



Daffodil days

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!

Events coming up at *The Kiosk & Beyond*

Green Thumbs Radio

Monday 14 September 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 Extended 7 days 10am-3pm

One-on-one gardening advice with volunteers from the CHS and Friends of the Botanic Gardens.

Daffodil Circle Championships

Weekend 19 & 20 September 10am-3pm

Enjoy the display of competition quality daffodils as well as a range of exhibits from amateur growers. *The Kiosk - Free*

Watercolour Painting

Wednesday 9 & 23 Sep 10am - 12pm

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 Wed of the month).

Ask a Garden Expert - Mini Expo

Saturday 12 September 11am-2pm

With the Friends of the Botanic Gardens, Chris Barnaby of the Plant Variety Rights Office, and Cultivate Christchurch. He Hononga | Connection, Ground Floor, Tūranga - christchurchcitylibraries.com

Great Library Seed & Plant Swap

Saturday 12 - Sunday 27 September

To celebrate the season of growing and greenery, Christchurch City libraries are

hosting seed swaps. Bring your leftover seeds or spare plants to He Hononga | Connection, Ground Floor, Tūranga.

Botanical Expo

Saturday 26 & Sunday 27 September

Lincoln Events Centre, 15 Meijer Drive National Daffodil Show, Alpine & Woodland Show and Floral Art with Demos. A great day out to enjoy daffodils, alpine treasures and floral design, rare plant sales. \$5 (*kids free*).

Braided River Exhibition

September/October School Holidays

Learn about the importance of protecting these unusual ecosystems then, take a journey through the Christchurch Botanic Gardens via an augmented reality app.

facebook.com/christchurchenvirohub

The Kiosk - Free

Orchid Society Annual Show

Weekend of 3rd & 4th October 10am-4pm

Mineral & Lapidary Hall, 110 Waltham Rd Amazing displays and extensive sales table with rare varieties. Tea, Coffee & refreshments available. \$5 (*kids free*)

facebook.com/canterburyorchidsociety

Friends of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens Events Challenges of Restoring Dryland

Ecosystems: Mcleans Island a case study

Friday 18 September 10.30am

Nick Head, Senior Ecologist Christchurch City Council. *The Kiosk \$5 Members, \$10 Non Members*

The Riccarton Horticultural Society Spring Show has been cancelled.

All About Gardening SEPTEMBER 2020

Monday 7th 7pm & Tuesday 8th 9.45am
Mark Chandler - Ohinetahi Gardens



Mark will talk about Ohinetahi and the rebuild of the gardens post quake. He will also respond to the CHS Mission statement of "Connecting people to the art, science and practice of gardening and horticulture".

Afterwards Dave Adams will give a quick daffodil bulb refresher followed by a mini floral art demonstration with daffodils from Shirley Russ.

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

*\$5 members \$10 non-members.
Includes tea, coffee & biscuits*

If you are growing heirloom varieties, you have the option to save your own seed and know that next season you can grow that same variety from your own harvested seed. If you are keen to try this, here are some tips and tricks to keep in mind:

Choose your best performing plants to be your seed producers

The seed you save will produce plants that directly reflect the characteristics of the parent plants. Choose plants that are healthy and are producing the ideal crop so that these qualities are passed on to next season's plants. Consider marking the plants you intend to use for seed harvesting so that you don't accidentally harvest it for the kitchen!

Timing – you need your seeds to mature fully before you collect them

If you harvest a seed too early, it may not have the stored nutrients it will require to germinate, grow well or stay viable until the following season.

How is the seed produced?

Is the seed encased within a fleshy fruit (e.g. tomato, capsicum, cucumber etc.)? If so, allow the fruit to become fully, or even a little over-ripe, before collecting the seed. You will need to separate the seed from the fruit – sometimes this can be done by soaking. If the seed is the edible part of the crop (e.g. beans, peas, corn), you may need to allow the seed to fully dry before harvesting it. If the seed shatters and scatters readily as it matures (e.g. lettuce, onions, mustard), you may need

to place a paper bag over the seed heads to collect the seed and prevent it from scattering. Do some research on how to save seed for particular varieties so that you know what to do.

Drying seed?

Seed needs to be completely dry before storage. Different seed varieties will need different methods of drying – you may be able to hang seeds to dry, allow them to dry on the plants before collecting, or you may need to dry them on paper towels to remove soft plant tissue.

Storing seed?

Seed needs to be stored in cool, dry conditions, out of the light. Keep them in an insect-proof container. Remember to label your seeds, so that next season you know what they are. You think you will remember, but you may not! Label everything!

Find out how long you can store a seed variety before it will naturally reduce in viability. For example, lettuce, onion and parsnip seed will store for one season, whereas brassica seeds can remain viable for around five years.

Germination?

You can test the germination rate of your saved seed before the sowing season begins. This involves choosing around 100 seeds and moistening them and allow them to germinate, then checking how many seeds have sprouted. If you have a poor germination rate, you will know that you are better to purchase fresh seed instead of relying on a poor batch of saved seed that season.

Good luck with your seed saving at the end of your season.

www.kingsseeds.co.nz

Chrysanthemums

No meeting in September.

Next meeting **Monday 19 October 7pm**
Michael & Susan's home. General cultural notes, cutting demonstration

Canterbury HERB Society

Thursday, 24 September 10am & 7pm

Avice Hill Craft Centre
395 Memorial Ave

Garden Club Reps

September meeting cancelled

Next meeting **Tuesday 6 October 12pm**

Junior Gardeners

Thursday 27 September 1pm

Rather than the usual Kiosk meeting on the 17th the group will meet at the Lincoln Events Centre at 1pm for a tour and discussion of the Expo.

Fruit & Vegetables

Wednesday 30 September 7:30pm

Julian Odering History/stories about their gardens & the Oderings history in Canterbury.

A Visual Guide to Gardening through the year 1 with **Cindy Hey** and **Peter & Phil**
Gardening Suggestions for Mid Spring

The Kiosk, Botanic Gardens

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



Free
Entry

Bonsai
Raffle!

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

Riccobush

Meet at carpark on Titoki St

No walk if wet. FREE

2020 Programme:

www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers



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 green house 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**

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



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. coultechrys@xtra.co.nz

[Facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk](https://www.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.

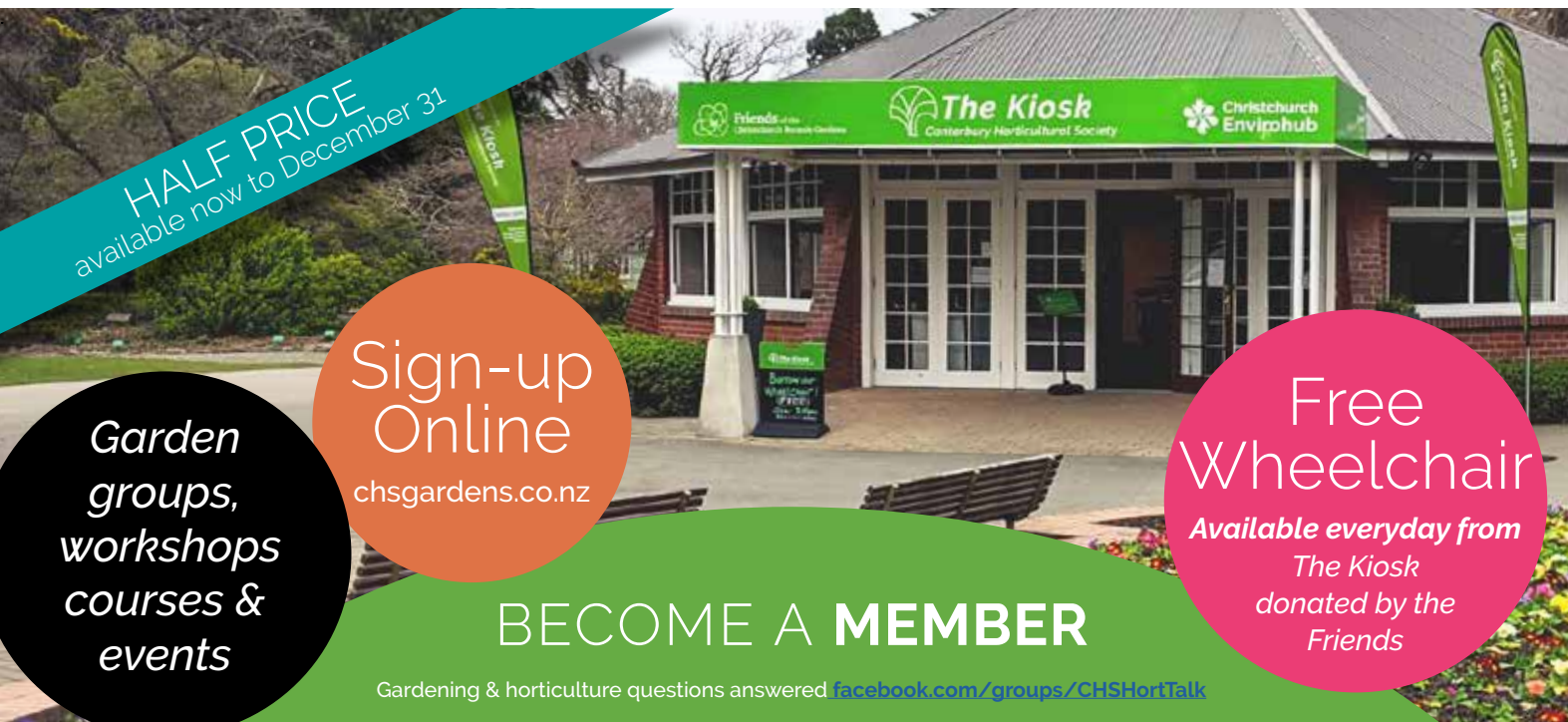
Self-drive or car pool and join us and celebrate the arrival of Spring. **\$20 pp** includes: Afternoon tea and entry fees.

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

Garden
groups,
workshops
courses &
events

Free
Wheelchair

Available everyday from
The Kiosk
donated by the
Friends

BECOME A MEMBER

Gardening & horticulture questions answered [facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk](https://www.facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk)