

Canterbury Horticultural Society
Newsletter No 227 August 2016

e: office@chsgardens.co.nz t: (03) 366 6937 CHS Centre: office hours 9am – 4pm www.chsgardens.co.nz facebook.com/CanterburyHorticulturalSociety

NATURAL BORN WEED KILLERS



A KEY WEAPON FOR THE WAR ON WEEDS LYNLEY HAYES

M J BARNETT MEMORIAL LECTURE

Thursday 11 August 7pm
PC BRowne Room, CHS Centre
Free to members, \$10 non-members
Light refreshments served

what's on **next**

ALL ABOUT GARDENING month September 2016

Tuesday 6th 7nm & Wednesday 7th 9.30am

NB: Wednesday morning meeting now commences at 9.30am

"Arrival Cuppa" Self serve tea & coffee from 9am

From Your Gardens: This month's featured produce: Leeks, rhododendrons and daffodils. Success and problem plants equally welcome!

Planting and Growing Fruit Trees

fruit trees, berries and citrus, discusses what's new and what will flourish in our Canterbury conditions, focussing on plants that are suited for small gardens and containers.

Fruit growing in a Pocket Garden – Peter King

\$5 Members, \$10 non-members Morning tea included CHS Centre, South Hagley Park

Never miss an AAG Session!

Sign up with your mobile number to receive SMS alerts to all AAG sessions. Simply txt **CHS** followed by your name to **226** and you'll be added to our list (you can also email us or add your details to the form available at AAG).

Winter Speaker Series

Our Living Landscape

Join us for the final talk of the Winter Speaker Series & M J Barnett Memorial Lecture

New Zealand is one of the weediest countries in the world and the problem is far more complex and intractable than many realise. Conservation areas, farms, roadsides, river beds and greenspaces in our cities all host an incredible diversity of unwanted plants.

Lynley Hayes will explain how New Zealand has already benefitted from the release of some natural born weed-killers, outline projects in the Canterbury region, share secrets to success, provide reassurances about safety, and consider the future outlook for this approach. This is a talk with everything – a cast of thousands, science, interesting creatures, smut, economics, joy and despair.

Lynley Hayes is the leader of the Biodiversity and Conservation team at Landcare Research, the Crown Research Institute charged with driving innovation in the management of terrestrial biodiversity and land resources.

The M J Barnett Memorial Lecture was established to honour the memory of one of New Zealand's most distinguished horticulturists, Morris John Barnett M.B.E., A.H.R.H.S., A.H.R.I.H. (NZ) who died 15 October 1964. Canterbury Horticultural Society instituted the memorial lecture in 1965 to perpetuate his memory.

\$10 non-members \$5 students.

Door sales available on the night or book online: www.chsgardens.co.nz

Heritage Rose Pruning Demonstration

Saturday 13 August 10am

The CHS has partnered with Ferrymead Heritage Park to present a free heritage rose pruning demonstration.

Taking place on site in the Addington Workshop Memorial Garden, located inside Ferrymead, it will cover the basics of pruning these unique blooms.

A heritage rose, also known as an old garden rose, is defined as any rose belonging to a class which existed before the introduction of the first modern rose, La France, in 1867.

In general, heritage roses of European or Mediterranean origin are once-blooming woody shrubs, with notably fragrant, double-flowered blooms primarily in shades of white, pink and crimson-red.

The shrubs' foliage tends to be highly disease-resistant, and they generally bloom only from canes (stems) which formed in previous years.

This is an open event so do spread the word.

There is no need to register, just turn up with your secateurs!

When & Where

Saturday 13 August 10am Addington Workshop Memorial Garden Ferrymead Heritage Park Truscotts Rd & Ferrymead Park Drive Entrance A (Education)

Plenty of parking available opposite entrance image top: the shrub rose 'Mollineux'.

Seeking heritage lovers

Ferrymead Heritage Park is looking for volunteer host/guides. The park is under new management and is keen to have guides available to greet and help visitors. This will be over 7 days a week in the warmer months and probably Friday-Sunday in the Winter.

Ideally, guides would do a minimum of 2 days per month, dependant on receiving a good response to this appeal.

Hours: 10.30am-3pm (also TBC)

Please contact **Cindy Hey**Education co-ordinator, if you
can help. Tel: 384 6492 or email:
heritage@ferrymead.org.nz

what's on **this month**

ALL ABOUT mon GARDENING AUGUST

Tuesday 2nd 7pm & Wednesday 3rd 9.45am

All About Gardening returns with a special truffle-inspired session led by Dr Alexis Guerin-Laguette from Plant & Food, Lincoln. Alexis is an entertaining speaker and loves to share his passion for truffles. There will also be a session on breakfasting with truffles - yum!

