Baked Butter Beans with Leeks, Parmesan & Cream

This delicious combination makes a good side dish with roast or grilled meats. 

**Ingredients**
- 340 gm butter beans soaked overnight
- 1 tomato (frozen will do)
- 3 medium leeks
- 2 large cloves garlic chopped
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- salt and pepper to taste
- 140 ml cream

**Method**
- Rinse the soaked beans and cover
- Drain and discard the tomato.
- Slice the leeks as thinly as possible, across at an angle.
- Fry them with the garlic in the butter and oil adding
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- salt and pepper to taste
- 230°C for 10 to 15 minutes until
- Place in a shallow dish, sprinkle with
- a pinch of salt and pepper to taste.

**Leeks, Parmesan & Cream**

**Baked Butter Beans with**

**ART IN A GARDEN**

**In the Planning**

**Melbourne Flower Show**

**6 Day Longer Break**

24 - 29 March 2015

Melbourne, Australia.

Register your interest now

**DUTCH AUCTION & POT LUCK LUNCH**

Monday 15 September, 11.00am

Templin Hall, CHS Centre

The Events committee welcome all members to a Dutch Auction run by auctioneer, Carole Anderson. Items available for view from 10am. The auction is followed by a pot-luck lunch so bring something to share. Prepare to be entertained with auction antics!

**Book Now!**

**Look & Learn Spring Tour**

**Spring into Daffodils**

Thursday 4 September 10am, Leeston

Book now: $20; $5 car pool

**Look & Learn Spring Tour**

**The Iris Garden & Devonshire Tea**

Wednesday 12 November 1pm

Book now: $20; $5 car pool

**Tour with us**

**NORFOLK ISLAND**

**Last of Places**

**From the President Elizabeth Peacock**

This newsletter marks the end of my second year as President this term. In spite of the disruptions caused by the Cricket Pavilion build which have been far greater than anyone envisaged, the last year has been one of achievement for the CHS. The Edible Garden Awards have expanded; our Orchards in Schools scheme is evolving; our Spanish-style Alhambra garden has been established and our involvement in the Hanging baskets in the Re-Start mall continues.

The CHS exhibit “Grandad’s Shed” and the Begonia Circle achieved three gold medals and a silver between them at the Elerisse International Flower Show, while many of our members contributed to the 25th Festival of Flowers.

My thanks to the Board, Staff and volunteers who have contributed to our Society in so many ways.

Happy gardening, Elizabeth

**Calendar of Events**

**Special Skills WORKSHOPS**

**Garden Presentation Maggie Swords**

Saturday 20 September, 10am -12pm

17 Karnak Crescent, Avonhead

Members; free; non-members: $5

**Flax Weaving Daphne O’Connell**

**Now a regular monthly event!**

Thursday 25 September, 10am -12pm

CHS Centre

All Participants: $5

**Interactive Horticulture WORKSHOPS**

**Planning Your Garden with Michael Koutler**

Workshop A: Sat 4 Oct, 10am -12pm

Workshop B: Sat 11 Oct, 10am - 12pm

Templin Hall, CHS Centre

Members: $5; non-members: $10

Tickets: www.chsgardens.co.nz

**CHS TOOURS**

**CHS NEWS**

**The Christchurch Perimeter Trail**

Encircling and Embracing a Multi-Dimensional City: and a role for CHS

This is the second of a two-part article by Colin Meurk – Honorary Botanist of CHS, Scientist at Landscape Research, Convenor Christchurch Perimeter Trail Steering Group

The Canterbury Horticultural Society has an important role to play in highlighting the Garden City image and its importance to Christchurch’s heritage along this journey. This involvement can include maintaining access, signage or other forms of seasonally changing interpretation of the Avonhead, Ilam and Pendarlon Gardens and of the University community garden - in dramatic contrast with the natural Riccarton forest that is entered soon after leaving these leafy, colourful suburbs.

This walk has been conducted, in practice, over the past 20 years, but now is time to make it official and open it up to wider use. And so the launch date is the second weekend in November this year – when there will be segment walks, cycling of the whole route, and an ultra-marathon all happening together. The event will end up with BBQs and associated social activities, including launch of a new website and marketing this asset worldwide – to put Christchurch on the map again. There are other sponsors but the CHS will provide specific support for the areas discussed above.

**CHS CIRCLES**

**Daffodil Circle**

Mon 8 Sep 7.30pm Watling Room

Begonia Circle

Wed 10 Sep 7.30pm Watling Room

Chrysanthemum Circle

Mon 15 Sep 7.30pm Templin Hall

Floral Art Circle

Thu 18 Sep 1.30pm PC Browne Room

Fruit & Vegetable Circle

Wed 24 Sep 7.30pm Watling Room

**CHS AFFILIATES**

Garden Club Reps Meeting

Tue 2 Sep 10.00am Oderings

Canterbury Rose Society

Tue 16 Sep 7.30pm PC Browne Room

Junior Gardeners

Thu 18 Sep 3.45pm Watling Room

**ALL ABOUT GARDENING**

**Calendar**

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Weed Busters

Transplant seedlings of the early leaf crops as they are not good at competing with weeds. Keep weeding crops that are already in the planting or sowing ready for planting and sowing. Dig in compost Fruit & Vegetable garden under control. Remember, a task well begun is worth of tasks in one day because Spring may be too late. I find it better to do a little soon they are needed to feed the bulb for next flowering. Do not cut leaves off daffodils too soon they are needed to form a thick, invasive, smothering mat. New plants easily establish from seeds. Aluminium plant has distinctive silvery patches on the leaves and may have yellow flowers. It is a groundcover plant that survives well in shaded areas. Aluminium plant spreads vigorously to form a thick, invasive, smothering mat. New plants easily establish from seed fragments. Plant me Instead

