

The Kiosk Christchurch Botanic Gardens 10am - 3pm office@chsgardens.co.nz tel: (03) 366 6937 www.chsgardens.co.nz www.facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk

Canterbury Horticultural Society Newsletter No 258 JUNE 2019



WHAT'S COMING UP JUNE EVENTS

GREEN THUMBS RADIO

Monday 10 June 9am

Catch up with CHS President Ray King and Annette Hill as they chat live on Plains FM 96.9. Interesting interviews and great gardening advice. Visit: www.chsgardens. co.nz/latest-podcasts-radio-stories

GARDENING QUESTIONS?

Head to the The Kiosk

Winter Hours: every day 10-3pm

One-on-one gardening advice and inspiration.

WINTER SPEAKER SERIES

The Kiosk *Thursday 13 June 7pm – 9pm* **Steve Wratten**

Biodiversity in the vineyards in Waipara (see inside for details).

\$5 CHS Members \$10 Non-members Book online: www.chsgardens.co.nz/ winter-speaker-series-2019

WINTER SERIES EVENTS

Friends of the Botanic Gardens
The Kiosk **Friday 21 June** 10.30am
Wolfgang Bopp

Director Christchurch Botanic Gardens Wolfgang will give an illustrated talk on Japanese Gardens.

\$5 CHS Members \$10 non-members

WATERCOLOUR FLOWERS

The Kiosk *Wednesdays 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th June 10am – 12pm*

Have a go at watercolour painting

A four session beginner level watercolour painting course where you will learn a step-by-step process for creating beautiful watercolour flowers.

\$120 includes materials and morning tea. Sold out. Feel free to email us if you missed out and would like this course repeated: office@chsqardens.co.nz

ALL ABOUT GARDENING JUNE

Monday 3rd 7pm & Tuesday 4th 9.45am

Colin Meurk - Honorary Botanist for the Canterbury Horticultural Society and Associate Ecologist at Landcare Research.

Christchurch-Otautahi – a green and kind city of the future

Also in the programme, Gardening Half

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens (just over the footbridge from the Armagh St carpark).

\$5 members \$10 non-members Includes tea, coffee & biscuits



WINTER SPEAKER SERIES

Our Living Landscape: Developments in viticulture from Akaroa beginnings to Waipara today

Four highly qualified and experienced speakers present this series of stimulating talks culminating in the M J Barnett Memorial Lecture on Thursday 15 August.

Venue: The Winter Speaker Series 2019 venue is **The Kiosk**, Christchurch Botanic Gardens. (Just over the footbridge by the Armagh Street carpark).

There is plenty of parking available.

Talks start promptly at 7pm.

Admission prices

\$5 per talk for CHS members, BG Friends and students, \$10 per talk for non-members.

Includes light refreshments

Tickets can be purchased at the door or online at: www.chsgardens.co.nz/winter-speaker-series-2019

If you missed our May speaker, Rupert Tipples you can find a podcast online at the link below

www.chsgardens.co.nz/latest-podcasts-radio-stories

Thursday 13 June 7pm STEVE WRATTEN

Biodiversity in the vineyards in Waipara

Professor Wratten is a world-leading researcher in agro-ecology, with a focus on the biological control of pests. He pioneered the use of non-native and endemic New Zealand plant species in agriculture to enhance insect pest control which reduces insecticide use.

The methods developed by his team and trialled in the Waipara wine-growing region in Canterbury, New Zealand are now in use in every vineyard region in New Zealand and Australia, as well as regions of the United States and Europe.

Thursday 11 July 7pm
PETER ALMOND
Soils and viticulture for Canterbury

Thursday 15 August 7pm
DANNY SCHUSTER

MJ Barnett Memorial Lecture

Pioneering grape growing and wine making in Canterbury

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

We hope everyone enjoyed the fabulous display of blooms at the Chrysanthemum Show on 27 & 28 April.

The next meeting is the July AGM.

GARDEN CLUB REPS

Tuesday 4 June 1pm

The Kiosk Christchurch Botanic Gardens

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thursday 20 June 3.45 - 5pm

The Kiosk

Christchurch Botanic Gardens

HERB SOCIETY

Thursday 27th June 10am

Avice Hill Arts and Craft Centre 395 Memorial Ave

Visit the Herb Society Facebook page www.facebook.com/CANHERBSOC

WATERCOLOUR FLOWERS SHORT COURSE

This month in the Kiosk

This four session course is led by local artist Rose Eastwood, well-known for her popular floral cards and illustrations.

This is a beginner level watercolour painting course. You will learn a step-by-step process for creating beautiful watercolour flowers, including various tips and techniques that you can use for any other type of watercolour painting.

This course is now sold out but if you are interested in a repeat please leave your name with the CHS office by contacting

Liz Parder: tel: 366 6937 email: office@chsgardens.co.nz.

If we have enough interest we can consider another course later in the year.

KidsFest 6-12 July Guardians of the Gardens Be an eco-hero this July!



Help your primary school children learn about storm water, recycling, rubbish, insect superheroes and nature crafting.

Free self-guided trail, pick up a map from The Kiosk or the Visitor Centre.

Parent/guardian/caregiver required

HERB OF THE MONTH Canterbury Herb Society

GINKGO BILOBA - A Living Fossil

This beautiful Autumn golden deciduous tree is the one remaining species of the Ginkgoaceae family and was around before the dinosaurs, when there were ferns but no true flowering plants. Charles Darwin referred to it as "A living fossil".

Fossil leaf remains indicate that it had a worldwide distribution 200 million years ago. It became native to South East Asia known to the Chinese as "Ngren hang" (silver apricot). It became "Ginkyo" in Japan and "Ginkgo" or "Maidenhair Tree" in the western world.

