



## ORCHARDS IN SCHOOLS

### What's been happening in Autumn

The Orchards in Schools programme is now in its third year. Mary Tingey provides an update on this valuable initiative supported by the CHS with funds from the Rata Foundation. *Read more below*



## WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH JULY EVENT CALENDAR

### ALL ABOUT GARDENING

**Monday 2 July 7pm & Tuesday 3 July 9.45am**

Paul Simmons from Simmons Paeonies joins us to talk about these special flowers in all their beautiful shapes and sizes.

Also in the programme, Gardening Half Hour.

Christchurch Bridge Club, 21 Nova Place

\$2 Members \$5 non-members

Includes tea, coffee and biscuits

### WINTER SPEAKER SERIES

**Our Living Landscape: Native Plant Regeneration**

**Thursday 12 July 7pm**

Harcourts Grenadier Auction Rooms  
98 Moorhouse Avenue

**Steve Bush from Trees for Canterbury**

*More than just a nursery for plants!*

\$5 Members and students, \$10 non-members

Includes refreshments.

Book online [www.chsgardens.co.nz](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz)



Comfortable Venue



## JUNIOR GARDENERS

Our Junior Gardeners are now meeting at **Terra Viva Home & Garden** in Burnside.

Meetings are on the **third Thursday of the month** from **3.45pm – 5.00pm**.

Last month our young gardening enthusiasts made a Cactus Tea Party under the watchful eye of Dave Adams. They even got to plant up their very own pet plants to take home.

If you know a child who would be interested in learning more about all sorts of gardening then give us a ring!

Tel: 366 6937 or

Email: [office@chsgardens.co.nz](mailto:office@chsgardens.co.nz)



## ORCHARDS IN SCHOOLS AUTUMN 2018

**"I like the orchard because its open to nature and nature can come in"**

Olivia, Waitakiri School

The following schools currently participate: **2015** St Martins, Gilberthorpe, Northcote, Addington, Oaklands. **2016** Waitakiri, Rawhiti, Wharenui, Cobham Intermediate, Casebrook Intermediate, Kaiapoi Borough. **2017** Isleworth, Haeata, Wairakei, Elmwood, Fendalton and Chisnallwood Intermediate.

The **Isleworth Nature Ninjas** showed me their orchard and all the fabulous new growth on the trees.

On the day I visited **Casebrook School** the children were hunting for feijoas amongst the marigolds. These healthy well grown trees have gardens underneath them to maintain moisture and soil fertility.

The **Wairakei School** orchard is in its first year. The children have been mulching the trees to maintain moisture as well as feeding the growing root system.

**Gilberthorpe School** Principal Andrew Wilkinson and teacher Clayton Boyd with help from Mitre 10 erected a wind break fence for their orchard. *cont...*

# ORCHARDS IN SCHOOLS AUTUMN 2018

## Progress report from Coordinator Mary Tingey cont...

The difference is huge, no longer do the trees look battered by the Nor Wester. Instead behind the protective fence the leaves are green and healthy.

**The Waitakiri School** EnviroFERNs and I discussed their orchard which is bordered by a fence featuring a bright mural. During my visit we looked into flowers to see how the bees pollinate them.

Planting the orchard inspired **Fendalton School** to extend the layout of their vegetable garden. The garden and the orchard now flow into a lovely walkway of healthy fruit trees and vegetables which is an open part of the playground.

The fruit trees at **Riccarton School** are incorporated into the vegetable garden and chicken run. The children cook the produce during their Garden to Table Programme. The children were weeding and harvesting silverbeet on the day of my visit.

**Elmwood School's** trees are healthy and growing strongly. The children have been enjoying collecting and comparing leaves.

**Rawhiti School's** orchard is beautifully surrounded by a picket fence decorated by children's paintings. All their trees are growing well and are healthy.

The Enviro group at **Chisnallwood Intermediate** is keen to develop the spaces in and around their orchard further. The

children thought that the orchard would make a great picnic lunch place.

The trees at **Cobham Intermediate** are growing well and will be expecting fruit next year. The children have been inspired to extend the gardens to another part of the school beside the worm farm.

**Wharenui School's** orchard has to be moved to accommodate new building development. The school and the CHS will be working together to achieve this. We will keep you posted.

**St Martins School** Garden Coordinator Howard Keene is in the process of increasing access to the orchard. He wants to make pathways around the trees and plant the understory in wild flowers. Their apricot tree was stunning this year with a heavy crop. It did however fruit in the holidays so Howard froze the apricots for their Garden to Table programme.

