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Canterbury Horticultural Society Newsletter No 249 AUGUST 2018

LOVE DAFFODILS?

Make a diary note for these two events next month SPRING FLOWER SHOW Saturday & Sunday 15 & 16 September The Woolston Club, Christchurch

The National Daffodil Society of New Zealand's 2018 DAFFODIL SHOW Saturday & Sunday 29 & 30 September Darfield Recreation Centre, Darfield

WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH AUGUST EVENT CALENDAR

ALL ABOUT GARDENING

Monday 6 August 7pm & Tuesday 7 August 9.45am

Peter Wells from Ōtākaro Orchard, a hub for local food in the heart of Christchurch, joins us to talk more about the project.

Also in the programme, Gardening Half Hour, Q & A.

Christchurch Bridge Club, 21 Nova Place \$2 Members \$5 non-members Includes tea, coffee and biscuits CHS WINTER SPEAKER SERIES - FINAL

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 www.chsgardens.co.nz or pay at the door

SPRING FLOWER SHOW

CHS Daffodil Show NZ Alpine Garden Society Rhododendron Society

Rare Plants, Specialist Sellers Saturday 15 September 1 - 5pm **Sunday 16 September** 10am - 4pm

This 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 on for dinner in the wellpriced Whitford's restaurant.

\$5, Children under 15 free

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As advised by an email to Members last month the CHS has lodged a request to lease the Tea Kiosk in the Botanic Gardens as its office, horticultural centre and meeting space for groups in Christchurch and Canterbury involved in the broad field of gardening and horticulture to support Christchurch The Garden City. The opportunity to do this was brought about by the Council publicly asking for Registrations of Interest from interested parties.

We intend to use the space for horticultural, gardening, workshops, seminars, conservation and many other displays and small events. This is an exciting opportunity for us. We are supported by the Friends of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens who will also use the building. Other supporters include the Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture, Canterbury Beautifying Society and Canterbury Floral Art.

The Management Plan and Master Plan (Spatial Plan) all support greater community involvement in the Botanic Gardens. We, through our networks, affiliates and contacts will be able to add so much more to the life and value of the Botanic Gardens. I will keep you informed of progress.

Alan Jolliffe, CHS President

M J BARNETT MEMORIAL LECTURE Jason Butt Don't Panic!, It's Only Nature

Nature has been building up ecosystems and tearing them down again since the first organisms organised themselves into ecosystems. These processes are occurring at a much-accelerated pace giving species little time to adapt. This is compounded by a massively accelerated migration of species.

Indigenous ecosystem regeneration happens whether we like it or not. Many of us have no idea it is happening. Jason will be talking about some of the forms it takes and will be covering some of the less obvious ecosystem types – many of which are lost because they are poorly understood or recognised.

Life started for Jason in Christchurch and he has resided here ever since. His working life started as a stained glass artist, however, following a long gestation, at the age of 30 he decided what he really wanted to do when he grew up. It turned out to be much the same as what he did with his time as a child – enjoying the natural world. This took the shape of working for Wai-Ora Forest Landscapes. In addition to managing a business unit that delivered ecological restoration services, he assumed responsibility for collecting the seed for the company's nursery that produces eco-sourced plants. Currently he works for the Canterbury Regional Council as Biodiversity Officer for the Waimakariri Zone.

Join us on **Thursday 16 August at 7pm** for our final lecture of the CHS Winter Speaker Series and M J Barnett Memorial Lecture.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Monday 20 August 7.30pm David & Robyn Purcell's home 11 Ruakaka Street, Hornby General cultural notes, pest control and preparing for cuttings or divisions of plants.

GARDEN CLUB REPS

Tuesday 7 August 12pm Christchurch Bridge Club, 21 Nova Place

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thursday 16 August 3.45 - 5pm Terra Viva Home & Garden 242 Roydvale Ave, Burnside

Location of meeting venues subject to change. Please call the CHS office if in doubt. Tel 366 6937

Welcome to our new CHS Board Members

David Singleton comes from a background in Company General Management. The main areas have been in the operational aspects in establishing a franchise network throughout New Zealand. In the main David's skills are in people motivation and ensuring the right person is doing the right job and getting the right results. The gardening aspects at their home is managed by his partner Susan Jackson with David as the head labourer.

Dudley Johnson is a semi-retired accountant who has worked in a number of sectors in NZ and the Not for Profit sector in Australia. He operated a rose nursery and display garden for 17 years in Auckland specialising in Old and David Austin varieties, representing his father in law, renowned rose grower Trevor Griffiths. On returning to Christchurch he became involved in bringing the Caterpillar Shuttle to the Botanic Gardens. He has been treasurer for many organisations over the years.

FLORAL DESIGN

Wednesday 15 August 3pm

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

New members welcome. Contact the CHS office Tel: 366 6937 Email: *office@chsgardens.co.nz*



National Daffodil Society of New Zealand presents the

2018 DAFFODIL SHOW

See the World's Newest & Finest Daffodils Saturday 29 September 1-5pm & Sunday 30 September 10am -4pm

Darfield Recreation Centre

MEMORIES

Sunday 30th September 1pm Remember the Spring Shows of the 50's & 60's ? *Come & reminisce*

DAFFODIL CULTURE WORKSHOP Sunday 30th September 2pm How to grow great daffodils

ENTER YOUR OWN DAFFODILS Why not join in the show by entering the non member's classes

Great day for the whole family Admission \$5 children under 15 years **free**

www.chsgardens.co.nz/daffodil-show

NEWS FROM FACEBOOK

HortTalk Questions



William Mespel asked, "Can anyone tell what is the best time to graft stone fruit? And when to graft apples? If they are different times. Thanks."

David Colyer posted: For grafting apples and pears you need to collect Scion wood now and store it until mid to late spring. Stone fruit is more often budded (a particular kind of graft) and this is done in summer, scion wood is collect soon before it is used.

Meili Duan was after help identifying this native plant

Oliver Lau posted: It looks like lemon grass to me. U may check it out if it gives lemon smell. Josie Dawber posted: Austroderia richardii, I think? Or



just a weedy grass? **Allan Paterson posted:** It looks like lemongrass used in Thai cooking. Take the picture or plant to you local garden centre to verify as there are other native plants similar and you do not want to get it wrong.

Rose Eastwood posted: Common name is toetoe, a native grass. *Meili Duan:* Thank you so much.

Join the discussion! www.facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk

OUT & ABOUT With the CHS in July

PRUNING WORKSHOP & DEMONSTRATION

Around 15 keen novice pruners attended our workshop and demonstration last month at West Spreydon School.

Everyone enjoyed the wonderful sausage sizzle. If you missed this event we will be running another workshop on Saturday 11 and Saturday 25 August. See below for details











RAMBI FRS

Tuesday 14 August 9.45am Styx Mill Reserve Meet carpark off Husseys Rd

Tuesday 28 August 9.45am Waimakariri

Meet Kainga & Parks Rd crn

No walk if wet. FREE Programme available online: www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers

an ear out RNZ Country Life, Friday 9pm and Saturday 7am. He's visiting Hornby Primary School on 8 August for their Orchards in Schools planting day!

FRUIT & VEGETABLE

Wednesday 29 August

7:30pm Deaf Society of Canterbury 80 Fitzgerald Ave

Growing from Seed - Tips & Tricks by Phil Ducker

A Visual Guide to Gardening through the Year 1 with Peter Saunders

RAMBI FRS

Redwood was the venue for our late June Ramble with a southerly storm



brewing along the Port Hills. Twelve walkers were keen to get

started while the day was bright, but it wasn't long before the brollies were out as the southerly caught up and the group made a hasty retreat to the cars. Early July was a clear day for the **Shirley** Ramble. A very crisp frost meant the air was cool as we passed through the multiple sections of MacFarlane Park then out onto the streets where we were treated to many styles of gardens on the way back to the cars.

PRUNING

Pruning Fruit Trees Workshop & Demos

Saturday 11 August 10am Casebrook Intermediate 90 Veitches Rd, Casebrook

Saturday 25 August 12pm Wairakei Primary School 250 Wairakei Rd, Bryndwr

Gold coin donation to schools appreciated. Cancelled if wet

MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS with Michael Coulter

I have just returned from three weeks in Australia were I visited many Botanic gardens both public and private. I noticed that the public Gardens all had Friends of the Gardens or Garden Clubs that worked in with the running of the gardens. It was noticeable that facilities, art work and courses were all provided in partnership with the Garden staff. This is what I would like to see develop here in our Botanic Gardens.

I have received the latest seed catalogue from Kings Seeds so will now decide what my requirements for the coming season will be. The sooner I get the order in I am sure to get what I want This reminds me that preparation for the Spring must start now. Tasks such as washing pots, seed trays and benches need to be completed.

August is the month in which I like to have all my pruning completed, lawn mower serviced and fruit trees treated with conquer oil and copper sprays.

In the vegetable garden ground should be dug over and compost dug in and lime applied if needed. Also weeding garlic and broad beans.

As Winter flowering shrubs finish flowering they should be pruned to encourage growth for next Winter's flowers. Lawns need little work at this time so it better to keep off them, especially if they are wet or frosty. They may need a mow but only do so at a height that will cut the very taller grass to keep the lawn tidy.

Spring bulbs are appearing and to help them to have good stems an application of a potash fertiliser will be needed. Plants that are grown in pots that need re-potting should be re-potted before they start their Spring growth to get the most benefit from the re-potting.

Happy gardening and look forward to Spring **Michael Coulter**



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 NZ.

TOURS WITH THE CHS

Welcome in Spring

Wednesday 5 September 10am Visit to K & L Nurseries and Memory's Café Springston. Carpool from Tai Tapu. \$25 includes morning tea and light lunch. Register via the CHS office: tel: 366 6937

Queensland at its Blooming Best

Sunday 14 - Wednesday 24 October 2018 \$4,999 per person Single Supp: \$850.

All deposits for this amazing-value tour need to be in by Wednesday 15 August. Book via the CHS office: tel: 366 6937 by credit card, bank deposit or eftpos. Liz can also take payments at All About Gardening on 6 & 7 August.

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) Register via the CHS office: tel: 366 6937

Hurunui Garden Festival Tour

Friday 2 & Saturday 3 November 2018 8 gardens to visit over two full days!

Spring Day Tour, Darfield & Hororata Wednesday 7 November

Two country gardens in Darfield with lunch at Historic Homebush before visiting Terrace Station Homestead and Garden. Details to come

Queensland at its Blooming Best

There are still seats available on our "Queensland at its Blooming Best" tour, departing 14 October.

This eleven day tour represents good value and includes more than 20 garden visits, all of which have been well researched to offer a variety of plants, trees and landscapes, there will be something to interest everybody.

A four night stay in Mooloolaba in a relaxed atmosphere on the coast overlooking the beach, will allow day trips to the surrounding Hinterland and north to Noosa before moving on to Toowoomba (bottom right), the garden City in the Darling Downs.

Toowoomba's colonial history traces back to the early 1800's when English botanist and explorer Allan Cunningham discovered 16,000 sq kms of rich farming and grazing land. A visit to the Cobb & Co Museum will take you back to that time.

The last three nights' will be spent on Mount Tamborine (image top right). This beautiful picturesque area in the Scenic Rim

LAST OPPORTUNITY TO BOOK THIS GREAT VALUE \$\$\$ TOUR IS 15 AUGUST 2018!

has a rich history, and is home to some of the most fertile land in Queensland, with stunning National Parks and rainforests. There will be time to explore the arts and craft stores and experience the local cafés of the Mount.

Come and meet our Australian hosts who are opening up their

homes and gardens for us to enjoy.

Book now as seats are limited.



WHAT'S COMING UP SEPTEMBER

ALL ABOUT GARDENING

Mon 3 Sep 7pm & *Tue 4 Sep* 9.45am

Colin Meurk: Let's turn the Canterbury Plains from Extinction Capital to Eco-Province - Starting Now!"

Also in the programme, Gardening Half Hour.

Christchurch Bridge Club, 21 Nova Place Includes tea, coffee and biscuits.

SPRING FLOWER SHOW

NZ Alpine Garden Society CHS Daffodil Circle **Rhododendron Society** Saturday 15 September 1 - 5pm and Sunday 16 September 10am - 4pm The Woolston Club, 43 Hargood Street Admission \$5, children under 15 free

2018 DAFFODIL SHOW

Saturday 29 September 1 - 5pm and Sunday 30 September 10am - 4pm **Darfield Recreation Centre**

Admission \$5 Children under 15 free





ODERINGS GARDEN CENTRES Star Media kiwigardener

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