Top Tasks September

One of the best tips at this time of year is to do today what needs to be done as tomorrow may be too late. I find it better to do a little each day rather than trying to do a week’s worth of tasks in one day because Spring weather can be very unpredictable and it may rain on the day you decided to garden. Weeds seem to grow faster than any other plant this month so the top task for me is getting weeds under control. Remember, a task well begun is a task half done.

Horticultural tours have been an important activity of the Society for many years but should I say decades. Starting around 1985 under the direction of the late Margaret Watling they initially were restricted to a Spring or Autumn garden visit plus an out of town sojourn. Under Margaret’s tutelage Freda Hunter took over in 1990 and the tour programme grew steadily reaching its zenith in the 1990’s. “It was a time when many people liked to visit showcase gardens to learn about new plants and how they were being performed mixed Freda’s.

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Michael Coulter

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Dig the ground over to make a good fine soil ready for planting and sowing. Dig in compost and any animal manure 2-3 weeks before planting or sowing. Keep weeding crops that are already in the ground especially garlic, onions and shallots as they are not good at competing with weeds. Begin sowing outside the hardy crops such as peas, carrots, parsnips, leeks and any of the brassicas. Transplant seedlings of the early leaf crops to give a succession of crops through out the season. Do not plant too many of any one variety at one time as it will give an over supply at the expense of a continual supply. Give the citrus plants the first of the seasons feed using a special citrus fertiliser then top up the mulch around the base of them. In the greenhouse the warmer loving crops can be planted, tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers etc. Plant early potatoes but keep a watch out as they emerge through the ground and mould up especially if a frost is forecast.

On the fruit trees follow the spray programme as they begin to flower and come into leaf. Prevention is better than a cure for pest and disease on plants.

Lawn

Cut every week and catch the grass. Only cut about 1/3 of the leaf height. Topped any low areas of the lawn. A good tip is to mix good seed with the soil before top dressing the lawn. Do this after you have de thatched the lawn (see above). At the end of the month lawns may be sprayed for weeds and moss. Remember not to compost treated lawn clippings. Rake over lawns to lift the thatch and mow, this helps to reinvigorate the grass. After the removal of the thatch give the lawn a feed. Keep the garden weed free and prepare any areas needed for planting. As Spring and Winter flowering shrubs finish flowering prune to encourage next seasons flowers. Fertilise around shrubs before they come into growth to keep them healthy (always check their needs as some do not like too much food i.e. proteas). Dead head Spring bulbs as they finish flowering. Do not cut leaves off dahlias too soon they are needed to feed the bulb for next years flowers. Hosta buds are swelling ready to come into leaf, treat for slugs and snails now. Keep a watch out for aphids on the new growth of roses and treat at the first sign. Apply preventative treatments for black spot and other diseases now to keep them clean.

These were - practical and safe, interactive, educational, appeal and relevance to CHS’s mission.

In the past year 14 tours were hosted by Gail or Freda, 8 of which were part of the Ellerslie Tour Programme. A survey of members in 2012 revealed the preferences for the more distant destinations and accordingly 3 of last year’s tours were out of Christchurch, with a 3 Day Wearable Arts Tour to Wellington, a 3 Day Rose Festival Tour to Timaru and a 7 day trip to Doubtful Sound, enjoyed immensely by all participants. An affordable half day Look & Learn programme was introduced in this period and tours were held in Christchurch or its immediate surrounds. These have been well supported and have proved a popular activity while attracting some younger members. This popularity may also indicate that the membership is getting older and the multi-day trips are too expensive for many, or that health issues and other factors make them less attractive than they were in Freda’s halcyon days.

We are aware that the competition for the discretionary dollar has intensified dramatically in the past twenty years. The rise of the café society, the emergence of wineyard-based restaurants (and associated tours) and the increased competition within the tourism industry itself have all exacerbated the challenges we face in developing a tour programme that will prove attractive to members and financially viable for the CHS. Superimposed on all of these competitive forces is the “just-in-time, search and buy online” phenomenon.

Whilst there has been a decline in number participation the tours team is most appreciative of the support it receives from our members, and have been working hard on planning a varied and interesting programme for the future and continue the development of the Look & Learn programme. To grow the numbers will require a significant increase in the promotion of our annual tours programme both within the CHS and to the general public. CHS management, supported fully by the Board remains committed to an annual programme of high quality tours at a reasonable cost to its members. We look forward to hosting you on a CHS tour soon.

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

Subscribe to our online news and receive our monthly newsletter straight to your inbox. Email: info@chsgardens.co.nz

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