



CHS NEWS

Canterbury Horticultural Society
 Newsletter No 229 October 2016
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 www.chsgardens.co.nz
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Joe Cartman & Alan Jolliffe



Lorraine Moody



Dulcie Brook



Elizabeth Peacock accepts her Silver Service Award



Joan Barnes & Alan Jolliffe



Keith Mitchelmore



Maggie Croy



David Purcell

what's on
 next
 month

ALL ABOUT GARDENING November 2016

Tuesday 1st 7pm & Wednesday 2nd 9.45am

Arrival Cuppa - self serve tea and coffee available for members from 30 minutes prior to the meeting.

From Your Gardens: Lettuce, roses, peonies. Success and problem plants are equally welcome!

Orchards in Schools

Mary Tingey joins us on Tuesday evening to provide an update on the Orchards in Schools programme which began in 2012. On Wednesday morning Rachel Vogan will present on behalf of Mary.

Also in the programme: **From Your Gardens and this month's Tips and Tasks** with Michael, Dave and Alan and **Practical Sessions and workstations.**

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).

Annual awards presented

At the recent Special General Meeting several members were presented with awards in recognition of their contribution to horticulture or service to the CHS.

The John Taylor Award for Outstanding Leadership in Horticulture was made in absentia to the CHS Honorary Botanist **Dr Colin Meurk.**

President Alan Jolliffe paid tribute to Colin's work in urban conservation notably Travis Wetlands, Avon River and more recently the 360 degree walk. "Colin's leadership in this area is without peer in that he doggedly goes about investigating, talking, promoting, lobbying people to make these things come true".

Outstanding Horticulturalist Awards were presented to **Joe Cartman** and CHS member **David Purcell.** Joe immigrated from the UK and was in charge of the former Waimari County Council nursery and latterly the City Council's nursery.

He has authored a book on growing NZ Alpine plants and at this year's Spring Show he won the most points for Alpine plants.

David Purcell is a nurseryman at Lincoln for Landcare, deeply involved in the Riccarton Horticultural Society for many years and is an avid chrysanthemum grower belonging to both the CHS's Chrysanthemum Circle and national organisation.

Former President and current Board member **Elizabeth Peacock** received a Silver Service Award for her many years of dedicated service to the CHS. Elizabeth started and still organises the CHS Ramblers and chairs the Member Services Committee bringing the mid winter lunch, quiz nights, volunteer morning teas and so on.

Kowhai awards were presented to **Allan Paterson, Bob Fyfe, Joan Barnes, Keith Mitchelmore, Dulcie Brook, Maggie Croy and Lorraine Moody.**

Final Farewell

In recent weeks the Society has lost several long term loyal members whose significant contributions need to be acknowledged. *They were:*

Mervyn (Mickey) Cox *Life member*
Elsa Edgar
Barbara Wolever
Norma Tod
Bob Henderson

Horticulture Fundamentals Course

A Successful introduction to horticulture



Thirteen young “budding” horticulturalists recently completed a Fundamentals of Horticulture course run by the Society.

This was offered in response to an identified need for a short and focused, quick fire course covering the basics of

horticulture.

The 5 week – 6 session course involved a planting day at Waitakiri School under the watchful eye of experienced horticulturalist and tutor Dave Milne and covered topics such as plant identification, care and

maintenance, soil structure, plant survival needs and plant propagation.

The course will be repeated at least once in 2017, meanwhile we are planning a more advanced course of similar duration in the near future.

*what's on
this
month*

ALL ABOUT GARDENING OCTOBER

Tuesday 4th 7pm & Wednesday 5th 9.45am
Self serve tea & coffee from half an hour before

Growing Vegetables from Seed: Based at a family farm on the fertile rolling Canterbury Plains, The Seed Warehouse supplies superior, fresh seeds direct from the growers to home gardeners, community and market gardens. They will be giving AAG attendees a small gift pack as well as advice on how to get the best out of their seeds.

