

Canterbury Horticultural Society Newsletter No 252 **NOVEMBER 2018**

ALL ABOUT GARDENING NOVEMBER

Monday 5th 7pm & Tuesday 6th 9.45am

Canterbury school students are swapping screens for spades and learning how to grow and care for trees. The CHS Orchards in Schools programme supplies schools with apple, pear and plum trees, compost, boxing and on-going support at no cost.

Programme coordinator **Mary Tingey** is our All About Gardening guest speaker this November.

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

Christchurch Bridge Club, 21 Nova Place
 \$2 Members \$5 non-members



WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH NOVEMBER EVENTS

NZ AGRICULTURAL SHOW

Wed 14 to Fri 16 November 8am - 5.30pm



Tomorrow is Here - We're Showcasing Our Agricultural Future

Brought to you by the Canterbury A&P Association

Tickets: Adults \$28 Seniors: \$18

GARDEN CITY TO ECO CITY

Colin Meurk

Sunday 18 November 4pm

Botanic Gardens, Old Information Centre, near the Armagh street car park entrance. For CHS members who missed Colin Meurk's talk at AAG you can catch him at the Friends of the Botanic Gardens Monthly Speaker night this month. \$5 FOB, \$10 General Public. *Includes refreshments*

GREEN THUMBS RADIO

Monday 19 November 9.30am

Out & About with the Canterbury Horticultural Society

Listen to CHS Vice President Ray King along with former Board Member Annette Hill as they chat live on Plains FM 96.9 for "Canterbury through the Seasons".

CHRYSANTHEMUM & DAHLIA PLANT SALE

Late last month the CHS Chrysanthemum Circle and Canterbury Dahlia Circle held their popular annual Plant Sale at St Peter's Church Corner. It was fantastic weather and there was a really good turnout of people coming to purchase plants. There was a large range of Chrysanthemum varieties and colours so all the customers were able to find what they wanted; some people taking away bags and bags of precious new plants to share with their friends.

The Chrysanthemum Circle run this event every year and it is preceded by two workshops where participants learn the techniques of taking fresh cuttings and potting up the established cuttings a few weeks later.

Although Chrysanthemums are perennials the new cuttings provide much more vigorous plants for the new season. Watch out for the Chrysanthemum Show in April when you will be able to see the best of the best on display. This is a great way to find your favourites, and make plans to get involved the following season.

*CHS Chrysanthemum Circle next meet on **Monday 19 November** at 7.30pm.*

*Canterbury Dahlia Circle's next meeting is on **Tuesday 20 November** at 7.30 pm in the Bowden Hall, St Peter's Church, Church Corner. Anyone interested in Dahlias are most welcome to come along and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow Dahlia growers.*

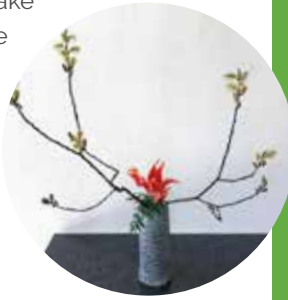


FLORAL DESIGN *Upright Ikebana*

Currently the group is studying the upright styles of Ikebana under the tutoring of Ray King.

Last months meeting tackled Nageire Variation 1. We are all finding these styles challenging yet rewarding. Balancing line, colour and space as well as being brave enough to trim and snip to achieve distinct lines can be demanding. Several of the group have experience in Ikebana and there is a pleasant atmosphere and lots of encouragement. The results are very pleasing and make much of a few simple components.

Our workshop is in a member's sun-room which is filled with light, inspiration and mutual enjoyment.



HERB OF THE MONTH *Frankincense*

*from the
Canterbury Herb Society*

What is Frankincense?

Frankincense is the aromatic resin used in incense and perfume obtained from five trees in the genus *Boswellia*. The Frankincense or Olibanum trees have a papery bark, sparse branches, paired leaves and white flowers with yellow or red centres.

They are native to the arid stony dry lands of the Arabian Peninsula – Oman and Yemen, and to N.E. Africa – Somalia. When these scraggy hardy trees are 8 to 10 years old, all species are tapped three times a year to bleed drops of resin. The third tapping of each year produces the best quality. One species even grows in rock and has a bulbous disk-like swollen trunk which stops the tree from blowing over!

In ancient times the resin was more



valuable than gold and a huge trade grew using camel transport. Frankincense was highly valued as far away as China. It was known to the Greeks. The fragrance is released by burning at very high temperatures. The Egyptians

used the burnt fumes to purify the body cavities of mummies. Fumes from burning are still used today as incense in Catholic churches and in some Jewish ceremonies for meditation and to purify the air.

Today essential oil obtained by steam distillation is used in perfumes, for skin care by physiotherapists, for rubbing on newborn babies and orally in medicine for diabetes and as an anti bacterial. There are now fewer trees as land is being cleared and burnt for grazing. Longhorn beetles are destroying the trees and heavy tapping is leading to poor seed production.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Monday 19 November 7.30pm

Meet at Bob and Faye Fyfe's home
108 Warren Crescent Hoon Hay

General cultural notes, potting on, stopping of Lates.

GARDEN CLUB REPS

Tuesday 6 November 12pm

Christchurch Bridge Club, 21 Nova Place

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thursday 15 November 3.45 - 5pm

Terra Viva Home & Garden
242 Roydvale Ave, Burnside

HERB SOCIETY

Thursday 22 November 7pm

Craft Room, Avice Hill Craft Centre
395 Memorial Avenue

Making Dips for use at Christmas
Herb of the Evening: Marshmallow
Tasting: Please bring crackers with a difference.

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

ROSE MAGIC 2018

National Spring Rose Show & Convention

Saturday 24 November 12 - 5pm

Sunday 25 November 10am - 4pm

Woodend Community Centre

Enjoy first class exhibits from the country's best Rose growers. Including large and miniature, heritage, David Austin, decorative and photography classes.

Canterbury's branch of Floral Art NZ will be sure to impress with their regional competition for Designer of the Year.

Children's classes, plant sales and generous Devonshire teas make this a great day out for the whole family. **\$5, under 16s free.**

Official opening by Mayor David Ayers at 2.30pm Saturday.

ROSE MAGIC NATIONAL ROSE SHOW



MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS

with Michael Coulter

November for me is the busiest time of the growing season with much to do and plenty to enjoy.

The weather is as expected in the Spring, changeable but showing signs as predicted, trending towards dryer than average, slightly warmer and sunny. This makes the season earlier so the need to mulch around the garden to help retain moisture becomes important.

The possibility of water restrictions by the council in Christchurch city means that we must be responsible with our water use and only use what is needed and eliminate waste.

The art of watering is to direct it to where it is needed, water to maintain soil moisture and avoid run off from the area onto paths etc.

RAMBLERS

News

The weather in late September had the Ramblers rained off but made up for it with October's first Ramble through the Botanic Gardens. Following many paths the 22 Ramblers got to see the many botanic beauties on show throughout.

The Curator's Healthy Vegetable Garden was a delight to walk through as well. It gave all on the Ramble pride to see the World-class Botanic Gardens showing off to the many visitors wandering about.



NEWS UPDATE *From the President*

On Monday 29 October some members of the Board attended a meeting of the Linwood - Central - Heathcote Community Board to discuss CHS leasing the Christchurch Botanic Gardens Tea Kiosk.

After hearing deputations and asking questions the Community Board voted to recommend to the full Council that the CHS be granted a lease of the Tea Kiosk. The Council will meet on 6 December to consider the recommendation of the Community Board.

Friends of Chch Botanic Gardens also presented in support of the CHS. It was quite a long process but worthwhile. Thanks to everyone who supported this application.

CHS 2019 AWARDS *Nominations Now Open*

Silver Service Award

In appreciation of the outstanding contribution made to the Society

Kowhai Award

In appreciation of the outstanding contribution made to the Society

Outstanding Horticulturalist Award

For a person demonstrating an outstanding contribution in Horticulture

John Taylor Award

*For Leadership in Horticulture
For a person demonstrating outstanding leadership and service to horticulture.*

Nominations can be made very quickly online by visiting our website page:

www.chsgardens.co.nz/awards and clicking on the nomination link.

More details on each award can also be found here.

RAMBLERS

Tuesday 13 November 9.45am

Hoon Hay meet Templetons Road & Cardinal Drive

Tuesday 27 November 9.45am

Linwood meet Charlesworth Reserve, Waterman Place by Ritchies Electrical

No walk if wet. FREE

Programme available online:

www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers

FRUIT & VEGETABLE

Wednesday 28 November 6:30pm

Deaf Society of Canterbury
80 Fitzgerald Ave

Dinner Table Design using Fruit & Veg with Elaine Alexander

Bring food to share plus utensils, glasses and plates

A Visual Guide to Gardening through the Year (session 4) with Peter Saunders

FLORAL DESIGN

Wednesday 21 November 2pm

The group is working on basic Ikebana techniques.

New members welcome.

Contact the CHS office

Tel: 366 6937

Email: office@chsgardens.co.nz

See the latest creations online:

<https://flic.kr/s/aHsm3HUR3N>

There are types of watering systems that will direct the water to the root zone of plants without spraying water into the air, drippers, soak hoses and weeper hoses are what I use in my garden.

Programmed automatic systems are useful but can also be very wasteful if not managed properly.

Green lawns are often seen as the area of wasteful water use but this does not have to be the case, cutting grass too low will make it brown off in the heat so raise the mower height to keep it greener.

Water only once a week at the most but water to keep moisture up and not allowing it to get too dry.

Flower Garden

1. Plant out Summer annuals.
2. Plant out Summer bulbs and tubers eg. dahlias, gladioli, begonias etc.
3. Perennials may be planted and should have supports in place before they get too big.
4. Roses are in full bloom now so dead heads should be removed, plants treated for pests such as aphids and mildew.
5. Mulch around all of the garden as much as possible to suppress weeds and conserve moisture.
6. Prune Spring flowering shrubs as soon as they finish flowering.

Vegetable Garden

1. Plant out all warm-loving plants, tomatoes, peppers, chillies, cucumbers
2. Sow beans, parsnips, carrots and leafy crops.
3. Keep weeds under control as this stops competition for water and fertiliser.
4. Treat fruit trees for pest and disease and on bramble berry crops spray for caterpillars, after they have finished flowering but before fruit begin to ripen.
5. Fertilise citrus and mulch around the drip line.
6. Potatoes should be mounded up and main crops planted.
7. On tomatoes and potatoes look out for the psyllid check under the leaves as this is where they are likely to be.



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

Spring Day Tour, Darfield & Hororata

Wednesday 7 November

Taradale, The Gums, Terrace Station plus lunch and historical talk by Louise Deans at Homebush. **\$145pp**

LAST CHANCE TO BOOK!

Christmas Gardens

Wednesday 5 December 1.30pm

Three large private gardens in Springston followed by a pre Christmas afternoon tea. None of the gardens have been viewed before and are a real "must see".

\$10pp self drive

Register now at the CHS office.

Tour registrations via the CHS office

tel: 366 6937 or email: office@chsgardens.co.nz

Queensland at its Blooming Best *October Tour Review*

Heavy rain in the first two days of the tour did not dampen the enthusiasm of the participants on their 11 day adventure, from sea level on the coast to over 200km inland covering over 1500kms, with everyone enjoying the variety of over 20 stunning but different gardens. Another unforgettable experience exceeding all of our expectations.



DECEMBER & FEBRUARY EVENTS

ALL ABOUT GARDENING DECEMBER

Monday 3rd 7pm & Tuesday 4th 9.45am

Christmas Table Setting with Terra Viva

Shirley & Brenda join us to demonstrate how you can transform your table to something spectacular this festive season!

Members, please bring a plate to share for Christmas themed supper or morning tea.

Also in the programme, Gardening Half Hour.

Christchurch Bridge Club, 21 Nova Place

\$5 non-members, \$2 members. Includes tea, coffee & biscuits

ALL ABOUT GARDENING FEBRUARY

Monday 4th 7pm & Tuesday 5th 9.45am

Catherine Fink, Occupational Therapist from Thrive will

be talking about Ageing Well in the Garden - including: ergonomics, preventing falls, maximising your energy capacity and health benefits of gardening into older age.

Also in the programme, Gardening Half Hour.

Christchurch Bridge Club, 21 Nova Place

\$5 non-members \$2 members, includes tea, coffee & biscuits

