February Events  The Kiosk & beyond...

Photographic Exhibition  
**Thursday 6 - 9 February** 10am - 4pm  
Christchurch Photographic Society 2020 Photographic Exhibition. Presenting a variety of outstanding images from 20 different award-winning photographers. Artwork is available to purchase.  
Free entry  
The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Q & A at The Kiosk  
**Summer Hours** : every day 10am-4pm  
One-on-one gardening advice with volunteers from the CHS and Friends of the Botanic Gardens.

FOCBG Friends Events  
[www.friendschchbotanicgardens.org.nz](http://www.friendschchbotanicgardens.org.nz)

Deep South Lazy Sundays  
**Sunday 2, 9, 16 February** 3pm - 5.30pm  
Botanic Gardens Archery Lawn.  
Free live music. Bring a picnic.

Treasure Island - Anthony Harper  
**Summer Theatre**  
**Wednesday 29 Jan - Sunday 16 Feb**  
Evening and day time performances on the Weather Station/Observatory Lawn

FOCBG Summer Series - Garden Tour  
**Sunday February 16** 10am - 4pm  
Two fabulous large gardens - Trotts and Broadfield.  
$15 per person (plus carpool petrol contribution)  
**Bookings:** Contact Vicki Steven before 6pm on Sunday 2 February.  
Telephone or text: 022 130 4342  
vicki_steven2005@yahoo.com.au

All About Gardening  
February 2020  
**Monday 3rd** 7pm & **Tuesday 4th** 9.45am  
Clare Scott – Growing in a Small Garden & 3rd Age Gardening

Retiree Clare Scott is an active garden columnist with a deep affection for all plants, in particular heritage roses and the stories they tell. Hailing from a farming background she was a sole green keeper for three years and has been involved in garden centres for over 20 years as a buyer and manager.

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens (just over the footbridge from Armagh St car park).  
$5 members $10 non-members.  
Includes tea, coffee & biscuits

Orchards in Schools  
*Catch up with Mary Tingey and the latest progress from her green-fingered youngsters*
As I write this we are settling into our new house without any lawns or gardens although I have started to prepare the ground by spraying out weeds, adding compost to the soil and bringing up the moisture content so that the soil is easier to work with.

The weather has been very changeable with a lot of cooler winds the odd hot day and not much rain. Not a great Summer so far (although we do have some fine weather on the way I believe!)

The gardens need careful attention to watering with the winds we are having, even more regularly than in other years.

Plants will benefit from more support, especially those that grow fast like Dahlias and Chrysanthemums and other perennials. Also include plants in the vegetable garden like tomatoes, beans and sweetcorn. Diseases like mildew and botrytis will be less of a problem but insects will be around as usual for the time of the year. Summer fruits are now in season and should be harvested as soon as they are ripe. Berry fruits are coming to the end of their peak so an addition of fertiliser to encourage growth for next season's crop will be of benefit.

Continue the planting of vegetables for a continuous supply, leeks, silver beet, brassicas, beetroot and celery are some that can be sown or planted. The lawns are looking very dry and in need of a good watering. Once they are greening up with new growth a fertiliser...
The finale for the year was a ramble around Halswell Quarry Park on December 10th where there were new walkers joining in for the first time. From previous visits, the Park has matured to a pleasant place to visit and stroll. As the last outing for the year most of the group enjoyed the traditional picnic morning tea, sharing with each other their plans for the Christmas New Year break and anticipating the 2020 program which starts this month on Tuesday 11th from The Kiosk in the Botanic Gardens.

We hope you can join us!

Keith Mitchelmore

From the President

I hope you all had a lovely break over Christmas and New Year. The first AAG of the year is on Monday 3rd February, Clare Scott will tell us about her gardening experiences as a 3rd age gardener. If you listened to the January Green Thumbs programme you would have heard Annette interviewing Clare. Listen online at www.chsgardens.co.nz/latest-podcasts-radio-stories

I hope some of you were able to visit The Kiosk over the holiday break and take advantage of Jonny’s pop up café serving cream teas. As far as I can tell it was a success and it certainly helped us with covering the days when the office was closed.

Grow Ō Tautahi Garden Festival is only 2 months away and I am still looking for volunteers to help with the CHS exhibit. We also need a team to help decorate The Kiosk and Grow are looking for volunteers to help with the actual show. If you are interested please let me know either at AAG or by email.

A recent development was signing a partnership with the Christchurch EnviroHub who will be sharing space and activities with ourselves and the Friends. In the coming months you will meet many of these new partners as they bring us activities and displays.

Our AGM is fast approaching so it’s time to start thinking of people to nominate for the CHS Board. Nomination forms will be available at AAG in February.

I would like to thank all our wonderful volunteers who have been such a great help over our first year at The Kiosk and also to those who are about to become assessors for the Edible and Sustainable Garden Awards. I am sure you will enjoy the experience and even come away inspired to try something new.

Ray King, CHS President

Ramblers

Tuesday 11 February 9.45am
Summer in the City
Meet Armagh Street Carpark at The Kiosk

Tuesday 25 February 9.45am
Addington
Meet Addington Cemetery Selwyn St

No walk if wet. FREE
2020 Programme: www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers (also available from The Kiosk)

Floral Design

Wednesday 19 February 2pm
The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens
New members welcome.

See the latest arrangements experimenting with massed floral and line. Online: https://flic.kr/s/aHsm3HUR3N

Happy New Year in the Garden!

Michael Coulter

application will be of benefit.

Pip fruit are developing so keep up the watering so that the trees are not stressed to allow the fruit to get to a good size, they may also need a Summer prune of any strong vegetative growths to let more light on the fruit to achieve better colour.

Summer annuals and perennials are beginning to flower; to encourage continuous flower remove the dead flowers, keep well weeded and watered for the best results.

Happy New Year in the Garden!

Michael Coulter

GROW Ō TAUTAHI

March 20-22

Friday 20 – Sunday 22 March 9am-5pm
Christchurch Botanic Gardens

This exciting, new homegrown festival is bursting with workshops, cooking demonstrations, panel discussions, exhibition gardens, school gardens, kids zone, flowers, adventures, food and great coffee.

Find out more online:
www.growotautahi.org.nz
www.facebook.com/growotautahi
www.instagram.com/growotautahi

And its free!

The CHS will be exhibiting in the Botanic Marquee so come and see us there!!
**Welcome**

Welcome to Knights Stream, Sacred Heart, Kirkwood Intermediate and Hillmorton High School. These schools will be planting in August 2020.

**Planting**

This year orchards were planted at Marshland School, Wigram School, South New Brighton School, Breens Intermediate and Bishopdale School.

We had a wonderful run of fine weather for all the schools. On planting day the children learn to carry trees carefully. They dig the hole, hold the tree while the hole is being filled and then carefully firm in the tree. Next they bang in the stakes with a mallet. Finally they learn how to tie the trees. Through Orchards in Schools hundreds of children learn tree planting skills.

**Unique Orchards**

Over all the 29 participating school orchards the trees behave quite differently. In some schools the plums hang back for a couple of years before fruiting and at others they fruit in their first year. At Chisnallwood Intermediate, one pear tree has fruited heavily while the others have not.

Each school may have been delivered the same trees but every one has a distinctly unique orchard.

**Participating Schools**

**Planted 2019:** Breens Intermediate, Bishopdale School, Wigram School, Marshland School, South New Brighton School.

**Planted 2018:** Burnside Primary School, Hornby Primary School, South Hornby School, Russley School and Avonhead School.

**Planted 2017:** Isleworth School, Haeta Community Campus, Fendalton Open-air School, Elmwood Normal Primary School, Wairakei School, Chisnallwood Intermediate.

**Planted 2016:** Waitakiri, Rawhiti, Wharenui, Cobham Intermediate, Casebrook Intermediate, Kaiapoi Borough.

**Planted 2015:** St Martins, Gilberthorpe, Northcote, Addington, Oaklands.

If you wish to join the programme contact Mary Tingey via email: mary@aplaceoflearning.co.nz

Download a copy of the full newsletter from: www.chsgardens.co.nz/orchards-in-schools

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**Coming up at All About Gardening**

**MARCH**

**Monday 2nd 7pm & Tuesday 3rd 9.45am**

**David Adams – Daffodil Bulbs**

David Adams is a Life Member and former President of the Canterbury Horticultural Society. He is also the former President of the National Daffodil Society with an international recognition in daffodil culture and breeding.

As a retired teacher he brings skills in presentation and practical learning. A great meeting for daffodil fans!

**APRIL**

**Monday 6th 7pm & Tuesday 7th 9.45am**

**Wendy Millichamp - Home Gardening**

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens (over footbridge - Armagh St car park).

Members: $5 Non-members: $10

Tea, coffee and biscuits included

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**The Kiosk**

Canterbury Horticultural Society

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 two before the meeting. coultchrys@xtra.co.nz

Facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk

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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