OCTOBER AAG REMINDER

Please bring your own gloves and a container if you wish to take part in the seed planting mini workshops at this month's All About Gardening sessions on Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th October.

The Seed Warehouse will also have extra seeds, tools and jiffy peat pellets for sale so bring some extra cash along too.

CHS CIRCLES

Chrysanthemum Monday 17 Oct 7.30pm
Watling Lounge, CHS Centre
General cultural notes, plant nutrition and fertilisers. Plant sale arrangements.

Floral Art Thursday 20 Oct 12pm
Lunch at Portstone

Fruit & Vege Wednesday 26 Oct 7.30pm
Watling Lounge, CHS Centre
Polynet Products and their application in the home garden with MD Paul Smith. Products available for sale.

HORTICULTURE AT THE NATIONAL TRAINING ACADEMY

As you're reading the CHS newsletter you probably already have great enthusiasm for plants, but it may be time to move to the next level. If you, or someone you know, are considering a career in horticulture, would like to know how to propagate your own plants or simply want to improve your botanical knowledge, have a look at the horticulture courses at the National Trade Academy (NTA).

Based at McLeans Island, NTA has its own production nursery and offers several full and part-time level 2 and 3 horticulture courses that cover a wide range of horticultural practices and techniques.

The courses are taught by tutors with many years' experience in commercial horticulture and are largely practical in nature. They emphasise industry-standard plant propagation and production, amenity horticulture and also cover basic botanical biology.

It is a great way to learn about plants, develop skills and also gain a recognised qualification.

Learning about horticulture is not only a pathway into a thriving industry, it often sparks a love of plants that can last a lifetime.



If you are keen to start, would like to arrange a visit or perhaps just need more information, please call us on tel: 360 2192 or email: admin@nta.co.nz

Spring Show

Spring show rewards with beautiful blooms



The CHS Spring Show was held in conjunction with the NZ Alpine Garden Society Show and the Rhododendron Society Show. This combined event is a highlight in the flower showing world where choice flowers mix with the finest of alpine plants. Many members of the CHS visited the show and were amazed at the quality and variety of plants and cut flowers on display.

In addition to the competitive show displays by the Bonsai Society, the Botanic Gardens and our own Garden Clubs added to the visual impact. The Garden Club's display was superb and illustrates the commitment to good horticulture and to the gardening skill of our members. Thanks are due to all who participated and who assisted with the show set up and take down.

There were very good entries in the Daffodil section. Aaron Russ was awarded Champion Bloom with a small but very neat flower of 'Florence Joy'. Marion and Michael Brown won the top class with a well grown entry of 27 blooms.

Other awards were shared amongst the exhibitors. Jack Inwood and Phil and Lynne Wild shared the Amateur prizes. It was great to see members of the Junior gardeners group entering the show. Renee Thom gained champion bloom in the Children's section.

For those who did not visit the show you missed a real treat. Book yourself in for the third weekend of September next year.

GARDEN CLUB REPS

Tuesday 4 October 10am
PC Browne Room, CHS Centre

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thursday 20 October 3:45 - 5pm
Watling Lounge, CHS Centre

RAMBLERS 2016

Tuesday 11 October 9.45am
Lincoln
Meet on Birches Rd near Maternity Hospital

Tuesday 25 October 9.45am
Tamara Park
Meet corner of Rothsay & Regalwood Rds

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

INTERACTIVE HORTICULTURE WORKSHOP

Hypertufa with Allan Paterson
Saturday 15 October 10am - 1pm
Magic Moss: 10 Truro Street, Sumner
Also includes all aspects of sphagnum moss production

Members: \$10 Non-members: \$15
Limited to 15 participants
Book online: www.chsgardens.co.nz

MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS *with Michael Coulter*



Spring is well and truly here. The cherry blossoms are in full bloom and the city is clothed in a kaleidoscope of Spring flowers of all colours and types.

We are still in need of rain to get the soil moisture up to a good level for the coming growing season. I have started to water my garden and the results are instant;

blooms open up, plant shoots expand into growth and hostas poke through the ground within hours of a good soaking. With the equinox past the days are now longer than the nights and plant growth, including the weeds, will become very rapid - so a busy time for gardeners. Remember, do the task today as tomorrow it will be that much bigger and harder.

From now on much of what we do in the garden determines the results that we will get throughout the growing season, 'well begun is half done' really is good advice for any gardener, especially in the Spring.

Flower Garden

1. Water daffodils well, remove spent flowers and leave foliage on for as long as possible.
2. Prune shrubs straight after flowering to encourage new growth for next season's flowers.
3. Give shrubs some fertiliser before they start to grow, especially if they have been planted for some years.
4. Mulch around borders to conserve moisture and suppress weeds.
5. Feed roses and watch out for aphids on the new growth.
6. Remove Spring annuals as they finish flowering and prepare ground for planting Summer flowers.
7. This month is a good time to plant new shrubs like rhododendrons, azaleas etc, but they will need to be given plenty of water to established.

Super Garden Tour

A fantastic opportunity to visit quality gardens for a nominal price

Saturday 19 & Sunday 20 November 10am - 4pm

Presented by the Wigram Lions Club this comprehensive self-drive garden tour takes in over 14 gardens across Christchurch. Gardens range from small to large and your ticket entitles you entrance to any of the gardens over both days of the weekend, simply pick up a map and plan your itinerary - picnic in the garden grounds or pre-book lunch at individual gardens.

Tickets: \$25 per person (children under 15 years free)
Available for purchase from Oderings, Terra Viva and Portstone Nursery outlets, or online at:
www.lionsclubs.org.nz/chch-gardentour
Proceeds from the event support Westpac Rescue Helicopter and Child Cancer Foundation

Gardens not to be missed include:



Jo Kerr - Te Wepu

A half acre garden in the heart of the city featuring a large group of mature natives, a fernery, flax, hebe, lancewoods, paths and lawns, plus two Japanese style gardens.

Margaret Long - Frensham

Margaret is a garden expert with a considerable reputation both in NZ and overseas. This garden has been developed to an amazing high standard. Although a short distance outside the city, Frensham is a must see.

Other highlights include: Riccarton House & Deans Bush, Coniston and Saint John Of God.



GardenLinc PODCASTS

Recent Linclon University retiree, Mike Morely Bunker has created a unique retirement project producing garden and horticulture reatalted podcasts.

You can find a link to his episodes via on www.chsgardens.co.nz/other-resources or via our facebook page.

Episode 2 is an interview with Gerard Martin of Kings Seeds and Stuart Stephens, blackcurrant grower.

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING

Saturday 26 & Sunday 27 November

A fun pre-Christmas workshop to celebrate the holiday season and inspire your festive creativity.

Terra Viva
Price TBC

limited numbers per workshop
ticket sales available soon.

COMING UP

The Horticultural Events team have some fabulous Christmas workshops lined up for December.

Keep an eye out for details on the free Pruning Workshop at Ferrymead Heritage Park and Christmas Kokedama with Poinsettia (what a fabulous combination!) \$50 per person at Terra Viva.

Fruit & Vegetable Garden

1. Now is the start of the seed sowing and planting time, it is better to plan planting to get a continual supply of vegetables - so do not plant the whole garden on the same day.
2. Leave planting tomatoes until the end of the month or early next month for best results.
3. Keep feed and water up on strawberries as they grow, for best quality fruit.
4. Look out for pests on fruit trees as they move into growth.

5. Sow beans, sweet corn and other Summer crops as the ground warms up later in the month.
6. Keep onions and garlic weed free as they do not compete well with weeds.
7. Stake up broad beans as they will grow fast now.
8. Smaller successive plantings of salad crops will give a constant supply over the Summer.
9. If spraying insecticides be aware of the bees and only spray after the bees have returned to the hive in the evening.