\$5 Members, \$10 non-members Morning tea included, CHS Centre

GARDEN CLUB REPS

Garden Club Reps Tuesday 2 August 10am
PC Browne Room, CHS Centre

CHRYSANTHEMUM CIRCLE

Monday 15 August 7.30pm
Watling Lounge, CHS Centre
Preparing for taking cuttings, general
cultural notes

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thursday 18 August 3:45 - 5pm Watling Lounge, CHS Centre

FLORAL ART CIRCLE

Thursday 18 August 1.30pm Watling Lounge, CHS Centre

FRUIT & VEGE CIRCLE

Wednesday 31 August 7.30pm Watling Lounge, CHS Centre

Combined Spring Show

Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 September 2016

New Zealand Alpine Garden Society, Rhododendron Society and Canterbury Horticultural Society Daffodil Group have once again joined together to present the Combined Spring Show.

The 2016 show also includes the Rhododendron and Bonsai Societies and the Cacti & Succulents Group. These organisations will present their own unique mini-shows, promising to make the event even better and bigger than ever before!

The CHS Daffodil Group is running twice as many classes compared with last year, and has doubled the amount of space available.

There is also a number of smaller displays with something for all visitors, young or old, to enjoy. Not to mention the chance to stock up on plants for your Summer garden, with sales tables from well-known specialist growers from around the South Island.

The event is well supported at the Woolston Club, easily accessible off Ferry Road. Parking is excellent, as is the range of refreshments. Enjoy a coffee or lunch in the cafe or stay for dinner in the well-priced Whitford's restaurant.

We hope to see you there!

WHEN & WHERE

Saturday 17 September 1pm - 5pm **Sunday 18 September** 10am - 4pm

Woolston Club 43 Hargood Street, Woolston **Entry \$5**

Children under 15 vears old free

For further information contact: **Jude Stephens**: tel: 382 9199 email: *jude.stephens@gmail.com*

Spring Fever Quiz!

Wednesday 14 September 7pm

Calling all gardeners, landscapers, florists, growers and quizzers all!

It's the time of year to sharpen your senses and prepare for battle at the CHS Spring Fever Quiz.

Once again we are looking for a champion team, so pick your team mates wisely!

We have the usual mix of challenging general knowledge and horticultural questions prepared, as well as those generous meat packs.

A special bar license has been secured and we look forward to a fun and relaxing night with our members and friends - spread the word!

Which Team, Club or Society can topple the current Champions?

When & Where

Wednesday 14 September 7pm PC Browne Room, CHS Centre Teams of 4 at \$5 per head Bar open and snacks provided

Register and pay via the CHS Office tel: 366 6937 email: office@chsgardens.co.nz

Last minute entries will be accepted on the night (space permitting).

Answers online at: www.chsgardens.co.nz

QUIZ TIME

Which country name begins with these letters?

- 1. Qa
- 2. Rw
- 3. Se
- 4. Th
- 5. Ur

RAMBLERS 2016

Tuesday 9 August 9.45am Burnside

Meet in Bowling Club car park on Avonhead Rd

Tuesday 23 August 9.45am **Woodham Park**

Meet Woodham Rd near Tancred St

No walk if very wet. FREE

BOTANIC D'LIGHTS

Its time to celebrate Winter! Wednesday 3 - Sunday 7 August 6-9pm

Don't miss the Botanic Garden's annual extravaganza of lights.

Dress warmly with sensible shoes and bring a gold coin donation.

OPEN WORKSHOP

Chrysanthemum Cuttings & Propagation

Saturday 3 September 1.30pm Coulters Nursery, 183 Weston Rd Saint Albans

This workshop and demonstration is open to all CHS members. A hands-on interactive session led by Michael Coulter.

No registrations required Will take place rain or shine.

MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS with Michael Coulter

August sees the transition of the seasons from Winter to early Spring. The days are getting longer and the sun

has more warmth. This time of the season can be very challenging in the garden; it can be very cold to quite warm which tells us that we must get on and finish all those Winter tasks before the real start of Spring is here

We often get impatient to start planting and seed sowing but I still think it is too early for most plants so much of our work should be preparation for planting and sowing.

This is a good time to stock take what we have in the shed as far as seeds and fertilisers and replace any old seeds past their use by dates and any fertilisers that will be needed in the coming season.

The ground can be dug over and compost incorporated to get the soil ready for planting. Any old crops should be removed to make way for more planting. Good gardening! See you all at All About Gardening to answer any questions.

