



CHS NEWS

Canterbury Horticultural Society
 Newsletter No 225 June 2016
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 CHS Centre: office hours 9am – 4pm
 www.chsgardens.co.nz
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CHS member Jim Roscoe appreciates the incurved blooms, Heather James (bronze), Yellow John Hughes, John Hughes (white)



Seatons Elegance



Perfectly poised bonsai



Kay Woolman



Christchurch Beautifying Association lives up to its name



Hanging Kokedama balls in the CHS stand



Blooming Chrysanthemums and winning Cyclamen



MAGIC MOSS MATINEE

Wednesday 6 July 9.30am

On Wednesday 6 July we feature the second Magic Moss Matinee. "A Little Chaos" stars celebrated British actors Alan Rickman and Kate Winslet. Rickman also directs the film, one of his last before his untimely death earlier this year.

Winslet is in her lovely, intelligent element as a pioneering garden designer, employed by enigmatic, premier formalist landscape architect André Le Notre to create a highly individual patch. This is the Rockwork Grove or Salle de Bal — a green amphitheatre with spectacular water cascade — just one showpiece in the colossal taming of the land at Louis XIV's (Rickman) palatial new digs in Versailles outside Paris. Stormy weather of the climatic and emotional varieties grow in Rickman's fragrant romantic drama.

A great chance to relive those golden childhood memories of popcorn, ice cream and hilarity at that "threepenny rush" matinees!

\$5 per head Morning tea included
 CHS Centre, South Hagley Park

ALL ABOUT GARDENING

Our usual monthly All About Gardening sessions take a breather in June & July.

Autumn Garden Show

Something for everyone!

The Autumn Garden Show was a huge success evidenced by the fact that on the Sunday of the Show, the Botanic Visitor Centre recorded its highest number of visitors by a significant margin. On the Saturday they recorded the 2nd highest visitor numbers.

A joint venture between the Canterbury Horticultural Society and the Christchurch Botanic Gardens, there were some supply-side hiccups which will be easily remedied in future Shows. The Board has already endorsed another show in 2017. Many of the participating groups such as NZ Alpine Society and Christchurch Bonsai Society reported high levels of public interest in their display and other groups gained new members. One interesting aspect was the large proportion of families with young children attending and engaging with the organisational representative manning their displays.

The National Chrysanthemum Show was held concurrently at the Ilex Centre. Exhibitors hailed from many parts of the South Island with the head judge coming from Hamilton. The quality of the blooms were of a high standard with many of the top awards going to local growers. Charlotte Robb's vase of Primrose West Bromwich was awarded Reserve Champion. The colourful display of blooms featuring many different types of chrysanthemums filled the room, much to the delight and amazement of the public who spent a great deal of time admiring and photographing them.

The venue for the show proved to be very successful with the public, a big thanks must go therefore to the Botanic Gardens and all those groups who took part in the marquee. Their displays were of a very high standard which made the show the success that it was.

Alhambra Gardens

Working Bee



A group of stalwart CHS members led by former President Elizabeth Peacock enjoyed a workout recently at the CHS's Alhambra Gardens in New Regent Street. This garden – which is all above ground in pots – was established just before Christmas 2014 under a “Life in Vacant Spaces” agreement.

Under this agreement there is no fixed term, only a 30 days “notice to vacate” clause. Most of the plants and trees have done amazingly well but the lavenders were in need of replacement and the others needed pruning and weed removal. Sadly a third irrigation timer has been stolen so it will be a case of manual watering from now on by one of our volunteers.



*what's on
August!*

ALL ABOUT GARDENING

Tue 2 August 7pm & Wed 3 August 9.45am

AAG returns with a special truffle-inspired session led by Dr Alexis Guerin-Laguette. Alexis will speak of his research work with burgundy and périgold black truffles, saffron milk cap and porcini mushrooms. An entertaining speaker with a wonderful passion for truffles and field mushrooms.
\$5 Members CHS Centre, South Hagley Park

CHS CIRCLES

Floral Art Circle
Thursday 16 June 1.30pm
Watling Lounge, CHS Centre

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thursday 16 June 3:45 - 5pm
Visiting the Allan Herbarium
Landcare Research
Gerald St, Lincoln

GARDEN CLUB REPS

Garden Club Reps
Tuesday 7 June 10am
PC Browne Room

CAN YOU HELP?

The Hurunui Youth Council would like to create a Chinese garden in one of the District's reserves. Do any members have a particular interest in Northern Chinese plants? If so please email Sean Ryan hurunuiyouth@gmail.com

FROM THE PRESIDENT *Alan Jolliffe*

Summer and Autumn are drawing to a close and it has been a great time for the CHS. We finished the Summer with the Autumn Garden Show in the Botanic Gardens to the delight of about 10,000 people who came through the CHS Marquee and adjacent National Chrysanthemum Show in the Ilex centre. The Botanic Gardens put on a special display in the glasshouses as well. Extra big thanks to all the organisations and volunteers (including Phil & Linda Ducker pictured right) who helped install the displays. We would love more people to be involved in the future.

With Winter, if we can call it that, we have started the Winter Speaker Series and the first one was last month on Thursday 12th. Watch out for the next in the series and be sure to attend. Great speakers and knowledge generously shared. Each one is about 1 hour 15 minutes long including questions followed by a light supper.

Our tours programme is proving as popular as ever with the WOW short-break now full. Gail is taking bookings for the next few tours so be quick to make sure you have a place. Luckily for me we are heading to the UK next week and hopefully we will be able to visit many gardens and shows and see how others are doing this on the other side of the world. Hopefully some new ideas can be found.

Take some time during the colder days to read great gardening books and plan your garden for next Spring, Summer and Autumn, no matter if it is an edible garden, flower garden, a mixture of both or one which combines indoor/outdoor living.
Alan



Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Switching on the lights for Botanic D'Lights

Don't miss the Botanic Garden's annual extravaganza of lights. Under the cover of darkness, the Gardens will transform with displays from some of the country's most talented designers.

3-7 August 2016 6-9pm

Dress warm with sensible shoes & bring a gold coin donation.



**BOTANIC
D'LIGHTS**

MACHU PICCHU BECKONS!



16 September - 17 October 2016

Due to my personal contact with and 100% endorsement of Bruce Bulmer, leader for this comprehensive South American tour I am happy to recommend this tour to any CHS members who have an interest in experiencing this continent with a superbly prepared and resourceful leader.

Local guides and all expenses with minor exceptions are included in the package which involves 14 Hotels, 3 trains, 7 internal flights and many buses. International flights are also included.

Visit: www.goldencompasstours.co.nz for further information.

Tony Kunowski, Manager

RAMBLERS 2016

Tuesday 14 June 9.45am
Riccarton Bush

Meet at car park on Titoki St

Tuesday 28 June 9.45am
Beckenham

Meet at Beckenham Park, Eastern Tce

No walk if very wet. FREE
www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers

SHARE YOUR GARDEN

Are you a gardener with a favourite season? Would you be happy to show off your seasonal style to a small group of CHS members?

If you have something special to share - from perfect peonies to handsome hostas - we would love to hear from you.

Register your interest online, at All About Gardening or via the CHS Office on tel: 366 6937

Mid Winter LUNCH

with
DOT SMITH!

Queen
of the Castle

MID WINTER LUNCH Saturday 2 July

Dot Smith, Grande Dame of Riverstone, is one-of-a-kind — engaging, entertaining and entrepreneurial, and she's soon to become queen of her own castle.

Join us at our Mid-Winter Lunch and hear all about Dot's latest project – a magnificent castle, complete with dungeon, drawbridge and towers!

Saturday 2 July 2016 12 noon
Cashmere Club, Colombo Street
\$40 per person

Includes a 3-course lunch (pay bar)

Tickets available now

Purchase via the CHS office or online at www.chsgardens.co.nz

CHS Winter Speaker Series

Our Living Landscape - Plants of the East

WINTER
SPEAKER
SERIES.

Four highly qualified and experienced speakers present this series of stimulating talks culminating in the **M J Barnett Memorial Lecture**. Talks start **7pm** in the PC Browne Room, CHS Centre. *Light refreshments will be served.*

Last month Charles Etherington spoke about the three main conifers that dominate the plantation forest industry.

He imparted a new respect for the speed, strength and versatility of *Pinus radiata*, a conifer used in 90% of our forestry. The same species grows exceptionally well in completely different locations.

Charles also spoke about the Douglas Fir ... a good grower in the cooler high country growing to 65 meters or more. *Macaracarpa* is also used and produces the best wood but is not quite so widely used as it has been known to develop Canker.

Many interesting questions were asked relating to New Zealand forestry and carbon credits. A great talk!

FREE to CHS Members, \$5 Students \$10 Non-members
Purchase online or from the office: office@chsgardens.co.nz
or telephone: 366 6937



7pm Tuesday 7 June *new date*
Plants of the East - Near and Far
Colin Meurk



7pm Thursday 14 July
Natures Rock Gardens - unique plants of the volcanic rock outcrops and coastal cliffs of Banks Peninsula
Di Carter



7pm Thursday 11 August
M J Barnett Memorial Lecture
Natural Born Weed Killers: A Key Weapon for the War on Weeds
Lynley Hayes

KOKEDAMA (*Moss Ball*) WORKSHOP

Learn how to make your own stunning kokedama creation in this hands-on workshop.