Lawns

1. Feed and water now to encourage good Spring growth.
2. Cut at least once a week and catch the clippings.
3. Treat for weeds and moss.
4. Over sow with seed any areas that have been damaged, or are thin in grass.

Plant Sale – Saturday 22 October 9am-12pm

Don't miss this annual plant sale in the grounds of St Peters Church, Church Corner. There will be Chrysanthemum plants and Dahlia Tubers for sale. *Remember to bring cash*

Share your Garden

Spring Garden Visits with Members

October to November 2016

Fellow members have kindly agreed to share their garden with you. Come and join us for an afternoon of enjoyment, learning, sharing and fellowship.

Wednesday 19 October 1pm

Maggie & Errol Croy
1071 Shands Road

Wednesday 2 November 1pm

Freda & Ian Hunter
6 Ascot Place Rangiora

Wednesday 16 November 1pm

Maureen Page (*first*)
2 Pentre Terrace Cashmere
Barbara White (*second*)
20 Major Aitken Drive

Wednesday 30 November 1pm

Isabel Clemens (*first*)
226 Edgeware Road
Ray King (*second*)
7 Palazzo Lane

Meet at the garden at 1pm

\$10 per member, per day

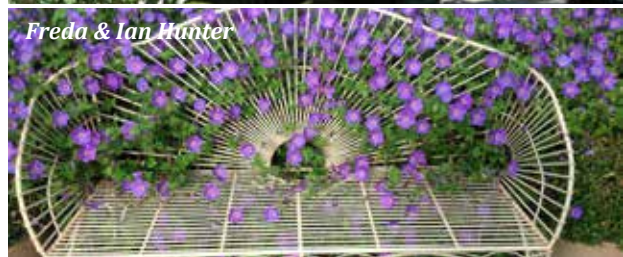
Self drive or get some friends together and car pool. Includes afternoon tea.

Registration essential

Contact the CHS office tel: 366 6937
email: office@chsgardens.co.nz or
collect a flyer from October AAG.



Ray King



Freda & Ian Hunter



Maureen Page

TOUR DIARY



Amuri Gardens Tour

Thursday 27 October - Overnight

Places still available! **Book now: \$499**

Spring Garden Awards Tour

Wednesday 5 October 1-4pm

Following a BYO luncheon (tea & coffee provided) in the Watling Lounge after the October AAG members are invited to visit (via car pool) any Spring Garden entries from the tour list provided on the day.

The selected gardens will be open 1pm - 4pm.



Discover Auckland at its Best

Short Break - 23 - 26 November

A selection of spectacular gardens from Auckland's southern and northern suburbs. All this plus a full day on Waiheke!

Book now: \$1949 single supplement \$475



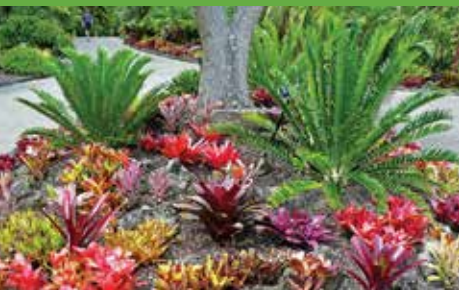
Share your Garden - Member's Spring Garden Visits

Wednesdays at 1pm on the following dates:

19 October, 2, 16 and 30 November

\$10 per person, includes afternoon tea

See flyer for details



TOTARA WATERS

Auckland & Waiheke Short Break

Our last garden visit on day two of the Auckland Short Break is to the magnificent Totara Waters.

A two acre subtropical garden set on the upper Waitemata Harbour, the garden development began in 1999 by Peter and Jocelyn Coyle. "Our aim was to create an interesting and unusual sub-tropical garden using varieties of plants not often seen in most gardens."

Since its establishment the couple have added an extensive range of rare and unusual plants. They also have parrots on display, large melting pots, chimney pots, and a variety of garden art.

The garden has over 25 varieties of palms, a large display of bromeliads and succulents and boasts a stunning bonsai collection.

Bookings for the Auckland Short Break close soon. To see the full itinerary pick up a brochure from AAG or download one from www.chsgardens.co.nz



Member of the Month

Alan Jolliffe - President, Canterbury Horticultural Society

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

Born and raised in Christchurch we had a large garden in South Brighton and then again in Hawkesbury Avenue, St Albans (now called Merivale) which backed onto a nursery which was owned by Case Jorna. At age 11 our family shifted to Oamaru where, after a few years grew commercial hothouse tomatoes, strawberries and hardy cut flowers.

On leaving school I joined the Oamaru Public Gardens and after two years transferred to the Christchurch City Council Parks and Recreation Department. Our crew became the first to specialise in public landscaping. Before working for some time in the Botanic Gardens

I also worked as team leader in Sumner before being appointed Technical Assistant in the Botanic Gardens. A few years later I was appointed Curator of the Botanic Gardens, Hagley Park and Mona Vale.

I was Superintendent of Parks and Recreation for the Nelson City Council and later Director of Parks and Recreation for Hutt City.

In 2003 I had a change of career when I joined the Central Institute of Technology and later moved to CPIT in Christchurch teaching and managing in the business schools. For three years I travelled the South Island as the Heritage Destinations Manager for the NZ Historic Places Trust. For the last eight years I managed the non-academic side of the Dept of Civil and Natural Resources Engineering.

Where do you live now?

After moving from Christchurch to Nelson and later Lower Hutt, Robyn and I and our family returned to Christchurch in 1997. Robyn and I enjoy a large garden that I hope to work more on now that I have stopped full time work.

What aroused your interest in gardening or horticulture?

My father was a very keen gardener and also a commercial grower of tomatoes, strawberries and cut flowers so I was brought up around plants. My mother and I exhibited flowers and floral art in various shows in Oamaru and my interest grew in amenity horticulture rather than commercial horticulture.

What gardening or horticultural interests do you have now?

My current horticultural interests are in writing about plants as there is a big gap in plant knowledge in NZ and around the world. The range of plants that are offered by our nurseries is woefully

narrow and we need to create a demand for different plants to be on sale. That is both native and exotic plants.

I am also very keen on developing new and interesting ways which CHS members and members of our community, both young and old, can connect and share their knowledge of gardening and gardens. Of particular relevance now is the wide range of edible plants. I am also interested in plant photography, but only with a 'point & shoot' camera as I don't like a heavy weight around my neck.

What's your favourite plant and why?

I have many favourite plants but one which I like for its flowers is the genus *Cantua* from South America. I named one of these after my daughter! In Scotland recently I found an excellent specimen of *Crinodendron hookeriana* again a plant that has nice foliage, can look untidy but has the most fascinating flowers.

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

Interestingly it is not my projects that are the most rewarding for me, but seeing members and others in our community develop gardens in the style they want producing the vegetables, fruit flowers or living landscapes that makes them happy.

When did you join the CHS and why?

I was a member of the CHS in the 1970's before moving to Nelson and I joined to learn from others and to pass onto others some of my knowledge. In those days the city was very proud of its Garden City image and the Council and others put on some really great displays and shows. I rejoined the CHS in 1998 for exactly the same reasons, I was proud to be living and working in the Garden City.

What is your passion for the future of the CHS?

The CHS has a fantastic future. Our new Mission of "connecting people to the art, science and practice of horticulture and gardening" is the essence of the CHS.

How we connect with people is through our programme of events, - All about Gardening, social events, outreach programmes like Orchards in Schools, seminars, workshops and the Winter Speaker Series.

Emails, Newsletter, Facebook Page, Twitter and Website are all part of sharing our events and knowledge in a world connected by the internet.

Carefully looking after our assets and creating a sustainable cash flow will enable us to do more interesting things for our members and the current and future citizens of Christchurch.



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 Base and will be populated as sponsors join the programme. Details of the programme may be found at www.chsgardens.co.nz/sponsorship