

## Calendar of Events

### WINTER SPEAKER SERIES.

Members Free!

**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](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz)

### INTERACTIVE HORTICULTURE WORKSHOP.

**PRUNING** with Alan Jolliffe  
Saturday 5 July 10am -12pm  
Mona Vale Gardens

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**  
How to prune a variety of shrubs  
How to prune roses  
The best pruning cut  
Pruning to a nice shape

Members/students: \$5, non-members: \$10  
Tickets: [www.chsgardens.co.nz](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz)

#### CHS RAMBLERS

Tue 8 Jul 9.30am Avonhead  
Meet Reserve, Glenharrow Ave

Tue 22 Jul 9.30am Redcliffs  
Meet at Redcliffs Pk, Beachville Rd

#### CHS CIRCLES

**Floral Art Circle**  
Thu 17 Jul 1.30pm PC Browne Room

#### CHS AFFILIATES

**Orchid Society**  
Mon 7 Jul 6.30pm Watling Room

**Junior Gardeners**  
Thu 17 Jul 3.45pm Watling Room

**Garden Club Reps Meeting**  
Tue 5 Aug 10am PC Browne Room

#### ALL ABOUT GARDENING

Tuesday 1 July 7pm  
Wednesday 2 July 9.45am

# CHS TOURS

# CHS NEWS

## Tour with us



**NORFOLK ISLAND**  
*Experience 360° of Wonders!*

**2-9 November 2014 8 Day Tour**  
A unique destination of true unspoiled beauty *fully escorted*

**\$2,999 SHARE TWIN** Includes:

- Economy Class Air NZ Airfares ex CHC
- Hotel Accommodation
- Return Transfers
- 7 Dinners, 7 Breakfasts

And a selection of hand-picked Norfolk Island excursions

**Book Now at the CHS Office**

## Book Now!

### Look & Learn Winter Tour

**Simplicity with Winter Flowers for your Home**

12pm Wednesday 9 July, Lincoln  
Book now at CHS Office: \$20;\$5 car pool.  
Bring your favourite winter flower for display.

### Look & Learn Spring Tour

**Spring into Daffodils**  
10am Thursday 4 September, Leeston  
Book now at CHS Office: \$20;\$5 car pool.



**ALPINE PACIFIC TRIANGLE SHORT BREAK**

**1 - 4 October 2014 4 Day Tour**  
Kaikoura & Hanmer  
\$799 Member, \$130 Single Supplement  
**Book Now at the CHS Office**

Visit our website for full listings or contact [tours@chsgardens.co.nz](mailto:tours@chsgardens.co.nz)

**We would love to meet you on tour!**



## BEAUTY in the WILD

Tony Kunowski, CHS Manager

*The Fairie Queens*

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 – Scafell Pike – in 1960!

Emigrating to NZ in 1962 I was soon embracing its bush and mountains mainly in the Tararuas. 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 Waiiau 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 roamed 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

## 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. Lets get thinking and talking.

The previous show failed in many respects because it was superimposed on us and did not connect well with local businesses and organisations. Further, it did not take local pride in Christchurch with it.

Any new show needs to come from within the community using the resources,

businesses, ideas and expertise of everyone so that it feels like everyone is contributing to it.

Such a show should not be seen as entertainment per se but as a place of pride, sharing, learning, exchanging ideas, celebration, business opportunities, sales, futures thinking and enhancement of our fantastic Christchurch environment.

In order for it to be a rallying point for the Garden City it needs to have a minimum cost entry fee encouraging as many people as possible to attend. It needs to be in a location with reduced setup costs and easy access.

In the words of Lord Rutherford "we don't have much money therefore we need to think".

## Plot to Pot

### Choconut Slice

This recipe is from Annabel Langbein's 'The Free Range Cook: Simple Pleasures' and is her decadent update of an oldie but 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. Choconut Slice will keep in an airtight container in a cool place for several weeks.

For more great recipes see [www.annabel-langbein.com](http://www.annabel-langbein.com)



## Membership

Subscription renewal invoices will be sent out soon. If anyone has had a change of email or postal address in the past 12 months please let Liz in the office know as soon as possible.

Many thanks  
CHS Office tel: 366 6937



# 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.

## 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 sprouting new healthy specimens which I proudly gift to friends and relatives. There are parallels with my tramping here. As every experienced tramper 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"!



## ANNUAL COMBINED SPRING SHOW New Zealand Alpine Garden Society, Daffodil Circle and the Rhododendron Society

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

CHS Centre, South Hagley Park, \$5.00 entry  
Food, drink and EFTpos available

## 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. Portstone Nursery

Answers: [www.chsgardens.co.nz](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz)

## Quiz Report

The annual quiz was held on 21st May. Competition for the champion club 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.

## 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 Vogan 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.

*Raffles*

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

*Tea, coffee and refreshments included*

## Plant of the Month

### Roses roses roses

How can we not mention roses for the month of July. Oderings 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](http://www.oderings.co.nz)

*The Alnwick Rose, a beautiful new season rose*