**Photos from top:** Cobham, Rawhiti, Wairakei & Gilberthorpe



## CHRYSANTHEMUM CIRCLE

**Monday 16 July 7.30pm**

## GARDEN CLUB REPS

**Tuesday 3 July 12pm**

Christchurch Bridge Club, 21 Nova Place

## JUNIOR GARDENERS

**Thursday 19 July 3:45 - 5pm**

Terra Viva Home & Garden, 242 Roydvale Ave, Burnside

## FLORAL DESIGN GROUP

**Wednesday 18 July 3pm**

The group is working on basic ikebana techniques for the next few months.

New members welcome. Contact the office for more information: tel: 366 6937 [office@chsgardens.co.nz](mailto:office@chsgardens.co.nz)

Location of meeting venues to be confirmed - please telephone the office : 366 6937

## FUNDAMENTALS OF HORTICULTURE

A five week practical and theory based course in which participants will learn the basics of horticulture.

**Wednesdays 1 - 29 August 5.30 - 7.30pm**

Includes 1 practical session on **Saturday 18 August 9am-1pm**

**Learning outcomes:**

1. Plant Names & Classification
2. Plant Functions
3. Pests, Disease & Disorders
4. Plant Propagation
5. Tree & Shrub Planting (Practical)

**Cost: \$150 per person**

**Bookings:** CHS tel: 366 6937

[office@chsgardens.co.nz](mailto:office@chsgardens.co.nz)

[www.chsgardens.co.nz](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz) Limited numbers

## NEWS FROM FACEBOOK

### HortTalk Questions



Can anyone tell me why the bark on my fruiting cherry might be splitting? There is no oozing nor was insecticide sprayed. I think it's fairly new too. Thanks!

**We replied:** The split has been caused by die-back from the pruning cut and the bark has died but it looks like it is growing back. The original cut looks a little to shallow and needed to be on a slightly steeper angle. As the bark is growing back ensure it is kept clean and tidy and some extra nutrients in early Spring to ensure the tree keeps growing strongly.



Autumn cleaning and just found that my blackberries are infected. What can I use? I got something for roses to treat some white stuff (forgot the official name). Could I use that for it too? Or best to throw plant out? Thanks

**We replied:** Hello, It looks like you have a scale insect or similar on the stem. Clean the ground up around the base and spray with All Seasons Spraying oil. It's organic so use is fine. It might take a few sprays to clean it up. If persists add some insecticide to the oil. **Join today: [www.facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk](http://www.facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk)**





# WINTER SPEAKER SERIES

## *Our Living Landscape: Native Plant Regeneration*

### Steve Bush

#### **Trees for Canterbury – More than just a nursery for plants!**

Steve will talk about what Trees for Canterbury have done and where they are at today, including what they do other than just growing native plants.

Steve is the manager of Trees for Canterbury and has been there for 26 years. He is married (twice to the same woman) and has a beautiful daughter who will soon turn 18.

He is passionate about Trees for Canterbury, his family and building a better, safer and more inclusive community. His hobbies include mountain biking, supporting local rugby and he loves a real batch brewed craft beer. [www.treesforcanterbury.org.nz](http://www.treesforcanterbury.org.nz)

**Join us on Thursday 12 July at 7pm to hear Steve talk more about the organisation.**



## CANTERBURY HERB SOCIETY *An affiliated group of the CHS*

Meetings are held monthly on alternate mornings and evenings; there is a full programme throughout the year.

Each year a number of herbs are studied in depth, with lots of opportunities for tastings. Herb plants are available for purchase at excellent prices. Then there are field trips to gardens of interest during the warmer months.

Meetings are held at the Avice Hill Arts & Crafts Centre on Memorial Ave. This set of buildings and the surrounding reserve

were gifted to the CCC from Avice Hill's estate. There is an excellent library housed there of all things herbal as well as a fabulous specimen herb garden, including some large trees. The garden is always open if you want to take a walk there. The herb selection is at the rear of the reserve, behind the buildings.

*More information:*

**Heather Crow** Tel: 348 3831

*Canterbury Herb Society*

## RAMBLERS 2018

**Tuesday 10 July 9.45am**

**Shirley**

Meet MacFarlane Park, Emmett St, near Skipton St

**Tuesday 24 July**

Burnside

Meet Nunweek Park, Wooldridge Rd near Harewood Rd

No walk if wet. FREE

2018 Programme available online and from the CHS Office:

[www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers)

## FRUIT & VEGETABLE CIRCLE

**No meetings in June or July. Next meeting 29 August**



## MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS

*with Michael Coulter*

June has been a very frustrating month in the garden with little sun and plenty of rain and drizzle. Because of these conditions I have done little in the outside garden but have spent time in the greenhouses doing maintenance and sorting out plants that are past their best.

