

The Kiosk Christchurch Botanic Gardens Open every day 10am – 3pm office@chsgardens.co.nz tel: (03) 366 6937 www.chsgardens.co.nz

Canterbury Horticultural Society Newsletter No 260 AUGUST 2019



www.facebook.com/CanterburyHorticulturalSociety www.facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk

SHRUB & SMALL TREE PRUNING Saturday 3rd August 10.30am



HORTSKILLS INTERMEDIATE COURSE August - September

event

ALL ABOUT EVENTS

course

FRUIT TREE PRUNING Sunday 11 August



SAVE THE DATE! MARGARET WATLING THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER

Floral Art Demonstration by international floral artist, Franca Logan *The Kiosk*

Tickets on sale September \$50 per person



EAT YOUR WEEDS Wednesday 11 September



AUGUST EVENTS The Kiosk and beyond...

SHRUB & SMALL TREE PRUNING DEMO

Saturday 3rd August 10.30am

Mona Vale - meet in the car park beside the Rose Garden (please note there is no rose pruning in this session). Demonstration will take place in various parts of Mona Vale.

\$5 CHS Members \$10 Non Members Pay cash at event

FRUIT TREE PRUNING

Saturday 11 August 10.30am

87 Farrington Ave Bishopdale – meet at the front gate of this private home.

The pruning will cover apples, pears, nashi, plums, plumcots, apricots, nectarines, and container grown fruit.

\$5 CHS Members \$10 Non Members Pay cash at event

GREEN THUMBS RADIO

Monday 12 August 9am

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

M J BARNETT MEMORIAL

The Kiosk *Thursday 15 August 7pm – 9pm* **Danny Schuster**

Soils and viticulture for Canterbury (see inside for details). \$5 CHS Members \$10 Non Members

WINTER SERIES EVENTS

Friends of the Botanic Gardens

The Kiosk *Friday 16 August 10.30am* **David Glenny** The study and cultivation of willows in NZ. Including an introduction to an online interactive key to the willows. *\$5 CHS Members \$10 Non Members*

ALL ABOUT GARDENING AUGUST

Monday 5th 7pm & Tuesday 6th 9.45am Ruud Kleinpaste (Monday evening only)

Ruud Kleinpaste is a Dutch-New Zealand naturalist and host of the Animal Planet series *Buggin' with Ruud*.

In 2018 Ruud was appointed an honorary Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to entomology, conservation and entertainment.

Luke Martin (Tuesday morning only)

Luke Martin is Curator of Native Plants at Christchurch Botanic Gardens. He will talk about growing and propagating native plants.

Both talks are followed by *Gardening Half Hour* with Michael Coulter.

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

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

WINTER SPEAKER SERIES M J Barnett Memorial Lecture - Thursday 15 August

DANNY SCHUSTER - SPEAKER

Pioneering grape growing and wine making in Canterbury

The M J Barnett Memorial Lecture was established to honour the memory of one of New Zealand's most distinguished horticulturists, Morris John Barnett MBE, AHRHS, AHRIH (NZ) who died in 1964. Mr Barnett was superintendent of Parks and Reserves for 17 years. On the passing of the Domains act in 1946 (which saw the control of the Botanic Gardens and Hagley Park vested to the Council), he became Director of Botanic Gardens, Parks and Reserves, a position he held until his retirement in 1955. The CHS instituted the memorial lecture in 1965 to perpetuate his memory.

Thursday 15 August 7pm The Kiosk

Tickets: \$5 members, \$10 non-members. Purchase at the door or online: www.chsgardens.co.nz

CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Monday 19 August 7.30pm 11 Ruakaka Street, Hornby Preparing for the season ahead

Saturday 28 September 1.30pm The Kiosk in the Botanic Gardens Chrysanthemum Propagation Workshop Growing new plants from cuttings and division. Free, all welcome Danny Schuster has had a wide range of experience as a lecturer, viticulturist and winemaker in the South Island and as a vineyard and wine consultant to several vineyards on Waiheke Island and at Matakana. He has won awards for New Zealand Pinot Noir at the National Wine Competitions with 1982 and 1984 vintages. Danny is a consultant to many top wineries in the Napa Valley, California as well as wineries in Tuscany and Sicily. In 2002 he was awarded a permanent display in the Smithsonian Institute of American History, Washington DC for his contribution to the evolution of the modern wine industry in California.

In 2008 and 2011 Danny was the recipient of the Lifetime Contribution to New Zealand Wine award given by the New Zealand Hospitality Industry and the Chefs Association.

GARDEN CLUB REPS

Tuesday 6 August 12.30pm The Kiosk Christchurch Botanic Gardens

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thursday 15 August 3.45 - 5pm The Kiosk Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Ramblers

Late June had 17 turn out on a crisp frosty morning with the sun beaming to warm everyone on the Ramble in Aidenfield.

Starting out from Bronco Park we made our way through the streets and walkways viewing near new homes and gardens where we started, making our way to the more established areas with larger shrubs and trees. Although nice these new subdivisions show the restraints placed on them with restricted types of plantings allowed.

The older parts of the city have brighter gardens as was discovered in early July when Avonside was the area for the Ramble.

Avonside suffered in the earthquakes, the scars still evident with many large family homes lost along River Road, Stanmore Road and Avonside Drive, now part of the red zone stripped of buildings.

Many of the remaining homes have either been repaired, or are in the process of being repaired. The birds were enjoying

FRUIT & VEGETABLES

Wednesday 28 August 7.30pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens *Speaker* Sandra & Dick Martin: The story of their years of research of fruit and veg in South America, PNG and Vietnam. *New members welcome*



EAT YOUR WEEDS WORKSHOP Wednesday 11 September - Presented by Cathy Bouma, Tuahiwi Botanicals

Wednesday 11 September 10am-12pm The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Many of the common weeds in our gardens are tasty and highly nutritious, some are highly nutritious and not tasty and some should not be eaten at all!

If you would like to know more about identifying good weeds to eat and what to do with them, then this is the workshop for you.

The workshop will begin by looking at and tasting, a number of weeds that are commonly found in the garden in Spring including chickweed, nettles, plantain, dandelion, fat hen and cleavers. Presenter Cathy Bouma will teach you the best way to taste plants safely and talk about what to do with these weeds (other than throwing them in your compost heap!).

Cathy loves making herbal pesto with all sorts of different herbs and weeds, and will discuss the various ingredients that go into making a pesto and how to make it nut free, dairy free etc. She will also demonstrate how to make some simple pestos using weeds and herbs and provide recipes sheets.

As herbal teas are her passion, she will have some fresh herbal teas to taste

using common herbs from the garden.

Cost: \$25 (includes GST)

Bookings close: Friday 6 September Book online: www.chsgardens.co.nz/eatyour-weeds-workshop



Presented by Cathy Bouma of Tuahiwi Botanicals facebook.com/pg/tuahiwibotanicals



the many berries and fruit available among the mature trees.

The historical Christchurch workers cottages found in Hanmer Street were a delight to view, with many properties having gardens planted to match the period and also well kept.

The Ramble finished with a stroll through Beverley Park Heritage Rose Garden planted to commemorate 150 years of European settlement in the city.

August sees the Ramblers exploring South Brighton and Burnside.



See photos online: https://flic.kr/s/aHsjA4mDzw

HERB OF THE MONTH Coriander - Coriandrum sativum

Coriander has been cultivated in Mediterranean countries for over three thousand years. It is mentioned in all old Greek medical texts and early scriptures and is now well known and used in New Zealand.

The name is derived from koris, which is Greek for bed-bug, as the plant smells strongly of the insect! In Spain and the Americas it is known as cilantro.

Coriander is easy to grow and can become a weed in areas of dry soil and sunshine. A hardy annual around 30 - 60cms, with a solid stem and a thin pointed root, it has small flat compound heads of white to reddish pink flowers from mid Summer to early Autumn followed by brownish small fruit. The latter smells awful until ripe, when it becomes pleasant and spicy.

Sow seeds in early Summer. They may be slow to germinate and will need thinning out. Coriander leaf is one of the most widely used flavouring herbs throughout the world today. Folk either love or hate the flavour!

Buy a bundle for use from a supermarket, plant the roots and grow your own and let it seed! Dried ripe fruit is used in baking, as a condiment, and in liqueur. The root can also be cooked as a vegetable.

Canterbury Herb Society *Next Meeting Thursday 22 August 10am*

Avice Hill Arts and Craft Centre 395 Memorial Ave

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



FLORAL DESIGN GROUP

Wednesday 21 August 2pm The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens New members welcome.

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

RAMBLERS

Tuesday 13 August 9.45am **South Brighton** Park sea side of bridge on Bridge St

Tuesday 27 August 9.45am **Burnside** Meet Juniper Reserve, Juniper Pl off Roydvale Ave No walk if wet. FREE

2019 Programme available now: www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers



HORTSKILLS Intermediate Level Horticulture Course - Starts Thursday 29 August 2019

Thursday Evenings: 5.30pm – 7.30pm The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

A five week 6 session course covering Weeds, Lawn Care, Plants for Garden Design, Propagation, Plant Parts and Functions and Botany

Includes one practical session on Saturday 14 September at Waitakiri Primary, Burwood.

Learning Outcomes:

Weeds: This topic will look at identifying a range of common and lesser known weeds found in New Zealand Gardens. Discuss chemical and cultural control methods. Lawn Care and Maintenance: Practical session covering lawn preparation using both grass seed and ready lawn. Fertilising, mowing, weeding and irrigation will be discussed.

Plants used in Garden Design: A basic introduction to some important elements of garden design and selecting the "right plant". Students will be familiar with range of plants by end of course.

Propagation: Seed sowing. Demonstration of 'sexual propagation' .Students will sow seeds using appropriate growing media and care for seedlings for duration of course. **Plant Parts and Functions:** Botany. The different roles that flowers, leaves, roots etc play in plant survival.

Cost: \$150 per person (10% discount for returning students) *Registrations close: Friday 23 August*

Book online: **www.chsgardens.co.nz** Call the office for a brochure: tel 366 6937



FROM THE PRESIDENT Ray King

Winter is almost over and Spring is just around the corner. I hope you all enjoyed browsing through the catalogues and choosing your seeds etc... for the coming planting season. Clip the Oderings voucher on the right (or save a photo to your phone) and present it at any Oderings store for a great gardener's discount.

Both Sandi MacRae and Allan Paterson have resigned from the board of the CHS. I would like to thank them for their efforts over the past years and wish them well in their new enterprises.

School holidays saw us being part of

KidsFest for the first time. Many of our members volunteered to help with the programme and we certainly had fun. On a busy day it was hard to move in the Kiosk! There was plenty of creativity displayed by both children and parents, who seemed to enjoy joining in. Thank you helpers.

The kitchenette for The Kiosk is slowly progressing with the plans soon to be submitted for consent.

There are a great range of events coming up so keep an eye on the newsletter and online so you don't miss out on anything. Next month you can learn how to make

MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS Michael Coulter

August is a month when we notice the days are getting longer and the weather's changeable, but we still turn our thoughts to the coming Spring.

Green house owners can start sowing seeds to have plants ready to plant out next month.

Pruning fruit trees, roses and other deciduous trees and shrubs are the main tasks to be done this month. Stone fruit trees should be now treated with copper sprays 2 to 3 times before flowering to control leaf curl and brown rot.

Primulas and polyanthus will benefit from a dressing of blood and bone to help improve the flowers. Other annuals should be kept weed free and old flowers removed. Spring flowering bulbs are shooting through the ground, so when weeding, be careful not to damage them. Potatoes may be planted later in the month in warmer areas or under cover.

Some perennials may be split up or cuttings taken to renew the plants in the garden. Soon, begonias and dahlias will begin to become active. If they are inside a green house, when they are long enough new cuttings can be taken.

Lawns still look untidy but they will start to grow once the weather gets warmer later in the month. The first cut should not be too low. There is a lot to look forward to in the Spring but dependent on the weather, it is better to be patient and wait until the

yummy use of the weeds in your garden.

In November we have our biennial Margaret Watling demonstration with an exciting floral artist coming to us from Takapuna; her work looks amazing.



weather is more settled to really begin the Spring work.

Good gardening, Michael Coulter

COMING UP AT ALL ABOUT GARDENING

Monday 2nd 7pm & Tuesday 3rd 9.45am

Greg Byrnes from Te Kohaka Trust on regeneration.

Followed by Gardening Half Hour with **Michael Coulter**

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

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

Greg Byrnes has been involved in a number of voluntary organisations and political causes over the years and is a passionate advocate for the environment.

His career objective is to utilise his knowledge and experience to influence; and bring about change in the way New Zealanders engage with nature and conservation.

He has worked for many local, regional and central government agencies in Australasia during his career in the



environment, parks and recreation management. He has also worked in Brisbane Botanic Gardens, Centennial & Moore Park Trust and Sunnyside Hospital.

In November 2010, he was appointed to his current position as General Manager at Te Kohaka o Tuhaitara Trust.

In 2017 he was awarded a Canterbury Horticultural Society 'Outstanding Horticulturalist' award for his contribution to horticulture.







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