Saturday 18 June 9.30am - 11am and 1.30pm - 3pm
Terra Vivia 196 Roydvale Ave, Burnside

\$35 per person

Materials included (but do bring along sharp scissors, gloves and warm clothing for working outside).



Morning/Afternoon tea also included.

Limited to 15 people per workshop

Book via the CHS office
tel 366 6937 or online:
www.chsgardens.co.nz

Image: *example of a hanging kokedama moss ball courtesy of Magic Moss.*

Find out more about Kokedama on our website www.chsgardens.co.nz/kokedama-workshop

PRUNING WORKSHOPS

Pruning Fruit Trees
Saturday 2 July 10am - 12 noon
West Spreydon School

Pruning Roses, Hydrangeas & other shrubs
Saturday 16 July 10am - 12 noon
20 Longstaffs Road, Halswell (bring your secateurs to have a go)
FREE for Members \$10 Non-Members
Morning tea included

Pay on the day or book via the CHS office tel 366 6937 or online: www.chsgardens.co.nz

MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS *with Michael Coulter*

June is the start of Winter, the last of the leaves have fallen and lawns and most plants have stopped growing. Much of the work around the garden is about protecting plants from the cold weather, this means moving any pots of tender plants into areas that are protected from the frosts, cold winds and rain. Not everyone will have a greenhouse or conservatory so under the eaves of the house facing the north or on a covered patio will do just as well. Those plants in the ground may need to be covered with frost cloth or similar, this needs to be well secured from strong winds so that the plants are well protected after Winter storms that are often followed by a hard frost.

On any of the nice warm sunny days that we get in Winter, that is the time to treat the fruit trees, weed the garden and plant garlic, sow broad beans and generally have a good tidy up.

Unless there is a lot of growth lawns should not need to be cut. If they look too untidy then give them a cut with the mower set very high just topping the long tips of the grass.

Pruning of fruit trees and other plants may be started during this month but there is no hurry yet.

In the greenhouse the last of the Summer crops should be removed and the inside should have a good clean up and wash down. Remove any shading from the

outside so that the greenhouse is ready for next seasons plants.

Pots or containers that have been used to grow plants in should be washed clean before they are used again.

The compost heap needs to be turned to keep the decomposition even and active, it must also be kept out of the cold rain, I cover mine with black plastic sheets.



On those cold wet days stay inside and look at plant and seed catalogues to get some ideas for next season.

Amuri Garden Tours

& The Christmas Country Fête, Culverden

Our Amuri Garden Tour is an overnight tour taking place on Thursday 27 October.

As well as discovering eight local gardens in the Amuri Basin - from formal and refined to extensive and colourful we enjoy Culverden's iconic Christmas Country Fête .

Loch Leven Garden & Nursery Mike & Doreen Dryden

Mike & Doreen have developed their garden over the last 25 years, with many changes being made along the way. Hedges and topiaries give structure and formality to the house. The hedges are also used to propagate the thousands of cuttings that are grown and sold in the nursery and online. The borders are mixed with deciduous and evergreen shrubs, rhododendrons, roses, peonies and perennials. Virburnums and rhododendrons make a stunning display during October and early November, before the roses, peonies and perennials flower from mid-November to late December when the garden is at its best. Trees are planted throughout the large lawn to give a park like effect. Natives and grasses on a north west fence line add shelter and interest to the garden.



A recent addition to the garden are raised vegetable beds designed and built by Michael. An in ground swimming pool and tennis court have been incorporated into the garden that give the family lots of relaxation and pleasure.



The small nursery beside the garden sell most of the plants you can see growing in the garden, and specializes in hedging plants.

Looking ahead to 2017 we are now confirming a tour to Tasmania to attend the Launceston Flower Show. This exciting 10 day tour will take in the Show and much more of this stunning region of Australia. 19-28 September 2017 **Register your interest!**

WOW SOLD OUT!

TOUR DIARY

WOW® World of WearableArt - Wellington

Friday 7 - Sunday 9 October

Premium show tickets, 4½ star accommodation, Ruth Pretty catering, return airfares with Air NZ.

Book now: \$1199 \$235 single supplement



Auckland Flower Show & Waiheke Island

Short Break - 23 - 26 November

Register your interest now for a chance to explore Auckland's first flower show post Ellerslie.

Amuri Garden Tours

Thursday 27 October - Overnight

Enjoy delicious local fare and handicrafts at the Culverden fête before exploring a private garden in the unique alpine destination of Hanmer Springs and surrounds. **Brochure available. Book now: \$499**



Look & Learn Programme June - December

Enjoy an informal visit to members' gardens. **See flyer for details**

AYRLIES GARDEN - Auckland Flower Show & Waiheke Island 23-26 November

Ayrlies Garden, created by Beverly McConnell and her late husband Malcolm is first stop on the Auckland & Waiheke Tour this November.

Situated in the gently rolling country of east Auckland, this is one of New Zealand's best known gardens, characterised by sweeping lawns and informal but detailed plantings by ponds and waterways. A strong but sensitive use of colour is a hallmark of Ayrlies seen best in the lurid border where 'hot' colours are used to great effect and in other areas where old roses, clematis and perennials are combined in romantic profusion.



Member of the Month

David Adams



Where were you born and where did you spend most of your childhood?

I was born in Oxford and grew up on a farm at Sheffield. I went to Sheffield Primary School and Darfield High School. I went to scouts and Sunday

School and represented my school in rugby, cricket, swimming and athletics going on to play rugby and cricket at a senior level. I was a teacher. In my early days I taught PE then specialised in Deaf Education and moved into other fields of special education working with abused children and later on the other side at the juvenile offenders unit.

Where do you live now?

I live in Yaldhurst with Leitha. We have three children, four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

What aroused your interest in gardening or horticulture?

My dad showed jersey cattle, southdown sheep, poultry and daffodils and I followed his interests, especially daffodils. I also have a certificate for New Zealand Champion Pekin Drake gained when I was twelve years old but have never achieved such an honour with daffodils. My dad died when I was fourteen and my mum went into care soon after. The house we lived in was sold and our daffodils were thrown out.

What gardening or horticultural interests do you have now?

After visiting the 1972 CHS daffodil show with Leitha I suggested that I might like to grow daffodils again. The rest is history as they say. I joined the CHS and the Daffodil Circle. This led to involvement in the National Daffodil Society and now to international daffodil groups. I grow and exhibit daffodils and judge internationally. Some cultivars that I have bred win prizes overseas and a Dutch bulb grower has purchased some for the Dutch bulb market. I have written many articles for local and overseas publications and they seem to have been well received

What's your favourite plant and why?

I guess that daffodils have to be my favourite plant because of

all the opportunities the genus has given me in making friends all over the world and the chance to visit places that would not otherwise have been on the bucket list. That being said I do like growing and harvesting our own vegetables and I'm sure that this has kept our family fed and healthy.

What's been your most challenging and/or rewarding gardening project?

My personality profile labels me as a thinker and a day dreamer. This leads to difficulty in communicating ideas and often leads me into conflict. Now that I understand this I am better able to work with people. My garden is a shambles. Leitha does better with her part. My role in horticulture has therefore been in teaching and at administration level. In many ways my dreaming has led to many new and innovative ways of doing things. I have the ideas, others implement them and the rewards of seeing a successful outcome are great.

What else do you do?

I'm back on the Board of the CHS, run a Junior Gardeners programme and chair a sub committee. I play golf and run the twilight tournaments, am on a sub committee of the National Daffodil Society, help with the Woodend Spring Flower Show and until recently have volunteered in our church cafe. Actually there is not a lot of time or energy for the home garden.

What is your passion for the future of the CHS?

I share the vision with Phil Ducker of a new site where we fulfil our new mission statement. We should be the leaders in horticultural education and in sharing our knowledge with the new gardeners of today. Sadly many of the new initiatives around town have not involved our Society members. I believe that the Board are making good decisions and are looking at ways to involve the new generation of gardeners. We do not have the time or energy to do all we would like to but there are incredible opportunities for us to support and fund those who have a dream for making Christchurch the true Garden City.

PRODUCT OF THE MONTH

This month Oderings have chosen to share a new publication with our avid group of gardeners.

The New Zealand Gardener magazine has recently released a fantastic edition called "Pruning Made Easy". This magazine covers how and when to prune absolutely everything from roses, berries and grapes, fruit trees, trees, topiary, ornamentals, hedges and espaliers. With illustrated step-by-step guides and free how-to videos from Kiwi experts this magazine is brilliant.

Whether a novice or experienced gardener there is always something to learn, and this magazine is sure to impart many pearls of wisdom.

Available now at Oderings stores or online at www.oderings.co.nz

\$15.90 per copy.

Don't forget about the CHS Pruning workshops coming up in July either!



kiwigardener



ODERINGS
GARDEN CENTRES

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