There are plenty of opportunities to enjoy these beautiful flowers this month. Visit the Daffodil Circle Championships here at The Kiosk then stroll outside to enjoy the beautiful daffodils growing in the Christchurch Botanic Gardens and Hagley Park.

If you fancy an outing further afield, head to Lincoln at the end of the month for the Botanical Expo. This is also the national Daffodil Show with the largest display of daffodils New Zealand will see this year - well worth a visit!
Chrysanthemums

Monthly Tips & Tasks with Michael Coulter

Spring has now arrived, and in my garden plants are really moving into growth. The weather has been on the dry side with only 4 mm of rain at the time of writing, for August we would expect 40 mm so it is dry. The Spring bulbs will need to have some water if this dry spell continues so that they can grow well and be in good condition to produce flowers next year.

The apricot, peach and nectarine are in full flower now which is about 2 weeks earlier than usual so hopefully there will not be any hard frosts that can damage the flowers. The soil is now dry enough to dig over and work up to make a good friable soil ready for seed sowing or the transplanting of seedlings.

Winter flowering camellias should be pruned as they finish flowering to keep them in shape and in good condition to make next years flower buds on the new growth that they will make in the spring, this also applies to any other Winter flowering shrubs like Daphne etc.

Later in the month citrus can have a citrus fertiliser dressing around the drip line just before they start to grow, also a mulch should now be renewed or added around the drip line. Seed sowing of Summer vegetables and bedding plants may be started in the greenhouse to be ready for planting outside when the warmer weather arrives. Many perennials are starting to grow and cuttings can be taken now or plants can be lifted and divided to give new more healthy plants. Begonias will be starting to shoot away, place them in a warm place where they will get good light to develop strong shoots that can be used for cuttings.

Re-pot any plants in outside containers that have been in the pots for more than 2 or 3 years using a shrub and tub potting mix, before they start to grow this will keep them fresh and healthy.

The lawns are growing and will benefit from regular mowing. Fertilising and weed control are now important for the grass to grow well and form a good swathe ready for the warmer Summer temperatures. Any area of the lawn that has been compacted during the Winter would benefit from aeration by fork or coring. Sand in the cores will help to prevent this compaction.
Bonsai Show
Advice & Demonstrations
Saturday 3rd October 10am - 5pm & Sunday 4th October 10am - 4pm The Kiosk
Come along to the annual Avon Bonsai Society Show at the Kiosk.
A chance to see some of the very best Bonsai in New Zealand. From Maples to Pohutukawa and Kowhai to Larch. As well as the trees themselves, there are the bonsai pots and stands (both local and from overseas), and companion plants to view. Consult the experts who will be on hand to discuss the merits of the various trees, their age and styling, what type of tree makes the best bonsai and where to obtain the plant material or attend bonsai classes. A great opportunity for anyone interested in finding out more about growing these beautiful trees. There will be styling demonstrations, plant material for sale and members of the public will be asked to vote for the tree of their choice. There will also be a raffle with a bonsai tree as the 1st prize.

Demonstrations times will be published closer to the time. Please keep an eye on the Facebook event page.

business.facebook.com/events/351152132582891

From the President
I hope you have all had a chance to visit Hagley Park which is bright with crowds of daffodils, both in the daffodil woodland and in South Hagley Park where Christchurch Beautifying Society have been planting more bulbs each year.

The weather is certainly warming up and our gardens are waking up as we move into early Spring. It is tempting to get planting as we see the sun shining but I am sure that Michael will tell us to wait a bit longer as there is still plenty of opportunity for frosts right up to show weekend.

As we are in Level 2 lockdown I hope you are all practicing physical distancing and keeping yourselves safe. This has led both the board and the office staff to consider what is best for everyone in regard to September’s AAG. Currently we are in Level 2. Taking in to consideration the need to set the room up for physical distancing we would be very limited with the numbers we could cater for. There would be no supper/morning tea or raffles as these activities encourage us all to gather close together. So all in all as one of the main reasons we come along to AAG is to meet friends and have a chat over a cup of tea it seems best to cancel September’s AAG and plan towards our meeting in October when hopefully we will be at a lower level.

Of course this does not mean that other activities cannot take place. Both our programme co-ordinators, Rachel and Julian, are working on workshops and activities that we can take part in before the end of the year so do keep an eye on the website to find out what is planned.

Ray King
President - Canterbury Horticultural Society

Floral Design
Wednesday 16 September 2pm
The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens
New members welcome.

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

Ramblers
Tuesday 15 September 9.45am
Spring in the City
Meet Armagh St carpark at The Kiosk

Tuesday 29 September 9.45am
Riccarton Bush
Meet at carpark on Titoki St

No walk if wet. FREE
2020 Programme:
www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers

Cantabrian’s Ceramics Exposition
Friday 11 - Monday 14 September 10am - 4pm
Beautiful handcrafted items, available for purchase (cash or eftpos)
The Kiosk in the Christchurch Botanic Gardens
Free Entry

As plants move into growth, pest and diseases will also begin to appear. It is important that these are controlled early before they become a problem.

Tomatoes may be planted in a warm greenhouse to get some early fruit but it’s better to wait until November if planting outside. Early potatoes that have been chitted can be planted but be prepared to protect them from any frosts once they have emerged from the ground.

Spring is a very busy time in the garden and much of what we do now will determine the results in the coming season. As they say, ‘well begun is half done’

Enjoy your garden, Michael Coulter
ALL ABOUT GARDENING

Monthly gardening programme for the everyday gardener

Coming up at All About Gardening

OCTOBER
Monday 5th 7pm & Tuesday 6th 9.45am
Cornelia Holten - Korukai Herb Farm
Korukai produce a range of natural herbal products – health and healing from farm to your doorstep. They grow over 80 medicinal herbs and harvest and process 40 of them to be used for their products.
www.korukai.co.nz

NOVEMBER
Monday 2nd 7pm & Tuesday 3rd 9.45am
Rachel Teen and Colin Meurk
Joint presentation on water issues and water friendly gardens.
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

Rakaia Fete & Garden Day Tour
CHS Members & Garden Clubs (coach)
Wednesday 15th October 9am - 5pm
St John Garden Fete. Sixty stalls including 5 plant stalls, live music, food and beautiful gardens to explore. Cooking demonstration by Shantel Quinn at 11am. On the return we will visit the large garden of Jean Rowe on Lake Selwyn Road.
$65 pp includes: Boxed lunch, entry fees, coach

Westmelton Spring Garden Afternoon Tour
CHS Members & Garden Clubs (self drive)
Wednesday 21st October 2020 1pm
1pm: Meet at Casa Rossa, 203 Jowers Rd.
An interesting mix of formal and informal garden rooms including a tapestry beech walk, Japanese influenced pond, garden art and an eclectic mix of trees.
2pm: Rhodo Direct 3/377 Halkett Rd.
A new and developing garden. Plants available for sale - afternoon tea served.
3pm: Stoneycrop Garden 211 Halkett Rd
A well-established garden with a variety of interesting plants and includes a wonderful vegetable garden.
Self-drive or car pool and join us and celebrate the arrival of Spring. $20 pp includes: Afternoon tea and entry fees.

Enquiries & bookings contact:
Gail Scrivener gail.scrivener@xtra.co.nz
tel: 0274 892 906 or 329 6966
Please note that this is a CHS Garden Club reps initiative.

HALF PRICE available now to December 31

Sign-up Online
chsgardens.co.nz

Free Wheelchair
Available everyday from The Kiosk donated by the Friends

Garden groups, workshops courses & events

BECOME A MEMBER
Gardening & horticulture questions answered facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk