

CANCELLED

Try the Quiz

And be in to win!

Be the first to answer everything correctly and win a double pass to our next All About Gardening!

<https://forms.gle/afyKoYBxy1utzVsb7>

From the President *Ray King*

Goodness how life changes and so quickly. I hope you are all comfortable in your isolation and have all the help you need. I am sure many of you are doing exactly as we are and that is getting in the garden and doing an early Autumn tidy up. I am very thankful for our tiny vegetable and herb garden as at least we can eat something fresh from it every day.

As we have no idea just how long we are going to be living in isolation it is a good idea to keep in contact if you can, obviously The Kiosk will not open again until the government declares an all clear and for those of us over 70 that may well be quite a long time.

We would like to send out a weekly newsletter with stories from our members telling everyone how you are coping with being locked down, ideas on things to do and easy recipes to liven up meals.

Wendy and Michele have put together a quiz to challenge you and Emma has turned it into a multiple choice one. You may know all the answers straight off or like me you may need to spend some time researching the answers, either way it is a good way to pass some time.

If you have stories to tell, some good quiz questions to share or tips to pass on we would like to hear from you. Emma and Liz are still working for you but from their respective homes of course so keeping in touch should not be a problem.

Emma's email: info@chsgardens.co.nz

Liz's email: office@chsgardens.co.nz

Ray's email: president@chsgardens.co.nz

Call for Nominations

Canterbury Horticultural Society Awards

Please take the opportunity to nominate someone for an award. This is a unique way to recognise those in the Society and community who have made a special contribution to gardening and/or horticulture.

Please make your submission by **1 June 2020** using this form: <https://forms.gle/r22X7TMQBKdk3dkh6>.

For past awards see www.chsgardens.co.nz/awards

Keep in touch

We are here for each other

Let us know how you are going during isolation. A great recipe to share, quiz question or a problem in the garden. We love photos and videos too... Please send to Emma by **Sunday** so we can collate everything in time for the weekly newsletter.

info@chsgardens.co.nz

tel: 021 225 5352



Why be a Kiosk Volunteer? Wendy Marshall

My friend Joan Leary and I have been Kiosk volunteers since the inception. Most people are rostered on once a month but we come every second Monday and we really look forward to it. We are on the morning shift from 10am-1pm and the time goes really fast.

We see the seasons gradually change as we walk from the car park by the tennis courts to the Kiosk. We see the buds gradually form and fatten on the magnolias in Spring and a fortnight later we see the flowers are open. Autumn is particularly beautiful as we see the trees gradually change in glorious colour.

When we begin duty we know what to do and we put out the signs and the wheelchair and water the flowers in the pots and see what work Liz and Emma want us to do on the day. We love the variety and it's always doable.

However our main duty and what we really enjoy is meeting and greeting the visitors to the Kiosk and helping them if we can. In one day we might speak to people from Holland, Germany, India and Canada. One day I discussed the Bossa Nova with a Chilean saxophonist while Joan exchanged information on

perennials with a German lady while her husband is complaining that his wife doesn't look to see how wide each plant will grow to.

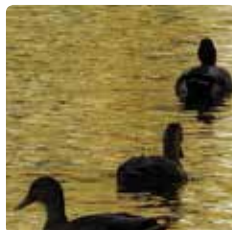
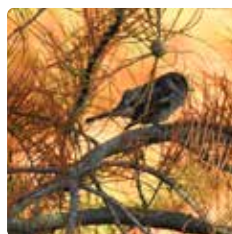
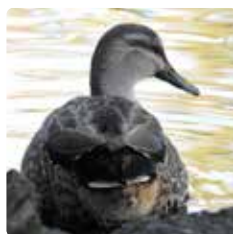
We love to see the young mums meeting up with their friends and their babies and children enjoying the Gardens. We joined with others to watch as a Chinese couple danced in front of the Kiosk to traditional music.

We now know which tree the White-fronted shags perch in and we know what Paradise Shelducks' ducklings look like.

When we all get back to normal Joan and I will be happy to get back to volunteering at the Kiosk again in our own Botanic Gardens and meeting friends at All About Gardening again.

Wendy Marshall

Images clockwise from left: *a white-fronted shag dries its feathers after fishing in the lake, I never know how the waters of the Kiosk lake will photograph but ducks are always photogenic, a sparrow is silhouetted against the Autumn colour in the lake, Chinese couple dance to traditional music, I love photographing ducks especially in water.*



Ramblers 2020

Late February's Ramble was around Addington. Leaving from Addington Cemetery in Selwyn Street, 19 made their way along Harman Street to Grove Road and into Church Square to a view of St Mary's Church, the only Church in Christchurch to have its own square. This part of Addington has seen many changes over the years from being an early part of Christchurch heritage where settler's cottages exist through to modern day multi story buildings and cycle-ways.

From Church Square we made our way along Dickens Street to Mountford Park and a view of the old Addington Prison now the Jailhouse Accommodation. Returning to Church Square via Poulson



Street to Ward Street across Selwyn Street to Ruskin Street to the heritage reserve, from there the ramble passed through Addington Heritage Walkway to the rear of the cemetery where an exploration took place searching out early settler grave sites (including Kate Sheppard and members of the Deans Family).

March's early Ramble was a drizzly day with a call made to go for Coffee and Hot Chocolate instead.

Sadly our Rambles are on hold for the time being but we do hope to get out and about again soon.

Keith Mitchelmore

All About Gardening Questionnaire

We had 105 responses to our recent questionnaire; thank-you to everyone who took the time to reply.

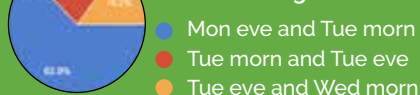
1. What do you expect from All About Gardening?

- 92.4% Gardening Advice
- 81.9% Garden/Horticulture Speakers
- 43.8% Social occasion

2. What sort of speakers do you want to hear?

- 79% Gardeners and their gardens
- 74.3% Advanced gardening
- 47.6% About climate Change

3. What is your preferred day and time of meetings?



4. What is your preferred supper/morning tea time?



5. Extra activities

- 87.8% Did want plant and produce sales
- 25% Suppliers/commercial
- 9.2% No sales table

We also had many valuable comments which we will keep in mind as we reconfigure All About Gardening post pandemic.

If you would like to see the full survey results please contact us and we can provide a link to the spreadsheet.



Waihoru/Spreydon-Cashmere



Waipapa/Papanui-Innes



Waipuna/Halswell-Hornby-Riccarton



Waipuna/Halswell-Hornby-Riccarton



Waipapa/Papanui-Innes



Waikura/Linwood-Central-Heathcote

Congratulations to our 2020 Edible Gardeners!

Waihoru/Spreydon-Cashmere Special Awards

- Best Tomatoes** Cathy Nieuwenhuijsen
- Best Yield** Meg and John Christie
- Best Organic Garden** Melanie Morris and John Sellwood
- Best Sustainability Features** Mission Sisters

Waikura/Linwood-Central-Heathcote Special Awards

- Best First-Time Entrant's Garden** Camille Sheriff
- Best Tomatoes** John Kenny
- Best Yield** Joy Talbot
- Best Organic Garden** John Norton
- Best Sustainability Features** Dave Bryce

Waipapa/Papanui-Innes Special Awards

- Best First-Time Entrant's Garden** Aaron Decker
- Best Tomatoes & Best Yield** - Bill Allison
- Best Organic Garden & Best Sustainability Features** Sarah Morel

Waipuna/Halswell-Hornby-Riccarton Special Awards

- Best Tomatoes** Kim Kemp
- Best Yield & Best Organic Garden** Mike Snowdon
- Best Sustainability Features** Winsome Shaw and Graham Shearman

Monthly Tips & Tasks with Michael Coulter

The corona virus has made much of what we do very uncertain in our every day lives but our gardens go on following the change of season into Autumn unaffected by this pandemic.

This may be a good opportunity to spend more time in our gardens and catch up with projects we have wanted to do but other activities have not allowed us the time.

Autumn is a busy time in the garden as harvesting fruit and Summer vegetables will be finished by the end of the month and preparations from the Winter must be well under way.

Any unused ground can be sown with green crops and the leaves and the old vegetable and flower plants put down to compost for use next season. Main crop potatoes can be lifted and stored or left in the ground and dug as needed if the ground is not subjected to being very wet.

The lawns will benefit from some good maintenance; weed control, fertilising and over sowing of any worn areas before the

colder weather starts.

We still have not had any significant rain so watering is still needed, also do not cut the grass too low.

Bulb planting of spring bulbs is still to carry on along with the planting of Winter/Spring annuals.

Fruit trees can now have a clean up spray for pest and diseases once the fruit has been all picked, to prevent any carry over to the next growing season.

There will still be some dahlia flowers so wait until a frost has cut them back before you lift them. Chrysanthemums will be in full flower make sure they are well supported and pick them before they are too open to get the best vase life from the blooms. Now is the time to have a good clean up get rid of any plants that are not doing well and prepare for planting new plants.

Stay safe in the garden, **Michael Coulter**

ALL ABOUT YOUR GARDEN

Your garden questions answered



Michael has been a member of the Canterbury Horticultural Society for over 45 years. During this time he has served on the Board, exhibited at shows and judged numerous garden competitions.

Michael is our regular presenter at the monthly All About Gardening sessions. He has a lifetime of experience in horticulture starting as a school boy working after school and during holidays in a flower growing nursery, then studying at Lincoln College.

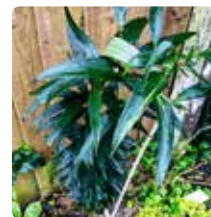
Nursery work with flowers and indoor plants, 12 years with the landscape department of the Ministry of Works and for the last 33 years with his wife running their own nursery.

He enjoys all types of horticulture and likes to share his knowledge and to solve problems for people to enable them to get more enjoyment and better results from their efforts in their gardens.

Ask an expert *Michael Coulter*

1. Christmas, oriental and exotic lilies - should I lift after flowering? What should I feed them with after flowering, and do I continue to water them? *Diane*

These lilies only need to be lifted if you are going to shift or divide them. Best to feed them when they start growing in the Spring. The roots of lilies are active all the time so if you are lifting them replant straight away, do not allow them to dry out.



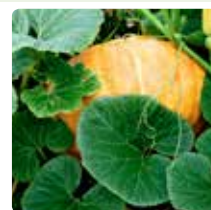
2. What should you spray a greenhouse with after removing tomatoes? There had been some white fly present. *Hilary*

All plant material should be sprayed with an insecticide before it is removed. Wash down the inside of the greenhouse and then treat with a biocide. Keep the greenhouse free of plant material until it is time to plant the next crop so that there can be no hosts for the white fly and then follow a spray programme at the first sign of any white fly.



3. Do pumpkins need a frost on them before they have flavour and able to be harvested? *Kathleen*

No, as long as the pumpkins are mature at harvest they should be sweet enough although I have found that after about a month the pumpkins are a lot sweeter and are a brighter colour. A hard frost can damage them and reduce their keeping ability.



4. Something is infecting our cauliflower. Is it just white butterfly or something else. Any organic solutions? *Karl*

The damage is by the white butterfly. There is an organic approved spray available called 'Success' that can be used.



5. I have a Fejoa tree which is part of a hedge. I would like to know how I can stimulate growth on the lower trunk? *Sue*

Fejoas make a good hedge as they will grow from hardwood. To encourage this prune back the top growth quite hard in the Spring. Just before they start to grow you can be hard cutting back to 3 to 4 leaves above the branches from the main stem (think of this as an investment to the hedge).



6. Lilac - what causes this and how do we solve this issue? *Hallie*

The leaves look very much like they have the potato psyllid, a small sucking insect that spreads a bacteria to the plant. Control of the insect is by using an insecticidal spray.



7. What kind of pest is this? *Hope*

Immature green vegetable bugs.



8. Does anyone know what might be causing our newly planted pohutukawa tree leaves to discolour? Planted by the sea. *Warwick*

The leaf damage looks to be a physical one. It could be that the plants are not yet acclimatised to their new position (not hardened off from the nursery) or some salt spray from the sea. I do not believe they have any disease.

