

*Canterbury Horticultural Society* Newsletter No 230 **November 2016** 

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

Congratulations to Peter Van Der Zee whose Redwood garden won the **Premier Garden Award** 

> what's on **next**

# ALL ABOUT GARDENING month December 2016

**Tuesday 6th** 7pm **& Wednesday 7th** 9.45am Arrival Cuppa - self serve tea and coffee available for members from 30 minutes prior to the meeting

**From Your Gardens:** Peas and lilies. Success and problem plants are equally welcome!

#### All about Lilies

The lily society will be talking lilies and bringing some plants in for sale.

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

Christmas entertainment provided by the Cathedral Grammar Choir

5 Members, \$10 non-members. Morning Tea / Supper 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).

# **Oderings Spring Garden Awards** 2016

Peter Van Der Zee	Medium PREM	IIER GARDEN AWARD
Brian & Janet Lovelock	Medium	Gold
Peter Van Der Zee	Medium	Gold
Dr Fowlers & Mr Smulders	Medium	Gold
Paulette Smaill	Medium	Gold
Carol & Ray Skinner	Medium	Gold
Mary Revis	Medium	Bronze
Nancy Meherne	Medium	Merit
Ian Foster	Small	Gold
Croydon Thomas	Small	Silver
Anne Offwood	Small	Silver
Merivale Retirement Village	<b>Retirement Homes</b>	Gold
Ryman Healthcare	<b>Retirement Homes</b>	Silver
Diana Isaac Retirement Village	<b>Retirement Homes</b>	Silver
The Oaks Retirement Village	Retirement Homes	Bronze
Ngaio Marsh Retirement Village	Retirement Homes	Bronze
Eden Kendall	New Home & Garden	Bronze
Roger Meikle	Pocket Garden	Merit
Sockburn School	Community Space	Gold
Community Gardens	Community Space	Bronze
Smith Street Community Garden	Community Space	Merit
Brackenridge Community Choices	s Community Space	Merit
Avon City Motel	Business & Industry	Gold
Rossendale Vineyard	Business & Industry	Gold
The Woolston Club	Business & Industry	Merit

# **Basil Pesto Party** Just the thing for Summer

# GARDEN CENTRES

I don't know about you but I love basil. It's so yummy and refreshing in pasta, curries and salads. My favourite would be a traditional Italian pizza.

If I had one complaint about basil, it would be the difficulty the home gardener often has growing their own. This is because basil is extremely frost tender, which makes summer the ideal time to grow basil. But with the heat in the summer, basil will often go to seed just as the plant is lush and productive, which is extremely frustrating for us home gardeners. So here at Oderings, we were extremely excited to find a gem that any basil lover is going to appreciate.

Introducing **Basil Pesto Party**, whose claim to fame is how late it flowers and goes to seed. Pesto Party will actually flower 14 weeks later than all the other sweet basil varieties, giving you a much longer harvesting season to enjoy the fresh, aromatic and delicious leaves. Pesto Party grows to a height of 30cm, has a pleasing aroma similar to sweet basil and is generally used fresh in recipes.

Available from Oderings stores on online at www.oderings.co.nz

#### what's on **this month**

#### ALL ABOUT GARDENING NOVEMBER

Tuesday 1st 7pm & Wednesday 2nd 9.45am

#### **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.

Along with the usual programme Sandra Chatterton and Lorraine Moody will be talking and tasting salads and salad dressings.

### CHS CIRCLES

**Chrysanthemum** *Monday 21 November 7pm* 183 Weston Road, St Albans

General cultural notes, potting on, stopping of lates. Cuttings for late sprays and one ups.

#### Floral Art

*Thursday 17 November* 1pm Watling Lounge, CHS Centre

#### **CHS CIRCLES**

Fruit & Vegetable Wednesday 30 November 6pm Christmas Breakup – Something Different

Visit to the Christchurch South Community Gardens, 188 Strickland Street, Spreydon. Partners very welcome.

Please bring a party plate of finger food to share, cold drinks, glass/mug and a chair.

Tea and coffee will be provided. The community have a sales table.