This weather pattern looks as though it may continue for some time so we will have to wait until we get some good sunny days for that outside work. There is no need to worry as there is still plenty of Winter to come to get those outside tasks completed. The lawns are very wet so it is better to keep off them as much as possible so that they do not get compacted and muddy. The vegetable gardens are also wet and the soil could get very hard and compacted if you attempt to dig it, also when harvesting in the wet ground place a wide plank on the soil and walk on it so that the soil is protected.

We usually plant garlic and shallots at this time but I would

delay this until the ground is more workable. This weather is more milder at night and day temperatures are low but there have not been many frosts so far so weeds are still growing which makes it a messy task to weed. Again, wait until it is drier and sunny before attempting to weed and keep off the wet ground. July is the start of pruning and spraying time, wait for those fine sunny days as this helps to stop the spread of disease, especially on stone fruit.

For those who have a greenhouse and heat pads for bottom heat, early seeds may be started towards the end of the month but do not be in too much of a hurry as little can be gained until the days become noticeably longer to promote good growth. Take time to do some garden planning, seed sorting and enjoy a browse through the latest plant and seed catalogues to read and order your requirements. Keep warm and dry watch out for wet slippery paths! *Good Gardening, Michael Coulter*

# TOURS WITH THE CHS



**Gail Scrivener** is an experienced Tour Guide with over 30 years in the industry. Gail has led tours for the CHS to Thailand, Tasmania, Melbourne and Norfolk Island, as well as many in and around New Zealand.

**Queensland at its Blooming Best**  
**Sunday 14 - Wednesday 25 October 2018**  
Queensland Mooloolaba, Towoomba, Mt Tamborine, Noosa Heads & surrounds.  
**\$4,999 per person** Single Supp.: \$850

*Book now*

**Christchurch Spring Garden visits**  
**Wednesday 31 October 1.30pm**

The gardens of Sue & Alastair Stokes and Pat Pilkington, Merivale area  
**\$10** includes afternoon tea (self drive)  
Book via the CHS office: Tel: 366 937  
*Pay cash on the day*

**Hurunui Garden Festival Tour**  
**Friday 2 & Saturday 3 November 2018**  
8 gardens to visit over two full days!  
More details to follow next month.



## Queensland at its Blooming Best Day 10 Tuesday 24 October

The last garden visit of our tour will be to Joncia Gardens (pictured right) owned by Marcia and John Rivett. The garden which is now approximately 3 acres has slowly evolved from a bare paddock back in 1992 to a garden of separate rooms, each with its own distinct theme.

One is formal in layout complete with arbours, elegant statues and a mass planting of white iceberg roses, flanked with red carpet roses. In this area there is a lovely spreading Poinciana which provides plenty of shade on a warm day, under planted with bromeliads,

Another is the native garden, where all plants are chosen for their ability to withstand the heat and the dry. Grevilleas and bottlebrush which help to bring in the birds. It will be good to see how native plants combine so beautifully with cottage style blooms on the borders.

On the south side of the property is the rainforest walk, another



lovely place to escape the Summer heat under the

shady canopy of tall established palms surrounded by layers of lush understory plantings.

There is also a Japanese garden, where the red oriental bridge is situated. The rotunda is just another one of the beautiful structures spotted through the garden. It is situated in the middle of a water lilled pond via a Monet style bridge. Other features include "The Native Hut Area" and the vegetable patch, with the most recent addition being the "little Country Chapel" complete with camphor laurel furniture.

At Jonica Gardens there is plenty for us to enjoy – I am sure you will not be disappointed.

**Book now as seats are limited.**

## WHAT'S COMING UP AUGUST

### ALL ABOUT GARDENING

**Monday 6 August 7pm & Tuesday 7 August 9.45am**

Speaker to be confirmed.

Also in the programme, Gardening Half Hour.

*Christchurch Bridge Club, 21 Nova Place*

*Includes tea, coffee and biscuits.*

### CHS SPEAKER SERIES

**M J Barnett Memorial Lecture**

**Thursday 16 August 7pm**

**Jason Butt**

***Don't Panic! It's Only Nature***

*The regeneration of ecosystems – a Canterbury perspective.*

Harcourts Grenadier Auction Rooms 98 Moorhouse Avenue.

**\$5 CHS Members and students, \$10 non-members.**

*Includes light refreshments. Book online or pay at the door.*