The leaves resemble gigantic Maidenhair fern leaves. It lives for hundreds of years. The tree will grow from cuttings but is best raised from seed. Over time it can reach 30 metres in height.

Trees are either male or female. The male trees bear small modified cones on small stalks from the trunk but if you are into 'odour-tourism' check out the female tree on the northern side of Armagh Street between Park Terrace and Cranmer Square. The small, squashy "silver apricot" fruit stinks!

The Ginkgo tolerates and reduces polluted conditions and the

For more great ideas with herbs visit:

www.chsgardens.co.nz/category/resources/herb-of-the-month



RAMBI FRS

Tuesday 11 June 9.45am Opawa

Meet Risingholme Park, Cholmondeley Ave

Tuesday 25 June 9.45am Aidanfield

Meet Bronco Park, Bronco Drive

No walk if wet. FREE

2019 Programme available now:

www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers



FLORAL DESIGN

Wednesday 19 June 2pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens New members welcome.

See the latest creations online: https://flic.kr/s/aHsm3HUR3N

FRUIT & VEGETABLE

No meetings June or July

MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS with Michael Coulter

June brings the end of the growing season with the shortest day about the 20th of the month. We know also that the coldest time of the year will be with us for the next two months.

There is not a lot of gardening to be done other than pruning and cleaning up, including maintenance of the hard landscape areas.

We all find that in our seed storage there will be plenty of used seeds that have passed their use by date or have lost labels. Now is the time to go through the seeds and get rid of any unwanted ones, and make a list of those we will be needing in the Spring.

New seed catalogues will soon be available, ready for ordering the seasons requirements and of course any new types that may be worth a try.

The weather usually washes off any shading on the greenhouse, if not then a good wash down to remove it will allow more light into the area to encourage better growth.

Garlic may be planted and potato seed of the very early cultivars may be chitted ready for planting in a sheltered area later on.

Once the shortest day has passed I start thinking that the start of the new growing season has begun so preparation

begins! Washing pots, repairing benches, disinfecting trays including the inside of greenhouses, and disposing of any old or diseased plants.

If the soil is not too wet then the ground can be dug over to allow the soil to be exposed to frost. This can help to break up the soil and expose any slugs or other pests that may be in the ground which also helps control them.

Happy gardening, *Michael Coulter*

FROM THE PRESIDENT Ray King first President's Report

What wonderful weather we have been having over the past few weeks. Somewhere Winter is starting so I am sure it will arrive very soon and we will be keen to stay indoors and think of Spring.

Talking about Spring, I hope you have all thought about planting out your Spring bulbs, or you may be like me, leave it until Queens Birthday weekend and get everything done then.

Life in The Kiosk is steadily settling down. The signage is on its way and we have the plans in ready to go to council for permission to install a kitchenette.

The calendar is filling up with more and more groups realising what a great spot it is to hold meetings and to promote their activities. As you will read in the newsletter we, along with The Friends of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens, are fortunate to be included in Kidsfest this July. This is the number one activity for children over the holidays and we have committed to hosting art activities and making creatures from material collected on their journey around the gardens. We will need many volunteers to help with this but it is so rewarding to work with the children, their parents, grandparents or caregivers.

Our Watercolour Flowers beginners course has sold out but there are still a few places

on the Hortskills evening course.

The various committees are working on more activities for members to enjoy so do keep an eye on the website and Facebook pages.

The Winter Speaker Series got off to a great start with Rupert Tipples talking about the history of wine production, particularly in Waipara. Professor Steve Wratten is our June speaker. Many will have heard Prof Wratten speak and know that he is always interesting to listen to. It will be lovely to catch up with you at the

next All About Gardening meeting with Dr. Colin Meurk.

RAMBI FRS with Keith Mitchelmore

Join the CHS Ramblers on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month to see the city for free.

The Knights Stream Park Ramble in late April was in overcast breezy conditions. Fourteen turned out to explore the new suburb recently added to Christchurch'



southwest landscape since the earthquakes. The gardens reflected the age of the area, shrubs still small and trees waiting to show some maturity. A revisit in a few years' time will be worth it. It was commented on how small sections are now days in these new subdivisions. We had time to check the playground out and gave it tick of approval (see image top right).

Mays first Ramble took place in the Richmond suburb with fifteen starting out from Richmond Park (image left).

Here the group witnessed the last of the area's Autumn colours, large older homes and the new housing of subdivided



The area was also going through a makeover since the earthquakes with the waterways and streets being upgraded and landscaped.

This month the Ramblers explore Opawa on June 11 (meet Risingholme Park, Cholmondeley Ave at 9.45am) and Aidanfield on June 25 (meet Bronco Park, Bronco Drive at 9.45am).

Free, newcomers welcome

COMING UP AT ALL ABOUT GARDENING

Monday 1st 7pm & Tuesday 2nd 9.45am

Jane Lancaster from Catalyst Ltd joins us to talk about Food labelling and regulation. What do consumers look for, what is reasonable to deliver and what are the trends?

Following this there will be a slideshow presentation of Brian and Janet Lovelock's images of the Singapore Garden Show.



The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens (just over the footbridge from the Armagh St carpark).

Members: \$5 Non-members: \$10 Tea, coffee and biscuits included

We want your Problems!

Have a gritty garden problem you can't solve — or just need some general advice?

Bring your questions to our monthly AAG meeting, post them on **HortTalk** or email Michael directly a day or 2 before the meeting. coultchrys@xtra.co.nz

Facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk







