CHS Office

Many thanks

office know as soon as possible.

change of email or postal address in

be sent out soon. If anyone has had a

Subscription renewal invoices will

Membership

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sent out soon. If anyone has had a
degree of unhealthy or a goodie that used to
feature on the back of condensed milk cans.

Ingredients

150g melted butter
270g plain biscuits, crushed to fine crumbs
2 tbsp. cocoa
1 cup shredded coconut
1 cup chocolate chunks or chips
1 cup dried cranberries or raisins
1 cup slivered almonds
395g can sweetened condensed milk

Preheat oven to 160°C and line a 30cm x 24cm slice tin with baking paper.

To make the base mix melted butter with biscuit crumbs and cocoa. Using a wet spatula or wet hands, spread over base of slice tin and press down firmly.

Sprinkle coconut, chocolate, cranberries or raisins, and almonds evenly over the base. Drizzle with sweetened condensed milk.

Bake until lightly golden (about 20-25 minutes). Cool and chill before slicing into squares or fingers. Coconut Slice will keep in an airtight container in a cool place for several weeks.

For more great recipes see
www.annabel-langbein.com

View from the Deck Alan Jolliffe

A garden show is essential for Christchurch the Garden City.

Recent decisions by the Christchurch City Council are very encouraging for the development of our own show. More importantly is the idea that garden and horticultural people will be consulted in Christchurch. However that does not mean we should be waiting around to be consulted.

Let’s get thinking and talking.

Working together, I am sure that in 2016 we can put together our own, home grown gardening show to rival any other. Be prepared to help this become a reality.

WINTER SPEAKER SERIES.

OUR LIVING LANDSCAPE

Thursday 17 July 7pm

The Natural Dynamics of the Christchurch & Canterbury Landscape

Di Lucas

PC Browne Room, CHS Centre

Non-members: $15, students: $10

Tickets: www.chsgardens.co.nz

INTERACTIVE HORTICULTURE WORKSHOP.

PRUNING with Alan Jolliffe

Saturday 5 July 10am – 12pm

The best pruning cut

Pruning a variety of shrubs

How to prune grasses

How to prune roses

The Fairie Queens

Emigrating to NZ in 1962 I was soon
embracing its bush and mountains mainly
in the Nelson Lakes National Park
wilderness. I opted for a solo tramp starting at
St Arnaud in the Nelson Lakes National Park
and ending in Arthur’s Pass.

I was born and bred in Rochdale, an industrial
town in Lancashire on the outskirts of
Manchester nestled under the nearby
Pennines. Like Christchurch it suffered from
chronic air pollution as its natural tendency to
winter inversion layers laden with dirty smoke
from "those dark, satanic mills". Despite this
my curiosity to know what was “up there” led
me to join the Scouts and induced a love of
hiking, culminating in an ascent of England’s
highest peak – Snowdon Pike – in 1960!

Emigrating to NZ in 1962 I was soon
embracing its bush and mountains mainly
in the Tararuaus. Many years later as I neared
40 I needed time out and despite being a
committed atheist I thought I'd try a shorter
version of Christ’s 40 days and nights in the
wilderness. I opted for a solo tramp starting at
St Arnaud in the Nelson Lakes National Park
and ending in Arthur’s Pass.

Having crossed Waiau Pass I had a near death
experience as I took the wrong line on descent
and found myself precariously perched over
a massive bluff. The next day I found myself
in the most beautiful valley – the upper Ada
– which was adorned by an array of multi-
coloured alpine plants and flowers breaking
the rather monotonous green and grey of the
NZ wilderness. The Fairie Queens dominated
the skyline and the horses of St James station
ruined with gay abandon. Now here’s the rub
– are there any CHS members out there keen to
undertake a "tour" on shanks’ pony under my
leadership to view and identify these glorious
flora?

From the President Elizabeth Peacock

For those wanting to retain Christchurch as the Garden City, the exhibitors, volunteers and
organisers, the loss of Ellerslie is a not unexpected blow. Although Ellerslie brought many
benefits to the city, lack of population, accommodation and finance has made such a Show
unsustainable.

With no cathedral as a viable venue and lack of sponsorship it is also unlikely that the Festival
of Flowers will be exhibiting in 2015. However, with the experience, expertise, dedication and
ability within our city community, and in conjunction with the Christchurch City Council all
working together, I am sure that in 2016 we can put together our own, home grown gardening
show to rival any other. Be prepared to help this become a reality.

Happy Gardening, Elizabeth
**ROSE SEASON**

**Rose Pruning**

July is the ideal time to start pruning. Here are some simple steps to make it easier and quicker.

1. Remove all the dead and dying branches.
2. Remove all the crossing branches (these grow from one side of the bush to the other).
3. Remove all the weak wood (thin shoots).
4. Remove oldest wood (easily identified by the grey corky bark).
5. Aim to have three to five strong young stems remaining - and shorten these back to about 40cm.

Don’t miss the Pruning Workshop with Alan Jolliffe on Saturday 5 July, 10am - 12pm Mona Vale Gardens

**Top Tasks July**

**Michael Coulter**

We are having a very wet Winter so far so this will restrict much of what we can do in the garden during this month. It will be better to wait for improved weather so that we will not do any harm in and around the garden. Most of the work needed to be done at this time of the year involves pruning and maintenance around the property.

