. FREE

2018 Programme available online and from the CHS Office:

www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers

FRUIT & VEGETABLE CIRCLE

No meetings in June or July. Next meeting 29 August



MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS

with Michael Coulter

Autumn is almost over even though some of the trees are still holding onto their leaves but the weather is getting colder and plant growth has slowed down.

As the days are now shorter and colder it takes longer for the garden to dry out so I like to do most of the work in the garden in the afternoon, especially the lawn mowing and weeding as this makes less mess and is cleaner. Mornings are the time that I can spend in the green houses cleaning up after the Summer crops and preparing for the Spring.

Pruning can be started as soon as the plants have lost all their leaves and perennials should be cut back as soon as they have finished flowering.

Chrysanthemums and dahlias can be lifted and put into the green house for preparation for the production of cuttings in the Spring. Indoor plants will need to have their water needs watched as we are now putting on our heaters in the house

which can dry out the plants more quickly than expected.

Any shading put on the outside of the green houses in the Summer needs to be removed to let in more light during the Winter. Any plants that are less hardy will need to be protected from the frosts or put inside. It is better to do this before the frosts start, to avoid damage.

This is a good time to think about removing trees or shrubs that may be getting past their best and to give enough time to think about replacements and prepare the ground for new plants later in the Winter or Spring.

In sheltered areas Winter crops and flowers may still be planted and broad beans and garlic may be planted in the vegetable garden.

All hoses and plastic sprinklers should now be stored away for the Winter so that frosts will not damage them. After all is done take a few days off and go on holiday somewhere warm.



Gail Scrivener is an experienced Tour Guide with over 30 years in the industry. Gail has led tours for the CHS to Thailand, Tasmania, Melbourne and Norfolk Island, as well as many in and around New Zealand.

Day 2 Tuesday 16 October

Barbara and Rex Wickes moved to their property in Buderim, Brisbane in May 1998 with the only existing garden being a Murraya hedge and a few sundry plantings. The house has a northerly outlook with the site sloping gently from the house to a small dam that overflowed into a creek.

The challenge was to create a cottage style garden surrounding a formal Mediterranean home. Michael Bligh, a



TOURS WITH THE CHS

Queensland at its Blooming Best - Highlights



garden designer from Goulburn gave advice and confidence to use a central axis from the centre of the outdoor living area with the stone steps edging the oval lawn leading to a circular garden bed surrounded by gravel paths.

Across the dam the eye can focus on a feature tree. The dry-stone walls are built with stone from the Glasshouse Mountains. The dam was widened and a dry creek bed cut to take run off. The fill from the dam was used to build up beds and level low areas. A grove of tropical birch was planted and the garden beds and paths were marked.

The construction and planting of the garden was complete by July 1998.

It was important that the Wickes could manage the completed garden without the need for outside help.

Barbara has endeavoured to mix subtropical with cold climate species and is pleased with the success they have had. One of their challenges was to grow



a perennial border using plants that will thrive in the subtropics as well as survive their humid Summers.

Many of the wonderful salvias now available are well suited to the gardens climate. Some of their favourites include 'Midnight', 'Costa Rica Blue', 'Phyllis Fancy', 'Meigan's Magic', 'Amistad' and 'Purple Majesty'.

Winter flowering salvias include, 'Romantic Rose', 'Ripe Raspberry' and 'Timboon'. Old-fashioned roses (Teas, Chinas and Noisettes) also do well.

The Wickes fertilize their garden with 'Plant of Health' products. Seaweed and silica assist with prevention of black spot and mildew on roses.

The kitchen garden is situated on a well-drained site, an important factor when growing herbs and temperate climate perennials, as many of them originate from Mediterranean areas.

This 10-11 day tour departs mid October. Register your interest now with the office.

WHAT'S COMING UP JULY & AUGUST

ALL ABOUT GARDENING

Monday 2 July 7pm & Tuesday 3 July 9.45am

Paul Simmons from **Simmons Paeonies** joins us to talk about these special flowers in all their beautiful shapes and sizes.

Also in the programme, Gardening Half Hour.

*Christchurch Bridge Club, 21 Nova Place
Includes tea, coffee and biscuits.*

CHS SPEAKER SERIES

OUR LIVING LANDSCAPE Native Plant Regeneration

Thursday 12 July 7pm - Steve Bush

M J Barnett Memorial Lecture

Thursday 16 August 7pm - Jason Butt

Harcourts Grenadier Auction Rooms 98 Moorhouse Avenue.
\$5 CHS Members and students, \$10 non-members.

Includes light refreshments. Book online or pay at the door.

