

The Kiosk Christchurch Botanic Gardens Open every day 10am – 3pm *Newsletter No 268 JULY 2020*



Events coming up at The Kiosk

School Holiday Programme

Saturday 4 - Sunday 19 July 10am - 3pm Matariki colouring activity The Kiosk, free all welcome

Members' Morning Tea

Tuesday 7 July 10am

A social morning tea for members to meet up again and share stories. Everyone welcome. *Please bring a plate to share.*

Greenthumbs Radio

Monday 13 July 9am

Catch up with CHS President Ray King and Lorraine Campbell on Plains FM96.9. Interesting interviews and great gardening advice.

Q & A at The Kiosk

Winter Hours : every day 10am-3pm One-on-one gardening advice with volunteers from the CHS and Friends of the Botanic Gardens.

Watercolour Painting

Wednesday 8 & 22 July 10am

Get together with members and explore your hidden painting talent! A casual group who enjoy watercolour painting with inspiration from the Gardens. Held at The Kiosk twice a month. BYO materials. (Tutor Rose attends every fourth Wednesday of the month - \$5).

Living Dirt Display

Weekend 15 & 16 August 10am-3pm How to garden easy - advice and inspiration from The Just Dirt Trust. Free, all welcome





Friends Events at The Kiosk

www.friendschchbotanicgardens.org.nz

Alpine Flowers of Mt Hutt: A special mountain environment

Friday 17 July 10.30am

Alan Jolliffe gives an illustrated talk on the beauty of this mountain environment.

Our Kauri, Our Heritage

Friday 21 August 10.30am

Joanna Orwin, historian and botanist will speak about scientific aspects of the New Zealand kauri then lead a walk in the gardens.

\$5 Members, \$10 Non Members The Kiosk

Don't forget the plant stall opposite The Kiosk run by the Friends as a fundraiser. Most plants only \$5 and new stock arrives regularly.

Matariki *at The Kiosk*

The two meanings of Matariki both refer to stars: mata ariki (eyes of god) and mata riki (little eyes).

Journey through the stars of Matariki in a selfguided trail in the Botanic Gardens. Explore how Matariki connects to the environment and celebrate this special time of year. Activity sheets can be collected from The Kiosk or visitor centre (please bring your own pen).

A Matariki colouring activity will also be available in The Kiosk between 10am - 3pm.

Cut out a star, colour it in and write down your wish for the year!

Matariki colouring activity

10am – 3pm, 4 – 19 July

Colour in a Matariki star and make a wish for the new year!

St

The Kiosk

Christchurch

Garden Club Reps

Tuesday 4 July 12.30pm The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Junior Gardeners

Thursday 16 July 3.45 - 5pm The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens (Bring gloves and masks for handling potting mix) New members welcome

Ramblers 2020 Exploring Christchurch through the Seasons

Walks start 9.45am every second and fourth TUESDAY of the month.

Restarting Ramblers post covid-19 lockdown was a delight as 22 turned out to ramble through parts of Fendalton, this included three new faces. Everyone wanted to see a new area from the area they had been walking in while lockdown exercising.

After a good frost and a bright sky the group started out from in front of St Barnabas Church in Fendalton Road and headed to Makora St then down to the entrance to Fendalton Bowling Club and out into Fendalton Park. From there we crossed over the Waimairi Stream to Kotare St. crossing over to connect with Puriri St and making our way to Totara St.

The area has a mix of large older homes and rebuilds. Most homes disappointingly have high fences making viewing gardens a challenge. Large trees are prominent in the area and were mostly in full winter

Fruit & Vegetables

Wednesday 26 August 7:30pm Speaker to be confirmed The Kiosk Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Chrysanthemums

Sunday 26 July 2pm **AGM** Susan & Michael Coulter's home



Monthly Tips & Tasks with Michael Coulter

July is the month where the real Winter weather kicks in. The trees have lost all their leaves, the ground is cold and wet and the garden looks gloomy. But there is activity in the ground, my daffodils are just starting to come through, my snow drops are almost in flower and some of the primulas are beginning to flower.

We are past the shortest day although we will not notice the days getting longer for a few weeks yet. On the fine sunny days take the opportunity to prune fruit trees, roses and other deciduous plants.

The control of pest and diseases really begins now too, use copper sprays, lime sulphur and conquer oils but always read the labels first and follow the instructions to get the desired results. When the soil is wet and heavy avoid trying to dig it over, wait until the excess moisture has dried out so the structure is not damaged.

We have had some good frosts already and I have noticed that in the gardens that I had dug over earlier the frost has broken up the clods into nice friable soil.

The new stock of roses and fruit trees are starting to be available in the garden centres and nurseries so get in early so that you are able to get the first choice of plants for quality and the cultivars that you want. Many of the Spring bulbs and perennials will be starting to move and their growing tips may be just under the soil surface; make sure you know were they are before you dig or hoe the ground. Fine grass lawns will start to look yellow because the frosts make the ground cold and the grass will stop growing so only mow (at a higher level) as needed to keep the lawn tidy. Keep off the grass when there is frost on the ground to stop the grass getting frost burn.

If you have a green house you can start thinking about sowing some seeds from the end of the month.

Generally though the main tasks in the garden this month are to have a good clean up - of pots, trays, old seed packets and the green house, to be ready for the coming Spring.

Keep warm, good gardening

Michael Coulter

splendour with the weather having stripped off the Autumn colours seen two weeks earlier. Moving on from Totara St into Hinau St and Miro St to re-join Totara St proceeding to Kahu Rd, into Kotare St to Weka St and onto Straven Rd, returning to Fendalton Rd. A walk into Heathfield Ave to view large trees and the large homes completed a very pleasant Ramble.

Photos show Ramblers in front 'Heathfield' Heathfield Ave and a car with Autumn decorating seen while out walking.



July sees the Ramblers exploring along the Heathcote River and the inner City Lanes.

Ramblers

Tuesday 14 July 9.45am Heathcote River 1 Meet Fifield Tce near Ford Rd

Tuesday 28 July 9.45am City Lanes Meet at Bus Exchange Colombo St No walk if wet. FREE 2020 Programme: www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers (also available from The Kiosk)

From the President Ray King

Welcome back to you all, it is lovely to be back to a sort of normal life again. I know many of you really enjoyed the brief spell of peace and quiet but of course for others in the community it hasn't been so pleasant.

Thank you to the members who joined the virtual AGM, it all seemed to go well, with enough people joining to form a quorum so we are able to lodge our financial statements with the Charities Services and Incorporate Societies as required.

The new board has met and we were pleased to welcome Gail Scrivener to the board as the Garden Club representative. I would like to thank both Robyn White and Rachel Vogan for their work on the Board and wish them well for the future.

A decision made over lockdown was that we need to employ a co-ordinator for our workshops and events. The committee who were doing this have all decided that time has come to retire so I would like to thank them for all the work they have done over the last 6 or 7 years. The position of Programme Co-ordinator has just been listed on the website Seek so if you know of anyone who may be interested please ask them to check the Seek website for further information.

Thank you to all our volunteers who have agreed to come back and help us keep the Kiosk open and running as of the 1st of July. It will be lovely to catch up with all of you when we meet on the 7th for our morning tea, I am sure there will be plenty of lockdown experiences to share.

All About Gardening will be back as usual in August. Sadly our speaker has had to cancel due to a bereavement so we will let you know as soon as possible who the replacement will be.

Floral Design

Wednesday 15 July 2pm The Kiosk Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Bring container, flowers and foliage. New members welcome.

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



Canterbury HERB Society Update

Thursday 25th June saw an exciting line up of Midwinter Christmas events for the Canterbury HERB Society's comeback after the lockdown.

The group has begun regular evening meetings on a monthly basis (previously only on alternate months) to accommodate the surge in younger new members. There will also be day meetings through the Winter as well as alternate months for both ends of the year. Visitors welcome \$5 and annual subs just \$15.

There are plenty of practical demonstrations at each meeting. Heather presents a programme, Managing the Herb Garden through the Year, in which she takes us on a journey explaining how to plan and plant, deal with pests and weeds, as well as manage the more aggressive herb species and how to easily propagate your herbs.

Janet and Heather presented on the History of Herbal Salts indisposed with sampling and demonstrations of what to use and how to make these. Afterward the salts were available to try with fresh veges and crackers during morning tea/supper.

Lively discussion was had at all points in the meetings and reports were on how much folks had learnt and ways they had become inspired.

Michele showed the advantages and described ways to grow micro-greens

in troughs during the Winter months, demonstrating with Coriander and she shared some of the secrets to successful production. After that she demonstrated making a simple Christmas-spiced Yuletide Log using home-made Christmas mincemeat, and decorated it in Christmas style with Rosemary as the greenery. This was eaten and enjoyed with the Hot Spiced Apple Punch at the supper.

Members bring samples of their own herb and spice productions, so there is always a lot of interest and discussion on how these were made, and recipes shared.

Visit them on Facebook: @CANHERBSOC Next Meeting: Thurs 24 July, 10am & 7pm.

ALL ABOUT GARDENING

Monthly gardening programme for the everyday gardener

Coming up at All About Gardening

AUGUST

Monday 3rd 7pm & Tuesday 4th 9.45am Speaker to be confirmed

All About Gardening will be back as usual in August. Sadly our speaker Wendy Millichamp has had to cancel due to a bereavement so we will let you know as soon as possible who her replacement will be.

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens (over footbridge - Armagh St car park). 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 two before the meeting. coultchrys@xtra.co.nz

Facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk

Living Dirt Display - The Just Dirt Trust

Saturday 15 & Sunday 16 August 10am - 3pm The Kiosk

The Just Dirt Trust was formed in order to encourage and assist easy gardening. This makes use of raised beds of great guality soil stocked with healthy plants that require little weeding. The trust aims to help people create spaces they can garden; shared community gardens looked after by a number of people or the gardens of individuals.

Come along to The Kiosk next month to find out about what they do and how they can help you in your own garden. Have a chat to the founders, members and helpers, have a bite to eat, grab a brochure and ask questions.

Find them on Facebook: @TheJustDirtTrust

Regi

The Kiosk

BECOME A

MEMBER

Garden groups, workshops courses & events

HALF PRICE available now to December 31

Sign-up Online

chsgardens.co.nz

Free Wheelchai

Available everyday from The Kiosk donated by the Friends