**Pruning**

Before you start pruning make sure you have good tools which are sharp and clean. Spray the plants to be pruned first to help stop the carry over of any pest or disease that may over Winter in any bits and pieces left on the ground. Only prune on fine days as wet conditions can help spread disease in new cuts. Only prune those plants that need it at this time of the year i.e. do not prune stone fruit in Winter as this helps silver leaf infection. Start pruning by cutting out those parts which may be in the way of paths or are diseased. Thin out any weak growth then prune to encourage fruit or flower production and shape. It is a good idea to clean tools between each plant as this will help stop any disease spread.

**Other work**

Do a clean up of weeds in those hard to get to areas when plants are in leaf, around fences, in shrub borders, along paths and around foundations. Check over the lawn mower and get it serviced and sharpened.

Remove any plants that are not at their best and prepare ground for planting replacement plants. Plant garlic and shallots and if the ground is too wet plant in pots to transplant later in the Spring. Check over the greenhouse; clean the inside and repair any broken parts ready for the Spring. Sort out the seed packets and throw out any that are passed their date then get new seeds so that you are ready for the Spring sowing time and you know that you have all the seeds you will need. Now is a good time to give the spray equipment a clean out using ammonia to remove any residue. Check the seals and washers and that you have labelled one for weed killers and one for pest and disease control.

Visit our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/CanterburyHorticulturalSociety

**Saving a Life**

**Tony Kunowski, CHS Manager**

I am not a horticulturalist, nor am I an avid gardener. I have, however, dabbled in gardening both indoors and outdoors with pot plants and the traditional veggie patch sticking to the easy stuff like potatoes, tomatoes, silver beet, carrots, cabbages, lettuces etc.

I must admit there’s always been a great sense of satisfaction as one consumes the products of one’s labours. Always fresher than the bought stuff I’ve always felt there’s more taste but whether this could be validated in randomised controlled trials is a matter of conjecture. More recently I’ve had great success as a budding yucca farmer, taking offcuts and reproducing new healthy specimens which I proudly gift to friends and relatives. There are parallels with my tramping here. As every experienced trapper knows, those bloody Prickly Spaniards always seem to grow in the spots where you have to place your hands in steep ascents and descents of off-trail routes. Despite great care my yucca exploits have always generated a great number of skin pricks accompanied by loud expletives!

Several years ago I was given a small kowhai tree. It was a healthy specimen and grew quickly and soon required re-potting. Its growth accelerated and on shifting house just after the 2010 earthquake I decided to plant it in the outside garden. Exposed now to the easterly and embedded in clay it withered and looked very dead, however the smallest of green shoots still kept appearing so I stuck it in a bucket with some surplus potting mix. It flourished! So much so that I replanted it in a half barrel. It is now so lush and verdant that I find myself stroking its soft leaves and almost talking to it. The overwhelming feeling however is one of great pride that I’ve helped it to survive and thrive. Now I really do understand the phrase “love your garden”!

February is the ideal time to start pruning. Here are some simple steps to make it easier and quicker.

- Remove all the dead and dying branches.
- Remove all the crossing branches (these grow from one side of the bush to the other).
- Remove all the weak wood (thin shoots).
- Remove oldest wood (easily identified by the grey corky bark).
- Aim to have three to five strong young stems remaining - and shorten these back to about 40cm.

**Quiz Time**

On which Christchurch Street, Road or Avenue would you find the following:

1. The Sanitarium Company
2. McLean’s Mansion
3. Templeton Daffodils
4. St Barnabas Church
5. Coulter’s Nursery
6. Porttzone Nursery

Answers: www.chsgardens.co.nz

**Quiz Report**

The annual quiz was held on 21st May. Competition for the champion was close with Stratford taking the early lead with a perfect score in round one. Cashmere Garden Club emerged from the pack to become Quiz Champions for 2014 gaining a perfect 20/20 score with their knowledge of songs from the musical shows in the final round. To have the whole group singing along was a nice touch. Thank-you everyone who attended.

**Plant of the Month**

**Roses roses roses**

How can we not mention roses for the month of July. Oдерings new seasons roses have arrived. Often in Winter my interest in the garden becomes as dormant as the plants, and I curl up with a book and a nice hot cuppa, and ignore the cold weather around me. Although this is likely the hardest time to find motivation in the garden, it is one of the most important seasons for planting, pruning, tidying, and spraying of deciduous trees, fruit trees, and roses.

If you have roses in the garden or want to plant a rose this season, then read all you need to know at www.oderings.co.nz

**All About Gardening**

**August 2014**

7pm - 9pm Tue 5 August 9.45am - 11.45am Wed 6 August

**Tips & Tasks with Michael Coulter From Your Gardens & Question time**

**Darling Dahlias**

They may be out of season but they are not out of fashion. Rachel Vegan introduces some of the latest floriferous and flouncy dahlias that are an absolute “must have” for the trendy garden.

Morning Tea/Supper

**The Art of Bonsai**

Visitors to Ellerslie were spellbound by the elegant and beautiful bonsai trees at the Christchurch Bonsai Society display. Society member Wendy Gibb discusses this ancient art and demonstrates how to begin your very own miniature living art work.

Balloons

CHS Centre, South Hagley Park Members: $5 non-members: $10

Tea, coffee and refreshments included

**ANNUAL COMBINED SPRING SHOW**

Saturday 20 September, 1pm – 5pm and Sunday 21 September 10am - 4pm

New Zealand Alpine Garden Society, Baffioli Circle and the Rhododendron Society

**QUIZ TIME**

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