# PANAYOTI KELAIDIS, A RARE PLANTSMAN

The New Zealand Alpine Garden Society are delighted to be hosting Panayoti Kelaidis, the Curator of Plant Collections and director of Outreach at the Denver Botanic Gardens, where he has worked for the last 36 years.

During that time he has had a huge influence over the development of their gardens. He has written articles in over 100 books and journals and given many talks around the world on a variety of topics.

He travels to far-off places to collect plants and seeds for the collection in Denver and while there visits many local nurseries and societies like ours to share his knowledge. If you want to be more informed about his background then Google his name and you can read more about his activities. The topic of his talk to us is **"The Hardy Gems of South Africa".** 

Panayoti will be speaking at the NZ Alpine Garden Society Council meeting on *Thursday 3 November 8pm* Philatelic Centre, 67 Mandeville St Riccarton Christchurch. Supper is served at the end of the meeting. There will also be specialist plant sales of hard to find alpine and woodland plants. *Door charge \$5* 

# **From the President** *Alan Jolliffe reports*



It has been two months since my last message and there have been many activities in the CHS and I am pleased to say many people joined in. In particular we graduated our first group in a Certificate in Horticulture and are planning and promoting more courses.

I hope you participated in Yates National Garden Week in the last week of September. Next year I hope we can run some events in that week.

The Board and its committees have been busy and 2017 will be an exciting year with lots of activities to help you improve your garden and growing skills. Shortly you will receive your membership subscription for 2017. We have changed our financial year to align with a calendar year to all our planning much easier for you.

A new and enlarged Calendar of Events will be produced so that members can plan their participation in our events much more easily.

Upon receipt of your subscription a new Membership Card will be issued and members will be able to use that as your ID Card at our meetings and to gain discounts from some of our suppliers. Details will be available on our website and notified by email or in our Newsletter.

As regular members will know Cynthia has resigned from presenting All About Gardening. She has been with us for 7 years and we appreciate all that she has done and wish her well in her next adventure.

It is only a few weeks to Christmas so careful work in the garden now will ensure a fabulous garden for the Christmas season.

#### GARDEN CLUB REPS

*Tuesday 1 November 10am* PC Browne Room, CHS Centre

## JUNIOR GARDENERS

*Thursday 17 November* 3:45 - 5pm Watling Lounge, CHS Centre

#### **RAMBLERS 2016**

*Tuesday 8 November 9.45am* **New Brighton** Meet in car park to left of the Library

on Marine Pde

*Tuesday 22 November* 9.45am Westlake

Meet at Westlake Reserve on Westlake Drive

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

#### SUPER GARDEN TOUR

Sat 19 & Sun 20 November 10am - 4pm

Presented by the Wigram Lions Club this comprehensive self-drive garden tour takes in over 14 gardens across Christchurch.

**Tickets: \$25** (under 15's free) Available for purchase from Oderings, Terra Viva and Portstone Nursery outlets *www. lionsclubs.org.nz/chch-gardentour* 

Proceeds from the event support Westpac Rescue Helicopter and Child Cancer Foundation

# **MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS** with Michael Coulter



Spring weather has at last given us some rain so the top soil now has some good moisture but the sub soil is still dry, this means that we will still have to water our gardens to keep the moisture up where the plants are growing.

The warmer temperatures plus humidity from the rain will give ideal conditions for the spread of fungi on our plants therefore a preventative spray to protect from infection is needed now. Keep a watch out for the aphids that always appear as

the rapid Spring growth on plants is soft and susceptible to insect attack.

Much of what we do in the garden now determines the outcomes of our crops for the rest of the growing season therefore it is wise to do today the tasks that are needed as tomorrow will be too late.



# **Ōtākaro Orchard Building Design Launch**



Over most of the Winter months we have been participating in the design of the building, alongside other members of Edible Canterbury. The building has to be relocatable but we wanted to avoid anything that looked temporary and we wanted the building to display sustainable features such as passive solar heating and green roofs. The whole project has attracted much support from organisations such as Citycare, Goom et al and major funding applications have been lodged with the Rata Foundation and NZ Lotteries Grants Board. On Thursday, 3 November a function will be held at The Piano – to raise the profile of the project and to hopefully attract more sponsorship support either in cash or kind. An update on this innovative project will feature in the December newsletter.