Lawns

- 1. Get the lawn mower serviced and ready for the growing season.
- Make first cut of the season, only cut at a height that will make the lawn look tidy.
- 3. Always catch the grass at this time of the year.
- 4. At the end of the month the lawn can be fertilised.
- 5. After the first cut the lawn may benefit from a rake to reduce the thick thatch.
- Repairs to bare areas by mixing grass seed and fine soil spread over the area which has been roughed up with a fork may be completed from the end of the month onwards.

Winter Speaker Series

In Review

Di Carter, a CCC ranger for the Port Hills was our July "Our Living Landscape" speaker. She introduced her audience to the challenges and joys of looking after the most inaccessible part of her "Port Hills parks" and Banks Peninsula!

She illustrated her descriptions of the variety of plants surviving, even thriving, in the rocky screes and crannies of our hills, with charming photos ranging from the endemic pygmy button daisy to climbing meuhlenbeckias.

One of her jobs many challenges has been the survey of Banks Peninsula cliff-faces; photographing them from a helicopter!

Her enthusiasm was contagious. Equally so

her concern that garden escapees such as spur valerian, pig's ear, mexican daisy, californian poppy, and plants spread by berry-feeding birds, such as bone seed and cotoneasters are taking over from our native

Their control is a growing part of her job.

species.

This series of stimulating talks culminates this month with the M J Barnett Memorial Lecture

Thursday 11 August 7pm, CHS Centre. Light refreshments will be served.

FREE to CHS Members, \$5 Students \$10 Non-members.

Purchase online or from the office: office@chsgardens.co.nz tel: 366 6937



ROTARY FUNDRAISER

Christchurch South Rotary Club's community fundraising project

Sat 27 Aug & Sat 3 Sep 8.30am - 4pm

12kg bags of excellent garden manure \$6 per bag, or 4 bags for \$20

Available from the following sites:

Wairakei Road *close to Wairakei School* Innes Road *Malvern Park* Harewood Road *Nunweek Park* Ferrymead *McCormacks Bay Road* Cashmere Club *Colombo Street South* Cashmere Road *opposite Crighton Tce* Pages & Woodham Road corner Halswell Road near Aidanfield entrance Springs Road Prebbleton (south of Blakes Rd roundabout)

Delivery also available in Christchurch city area. 5 bags \$30, 10 bags \$50.

Please order by Friday 12 August.
Deliveries made during the week
commencing 20 August. Payment by cash,
cheque or direct credit. Invoice left on
delivery.

For further details, advance, or bulk orders, please contact: **Graham Foulds** tel: 355 6348 email: *gfoulds@xtra.co.nz*

HORTICULTURE FUNDAMENTALS COURSE

Wednesdays 10 August - 7 September 2016 5.30 - 7.30pm. PC Browne Room, CHS Centre

A fantastic opportunity to learn the basics of horticulture in a concise 5 week, 6 session course led by David Milne, a qualified horticulturalist from Scotland. Also includes a practical session on Saturday 27 August.

Cost \$130 per person

Enrolment & payment online (close 4 August) www.chsgardens.co.nz or via the CHS Office

MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS cont...

Fruit & Vegetable Garden

- Finish all pruning by the end of the month.
- 2. Treat fruit trees for diseases, spray with copper.
- 3. Spray conquer oil on trees to control insects.
- 4. Plant new fruit trees, choose only good quality healthy plants.
- 5. Plant strawberries and other soft fruits, choose a sunny site for best results.
- Hardy crops like brassicas and lettuce may be sown and planted towards the end of the month.

- Broad beans may need to be staked and keep garlic and onion crops weed free.
- 8. Warm loving crops like tomatoes may be sown indoors but they may do better with some bottom heat or wait few more weeks

Flower Garden

- Keep Spring bulbs weed free and make sure that daffodils have plenty of water.
- Spring flowering shrubs should be pruned straight after flowering to encourage next year's flowers.
- 3. Complete rose pruning and treat plants for pests and diseases.

- Side dress roses with rose fertiliser to promote good healthy growth.
- 5. Gladiola may be planted towards the end of the month. Plant only healthy firm corms for best results.
- 6. Dead-head Spring flowering annuals (poppies, pansies, violas, primulas, polyanthus etc...) to prolong their flowering.
- 7. Keep weeds free from around perennials and look out for slugs, especially around hostas.
- 8. Prune hydrangeas remove all the old wood and last years flower heads. Look out for the white scale on the lower stems which can be cut out and then treat plant with an insecticide.

Discover Auckland at its Best

Auckland & Waiheke Short Break

Due to some considerations relating to the NZ Flower Show location at Okahu Bay the organisers have sadly advised that they have had to postpone the show until November 2017. Kate Hillier and her team apologise for any inconvenience.

With so many wonderful gardens to be seen in the Auckland region we have decided to continue with our tour as planned.

In place of the NZ Flower Show we will experience a wonderful day in the Coatesville area visiting the beautiful gardens of "A La Fois", "Pinelee", "Mincher" and "Totara Waters" at Whenuapai.

The following is a glimpse of "Mincher" where we also enjoy a light lunch.

Approached by a chestnut-lined drive which winds past old orchards and streams, Mincher, a large rural garden just north of Auckland's CBD, is home to many varieties of waterfowl and birdlife including Grey Teal, Aylesburys, Kingfishers, Shining Cuckoos, Tui and Kaka.

The structure and formality of the Georgian styled home is reflected in the immediate surrounding planting with long perennial borders and a parterre before gradually loosening to a more cottage style area under the ancient apple trees.

Passing through the "kissing gate" under the mature willows reveals a different vista of expansive grassed areas, encompassing "The Ride"edged with pin oaks, winding

gravel paths weaving through a mix of native and exotic planting and the Rhododendron Walk, a blaze of glorious colour in Spring.

The neighbouring traditional walled kitchen garden with its Victorian inspired glasshouses and adjoining gardener's cottage nestled in its own pretty garden provides a quiet spot for contemplation.

TOUR DIARY



Amuri Garden Tours

Thursday 27 October - Overnight

We have just secured additional accommodation - more





Wednesday 7 September 1-4pm
After a BYO luncheon (tea & coffee provided) in the
Watling Lounge following the September AAG members
are invited to visit (via car pool) any Spring Garden
entires from the tour list provided on the day.
The selected gardens will be open 1pm - 4pm.



Discover Auckland at its Best Auckland & Waiheke

Short Break - 23 - 26 November
We have hand-picked a selection of spectacular gardens from Auckland's southern and northern suburbs. All this plus a full day on Waiheke!

Book now: \$1849 single supplement \$475



Blooming Tasmania Flower & Garden Show Launceston, Tasmania Longer Break - 19 - 28 September 2017

THE BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF MINCHER BECKONS



Auckland at its Best short break runs from Wed 23 to Sat 26 November 2016. **\$1849** (ss \$475). Includes return airfares, accommodation, coach travel, garden entries, most meals & more!

Set against a backdrop of typically Northland podocarp forest, the Bush Walk features lookouts over the Mahonui Stream. Explore the 60m long bog garden and Drogo, the croquet lawn encircled with trimmed Totara and stroll under the pergola, espaliered





with Manchurian pears.







Member of the Month

Lois Buckley

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

Born and educated in Invercargill, married and had three children, then worked full time in the family photographic business. Secretary Invercargill Horticultural Society for a number of years.

Where do you live now?

Retired to Queenstown for fifteen years, but moved to Christchurch in 2010. Bought house here in Christchurch 12 hours before first earthquake! President and Life member of the Wakatipu Garden Club.

What aroused your interest in gardening or horticulture?

I guess my mother-in-law introduced me to floral art and I learnt to love flowers. The Duncan & Davies mail catalogue was my bible for learning.

What gardening or horticultural interests do you have now? I'm a plantaholic, love starting new gardens and keeping up with the botanical names of plants. I suffer withdrawal symptoms if I don't get to a nursery each week.

What's your favourite plant and why?
All the early Spring flowers heralding the start of a new season, especially those first snowdrops.

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

Being President of the Cashmere Garden Club the last two years. A very busy time amongst fabulous people. Challenging to find new members after the quake, but most rewarding to know it had been achieved.

When did you join the CHS and why?
Joined the Wakatipu Garden Club up as a member then took over their membership when they resigned, so I feel I have been part of CHS for longer than I have lived here.

What is your passion for the future of the CHS?

For the Society to encourage more people to join the wonderful world of gardening. So rewarding. So peaceful.

DO YOU KNOW A GREAT GARDENER?

In September Yates is launching an exciting new initiative to celebrate all kinds of gardening and gardeners. They are hoping our members might be able to help.

They are looking for great gardeners around New Zealand to share their stories. This could be you or it could be someone you know. Yates would like to tell these stories in local and national newspapers, television or radio.

The story might involve:

- An inspirational story of achievement
- Someone who has gone the extra mile to do something special around gardening
- A quirky garden
- Growing something very unusual/rare
- A successful community garden
- A great school garden

It doesn't matter whether your garden is big or small, you live in the city or the country, you grow vegies or violets... as long as it's unique in some way.

If you or someone you know has a great story to share, please send us the person's name, contact details and a few sentences about why we should talk to them about their story.

If the story is something the media is interested in, that person and the person who nominated them will receive a gift pack from Yates.

If you have a story to share or a gardener to nominate please contact Liane Donovan tel: 027 222 7348 liane@donovanpr.co.nz

Thank you for your help and happy gardening!











