



ORCHARDS IN SCHOOLS - *Catch up on all the progress with coordinator Mary Tingey*

This year **Breens Intermediate, Bishopdale School, Wigram School, Marshland School** and **South New Brighton School** joined the programme. This is the first year the Prune plums fruited and the taste is divine! Schools which planted in 2016 or earlier are now having crops big enough to share. *Read the summary inside or download the complete newsletter from: www.chsgardens.co.nz/orchards-in-schools*



WHAT'S COMING UP JULY EVENTS

GREEN THUMBS RADIO

Monday 8 July 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 11 July 7pm – 9pm**

Peter Almond

Soils and viticulture for Canterbury (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 19 July 10.30am**

Jacky Bowring, *Gardens of Melancholy: Reflection, Contemplation and Memory.*
\$5 CHS Members \$10 non-members

KIDSFEST

Guardians of the Gardens

The Kiosk

Saturday 6 - Sunday 21 July 10am – 3pm

Become an eco-hero these holidays! Join the Guardians of the Gardens and learn all about healthy waterways, insect superheroes, recycling, pests and and nature craft!

Pick up a map from the Kiosk and embark on the self guided trail.

Parent/guardian/caregiver required. Suitable for ages up to 12 years.

ALL ABOUT GARDENING JULY

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.

Jane is a founding partner of Catalyst with 30 years' experience in the food and agriculture industry. Jane was made a Member of the NZ Order of Merit (MNZM) in 2006 for services to commercialising innovation.

Following Jane's talk 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).

\$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 MJ 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

Thursday 11 July 7pm

PETER ALMOND

Soils and viticulture for Canterbury

Peter Almond is a soil scientist and geomorphologist who specialises in understanding the patterns of soils in the landscape, and how those patterns influence land use. His research interests include soil erosion, natural hazards (earthquake and liquefaction), past climate, soil formation and nutrient cycling, and soil hydrology. His research expertise has seen him involved in a number of soil surveys for viticulturists in North Canterbury and elsewhere in the country.

Thursday 15 August 7pm

DANNY SCHUSTER

MJ Barnett Memorial Lecture

Pioneering grape growing and wine making in Canterbury

Ramblers

The City Ramble in late May was in overcast calm conditions. Eighteen turned out to explore the City starting off from in front of the Kiosk at the Botanic Gardens.

Nature had painted stunning vistas with fallen leaves and shrubs in many different colours and textures throughout the gardens. The Ramble continued across the Boat Shed Bridge along the new walkways towards the city centre. There was a stop to check on the large eels and trout along the 'Strip' with comments on how the city is finally coming together although there is still a lot of work to be done. The return to our cars was via Worcester Boulevard to the Botanic Gardens to view the Herbaceous Border with some of the group stopping at the Ilex Centre.

Opawa was the area visited for the early June Ramble. The name is a contraction of "Ōpāwaho", which, in Māori, means a place of ('ō') an outer pā or outpost ('pāwaho'). The start was from Risingholme



CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Sunday 21 July 2pm

The Kiosk
Chrysanthemum Circle AGM

GARDEN CLUB REPS

Tuesday 2 July 12.30pm

The Kiosk
Christchurch Botanic Gardens

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thursday 18 July 3.45 - 5pm

The Kiosk
Christchurch Botanic Gardens

HERB SOCIETY

Thursday 25th July 7pm

Avic Hill Arts and Craft Centre
395 Memorial Ave

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

ORCHARDS IN SCHOOLS *Progress report from Coordinator Mary Tingey*

At **Casebrook Intermediate** the children were busy transplanting strawberries, lavender, lemon balm and nasturtium seedlings. All the children had the opportunity to pick and eat an apple. They learned that apples are ripe when they can be plucked off the tree very easily.

Northcote School has a healthy vegetable garden growing beside the orchard. Under the trees nasturtiums were rambling and rhubarb was flourishing.

Even though **Chisnallwood Intermediate** only planted in 2017, they have a good crop of pears. The school has added donated raspberry plants and black boy peach trees to their orchard. *Sophie said, "The apples*

were delicious; sweet and sour." Maike said.

Riccarton Primary 's trees were producing plenty of apples and peaches. The day I visited the children were harvesting apples, some to eat fresh and some to be dehydrated for Winter.

The fruit trees at **Kaiapoi Borough School** were moved to their new location to accommodate the school's rebuild. The trees are loving it and responded by growing well over Summer. The children are painting labels for their trees.

At **Waitakiri School** the children had harvested 40 prune plums. They said that

they were really big, sweet and delicious. The teacher reported that the children are more keen to work in the orchard now that they have tasted their first big crop!

Hornby Primary School children sowed wild flowers under their fruit trees which created a riot of Autumn colour. The children also grew peas, spring onions, beetroot, pak choi, carrots, beans, broccoli and radish in the gardens under their fruit trees.

Rawhiti School's late Autumn garden still had evidence of a productive Summer. There were a few apples left high on a tree, feijoas, Chilean guavas, one huge pear, spent pumpkin plants, spent beans with dried pods and lush silverbeet. They had



Community House that has just reopened after major earthquake and fire repairs. Viewing through the windows was a must to see the house at its best.

Opawa has a great collection of large older homes and sections all cared for as most were neat and tidy with large



gardens. There was an unusual fruiting shrub in a garden that needs identifying.

Newer homes are interspersed throughout and did not look out of place.

A local gave the group a short history lesson of the building he was living in as it was part of the stables for the early Christchurch horse drawn trams.

Join us in July for Avonside and Burnside.

NEWS IN PICTURES



Top row: Liz Parder returning the Skellerup trophy to George Skellerup, **Middle row:** Horticulture Fundamental students, Ikebana from the Floral Design Group, Liz Parder and George Skellerup. **Bottom row:** Watercolour Flowers tutor Rose Eastwood, hard working students, Ikebana design.

RAMBLERS

Tuesday 9 July 9.45am

Avonside

Meet Beverley Park, Stanmore Rd

Tuesday 23 July 9.45am

Burnside

Meet Nunweek Park, Wooldridge Rd near Harewood Rd

No walk if wet. FREE

2019 Programme available now:

www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers



Autumn Ikebana creations from the Floral Design Group

FLORAL DESIGN

Wednesday 17 July 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

a good crop of apples and made apple crumble and apple spirals, they also ate them fresh off the trees.

Elmwood School's trees have grown beautifully. We collected granny smith apples from an old tree which the children are going to cook. We also collected feijoas.

At **Russley School** the trees we planted last Winter had grown well and looked healthy. The students plan to remove the grass from under the trees and mulch them with leaves. They also want to plant daffodil bulbs and fertilise the trees with worm juice.

Fendalton's trees have now grown so well that the ties can be removed. They are

going to use the stakes to paint tree labels and decorative art for their orchard and garden space.

I visited **Isleworth School** in the lunch hour when the children were busy gardening. Emily, one of the older children, was helping the younger children to place compost and mulch around the trees.

At **Burnside Primary** the children were busy measuring the new growth on their trees - some up to 85 cms! The trees all looked healthy and vigorous. The garden group plans to plant blue lupins.

Wharenui's trees produced plenty of peaches and apples; **"some of the most delicious peaches ever"**. The orchard was moved last Winter into the old school

garden while the rebuild takes place. The trees were not at all perturbed and have grown like rockets. The trees will be moved to their permanent home this Winter.

Cobham School children made worm tea. Their trees produced black boy peaches and lots of apples. In the garden they grew pumpkins, rhubarb, potatoes, nasturtium, lettuce, coriander, parsley and sage.

South Hornby School children have been planting strawberries around some trees, these were such a hit that they will transplant the runners under other trees.

The **St Martins School** children keep a beautiful garden diary, with the names of all the trees in the orchard recorded. They had a good crop of pears and black doris plums.

Planted 2017 : Isleworth, Haeata, Fendalton, Elmwood, Wairakei and Chisnallwood Intermediate.

Planted 2018 : Burnside, Hornby, South Hornby, Russley and Avonhead.

FROM THE PRESIDENT *Ray King*

I hope you are all keeping warm on these cold, dreary days. Speaking of warmth, CHS Board member Kelly has placed The Kiosk heating on a timer, no more cold mornings for staff, volunteers or members at morning meetings!

By the time you read this our new signage should be up above the door so it will be much easier for everyone to find us.

Last week Annette and I were invited to one of our schools to join their gardening group. It was harvest time and as you will see in the photo many little hands gathering the yam harvest. They also harvested and took home silverbeet, rhubarb, parsley and fennel.



KidsFest 6-21 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

MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS *with Michael Coulter*

We have now had some good frosts that have cut back many plants in the garden so it is a good idea to lift some of them to overwinter. Plants that benefit are dahlias, begonias (tuberous and fibrous types) and some perennials.

The pruning of fruit trees and roses may now be completed and they can also be given their Winter sprays. These tasks are best done on a fine sunny day.

Green houses should be washed, disinfected and any repairs completed in readiness for the start of Spring.

All crop residue should now be removed from the garden or green house and either composted or disposed of.

Prunings from the garden I shred up and add to the compost heap. My heap is protected from the wet and cold and turned over two or three times to ensure good quality compost is available for digging in later.

New season fruit trees are now arriving in the garden centres. Make sure you get in early for the best trees.

Strawberries and cane fruits can be planted now. It's a good idea to try and get cultivars that will fruit at different times to achieve a longer harvest time (i.e. early, mid season and late types).

Spring bulbs will be starting to emerge through the ground so be careful when

weeding not to damage the shoots.

If you have a heat bench or pad you can start sowing some early seeds to be ready for early plantings. Do remember the days are still short though and even with additional heat plants will take longer to grow now than in the Springtime.

Early potatoes can now be sprouted (chitted) ready to plant in a few weeks in a well protected part of the garden.

New season roses are also becoming available, make sure you get in early as some of the new introductions sell out very fast.

Good gardening,
Michael Coulter

COMING UP AT 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.

After emigrating to New Zealand in 1978 he worked in various environmental jobs before settling down to 14 years with MAF. In 1987 he started a talkback radio show (Ruud's Awakening) in which he offered

environmentally friendly horticultural tips to gardeners.

The success of this show led to some fame in NZ, where he is known as "the Bugman". He retired from MAF in the middle 1990s for a career as an ecological consultant. This line of work has led to television work inside and outside NZ which has brought further fame for him and his environmental causes.

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.

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

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