## MAKE YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS WREATH

Sat 26 & Sun 27 November 9.30 - 11am

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

Tickets \$90, all materials provided Terra Viva, 234 Roydvale Ave, Burnside

*Limited numbers per workshop* Tickets available online at www.chsgardens. co.nz or by calling the office tel: 366 6937

#### CHRISTMAS KOKEDAMA & TERRARIUMS

Sat 3 & Sun 4 December 9.30 - 11.30am

A chance to create your very own lasting Christmas decorations. Kokedama and terrariums using sphagnum moss sourced from the West Coast and locally grown poinsettia.

Tickets \$50, all materials provided Terra Viva, 234 Roydvale Ave, Burnside

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

# Flower Garden

- 1. Remove the Spring annuals and prepare the ground for planting Summer annuals later in the month.
- 2. Keep the water up on the daffodils until the leaves die down.
- Dahlias, chrysanthemums and gladioli may be planted now along with other perennials.
- 4. Treat the areas around the hostas for slugs and snails.
- 5. Continue to prune the shrubs as they finish flowering to encourage next years flowers.
- 6. Fertilise the roses and keep them well watered, treat for pest and diseases.
- 7. Mulch the garden to keep down weeds and conserve moisture.

# Fruit & Vegetable Garden

- 1. All those Summer vegetable plants that love the warmth can now be planted or sown.
- 2. After petal fall on stone fruit treat for leaf curl and aphids.
- 3. Sow seeds of leeks and parsnips for the Winter.
- 4. Watch out for the white butterfly on the brassicas.
- 5. Once they are growing well keep tomatoes well watered and fed, remove laterals when you are able to hold them but before they get too big. Later in the month after petal fall treat apples and pears for coddling moth and powdery mildew.
- 6. Peppers and chillies love the heat. Try growing some in pots so that they can be grown in that very warm place.

#### HERITAGE ROSE PRUNING WORKSHOP

#### Saturday 10 December 10am

The CHS has partnered with Ferrymead Heritage Park to present a free Heritage Rose Pruning demonstration led by Alan Jolliffe. Taking place on-site in the Addington Workshop Memorial Garden, located inside Ferrymead, it will cover the basics of pruning these unique blooms. *Free event, rain or shine. No registration* 

required, just turn up with your secateurs

#### Lawns

- 1. Mow the lawns each week and catch the clippings
- 2. Repair damaged areas with seed.
- Treat for weeds but remember not to use the clippings for at lest six mowings.
- 4. Do not cut the grass too low as this encourages weeds and moss.
- 5. Aerate any areas that have become compacted over the Winter.
- 6. Water the lawn to keep it growing before it becomes too dry.
- 7. Fertilise the lawn to keep it green and healthy.

# **Share your Garden** Spring Garden Visits with Members

This was a lovely visit on a perfect Spring day, leisurely walking around the garden with Maggie identifying & discussing plants followed by a time of fun and fellowship on the terrace with afternoon tea. A big "thank you" to you both- for opening your home and garden to us.



*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



## **TOUR DIARY**



#### **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 VisitsWednesdays at 1pm on the following dates:19 October, 2, 16 and 30 November\$10 per person, includes afternoon teaSee flyer for details



**Blooming Tasmania Flower & Garden Show** Launceston, Tasmania Longer Break - 19 - 28 September 2017 Register your interest now

# **WOW Short Break** *Reviewed by Gail Scrivener*

*Friday 7th October - Sunday 9th October 2016* Our spirits were not dampened by the inclement Wellington weather and all twenty six participants returned home a little weary but "wowed" by the experiences of the full weekend of the Wearable Arts Tour itinerary.

After our arrival in Wellington we visited Government House for an interesting tour through this grand home by our guide –"Owen", followed by an informative walk around the grounds and gardens with "Morag" the head gardener, unfortunately it was a little damp but it did not deter our interest in the least.

On Saturday morning we travelled to Te Horo where we enjoyed a visit to "Lavender Creek Farm" and a little retail therapy before meeting with Ruth Pretty. Ruth showed us her herb garden and gave us many tips on how to grow and use herbs before we met with chef 'Jamie' for an amusing cooking demonstration (he cut his finger) followed by a delicious lunch including baked Salmon and a citrus dessert to die for.

Enroute back to Wellington we stopped at Green Mantle Estate Lodge which is situated on the stunning Kapiti Coast and in between showers our host Letizia walked us through her established gardens which have been lovingly tended for generations, and up into the nikau bush, followed by a delicious afternoon tea in the poolside marquee.

We finished our day with the focus of our visit, the WOW show, which "wowed" us completely. It was another world-class spectacular performance of talent, creativity and dance with a "Jungle Theme" and a talking tiger created by "Weta Studios."

On Sunday morning we met with our guide from the "Friends of the Wellington Botanic Gardens," who proudly walked us through these beautiful gardens which were at their spring best, especially the magnificent tulip gardens. Thank you to all participants for making this another memorable tour.



# Member of the Month

Daniela Bagozzi

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

I was born in Brescia, Northern Italy, and grew up there. From the age of about twenty I was studying part time, working and later travelling from Italy to England all the way to New Zealand.

#### Where do you live now?

I have been living in Christchurch central and in the inner city East area for over a quarter of a century.

#### What aroused your interest in gardening or horticulture?

My brother's studies were in agriculture and horticulture, I was a humanities student. In my youth I was never interested in growing anything, though I did take an interest in learning about practical things, with varying degrees of success (I was also quite sure I would not be a teacher – my mother being one – and that's precisely what I became, teaching mainly Italian to adults or tertiary students).

#### What gardening or horticultural interests do you have now?

While living in Christchurch, being interested in natural approaches to health, and herbs for medicinal and culinary use, I started thinking that maybe I could try growing some of these herbs. Much to my surprise the soil in the back yard of our old central city flat was extremely fertile (it had been an old neglected garden, filled with hardworking worms) and it produced a great crop. After that experience I was converted, and promised myself I would soon live somewhere with a bigger garden and I would grow as much food as I could.

#### What's your favourite plant and why?

I have many favourite plants, the one I love the most right now is Wisteria.

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

That would have happened once I moved to my own home in the inner city East, but I soon developed OOS (which was then called RSS – repetitive strain syndrome), I was working a lot at the computer, preparing teaching materials, doing administration for a few projects and writing reports, lots of handwriting too. So, no gardening for a few years. However, the fruit trees I had planted kept growing, albeit suffering from lack of judicious pruning.

With the help of a great physiotherapist I slowly recovered enough to be able to do practically everything, so I started gardening again. In recent years I've had to face the fact that I am basically a 'neglectful gardener', never doing things at the right time, letting all sorts of growth get away on me... (Luckily I eat quite a few of my weeds, so it's not so bad).

#### When did you join the CHS and why?

I joined CHS just a few years ago because some friends invited me along to the Fruit & Veggie Circle, and another friend was a speaker at a Good Gardener evening another time. I liked the meetings, so I joined, hoping to learn a little from the impressive knowledge and experience of the members... unfortunately the meetings usually clash with either a class I am teaching or another meeting I have a commitment to.

#### What is your passion for the future of the CHS?

So, though I am a neglectful member, I hope CHS continues to inspire and support gardeners and growers to become ever more environmentally sustainable, regardless of plot size.

## **STOP PRESS**

#### NZ vs Pakistan Test match

New Zealand cricket has hired the whole complex for the dates of 17 -21 November inclusive. Although the office will remain open during this period there will be tight security on the entry points to Hagley Oval and we recommend that members try and avoid the need to visit the office during this time.

#### Canterbury A & P Show

Instead of taking a stand at this year's Show, the CHS has entered into a partnership relationship with the Canterbury A & P Association and we will be providing a beautification programme in the member's area and the food & wine marquee orchestrated by CHS Board member Rachel Vogan and supported by the other members of the Horticultural Events Outreach Committee – Dave Adams and Michael Coulter.

The edible garden display will feature strong rural elements which connect

agriculture and horticulture in a modern way. A group of CHS members will be on hand to offer advice and promote the Society over the three days of the Show from 9 to 11 November.

#### All About Gardening 2017

All About Gardening will be free to members in 2017 and most probably at an alternative venue with plenty of parking available. Details will be provided on our website by late January 2017 or call the office in the New Year.









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*