



Includes \$5 voucher towards a home starter kit and a delicious tasting of organic mushrooms!

GROWING ORGANIC MUSHROOMS AT HOME

Demo by Taylor McConnell from **SporeShift NZ**
Wednesday 24 March 7pm

The Kiosk - \$15 Members | \$20 Non-Members

Tickets: www.chsgardens.co.nz/product/mushrooms-at-home

Events coming up at *The Kiosk*

Greenthumbs Radio

Monday 12 March 9am

Catch up with CHS President Ray King and Lorraine Campbell on Plains FM96.9. Interesting interviews and great gardening advice. March guests are the Burnside Garden Club and Michael Brown, our April AAG speaker who will be talking about roses.

Bot Tots

Weekly on Mondays 10 - 11.30am

Gardening & nature themed activities for preschoolers. Drop-in (gold coin pp).

business.facebook.com/events/60562069346896

Watercolour Painting

Wed 14 & 28 March 10am-12pm

All welcome, BYO materials

Lily Workshop

Monday 15 March 7-9pm

Growing Lilies as a Hobby

\$15 Members \$20 Non-Members

www.chsgardens.co.nz/product/lily-workshop

Growing Organic Mushrooms at Home Demonstration & tasting

Wednesday 24 March 7pm

\$15 Members \$20 Non-Members

chsgardens.co.nz/product/mushrooms-at-home

CHS AGM

Tuesday 30 March 7pm

The Agenda, President's Report, Annual Accounts and Auditor's Report will be

available from the CHS Office 7 days prior to and at the meeting. Nomination and voting forms available from

www.chsgardens.co.nz/agm

Christchurch Cactus & Succulent Society Display

Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 March 10-4pm

Amazing plants on display and for sale

Free entry

www.facebook.com/

[ChristchurchCactusandSucculentSociety](https://www.facebook.com/ChristchurchCactusandSucculentSociety)

Alinos Ceramics Exposition

Thursday 1 - Monday 5 April 10am - 4pm

Free Entry, all works for sale

Autumn Plant Sale

Sunday 11 April 11am-3pm (or until sold)

Under the palm tree over the Armagh Street car park bridge in the Christchurch Botanic Gardens. Bring cash & carry bags.

Bulbs in Containers

Thursday 29 April 7pm - 9pm

Join knowledgeable Dave Adams for this hands on workshop.

\$15 members \$20 non members

Online booking available soon

Q & A at The Kiosk

Summer Hours 7 days 10am-4pm

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

ALL ABOUT GARDENING MARCH

Monday 12 March

CANCELLED
DUE TO COVID ALERT LEVEL 2



Image: www.heritage-expeditions.com

Luke Martin - Collection Curator of the New Zealand plant collection at the Christchurch Botanic Gardens talks about his recent travels to New Zealand's Subantarctic Islands.

Luke will share with us some of his highlights of the flora and fauna he encountered on these far away islands rich with history.

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

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

Free Guided Walks

Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Learn more about our wonderful Gardens with the Guides who are running free walks from The Kiosk at 1.30pm daily.

Summer Talk Series

Sunday 21 March 4pm

Te Kohinga Harakeke o Aotearoa – National New Zealand Flax Collection
Katarina Tawiri gives an illustrated talk about this valuable collection of flax.

\$5 CHS Members, \$10 Non-members

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Grow Ōtautahi

FREE daily walks from the Kiosk during the festival.

Friday 12 March

10.30am Gondwana Collection

11am Notable Trees

11.30am Walk among the Palms

12 noon Going nuts over bark and cones

1pm A hidden gem – the Leonard Cockayne Garden

1.30pm Trooping the colour – our Herbaceous Border

2pm Biggest, smallest, quirkiest, tallest!

2.30pm ICON Garden – our NZ natives

Saturday 13 March

10.30am Trooping the colour – our Herbaceous Border

11am Leonard Cockayne Garden

11.30am Biggest, smallest, quirkiest, tallest!

12 noon Conservatories

1pm ICON Garden – our NZ natives

1.30pm Walk among the palms

2pm Notable Trees

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2pm Walk among the palms

2.30pm Leonard Cockayne Garden

Our partners at The Kiosk have had another busy month (and a big newsletter).

Please [click here](#) to read all their important news.

Seaweed is a huge theme, from 6-14 March with some lead-in events prior to these dates.



If you would like support for your environmental or sustainability group, please contact them on info@chchenvirohub.org.

You're also welcome to come into The Kiosk and meet with Kat Miller on Thursdays 10am - 2pm, or by appointment on other days.

Contact Kat: 021 744 909

Chrysanthemums

Monday 22 March 7pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

How to stage blooms for the show and cultural notes and any other problems.

Garden Club Reps

Tuesday 2 March 12.30pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Junior Gardeners

Thursday 18 March 3.45pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens
New children welcome, please contact the CHS if attending, tel: 366 6937 (BYO mask and gloves for handling potting mix).

Floral Design

Wednesday 17 March 2pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

AUTUMN COLOURS Container: Use a contrasting colour to your materials.

Branch material: Anything showing autumn colours. **Flowers:** Depending on the weather you may be short of flowers, a few good silk flowers are OK. **Mechanics:** Chicken wire, ikebana techniques or free standing depending on your container.

Monthly Tips & Tasks with Michael Coulter

This month is the transition from summer to autumn and a very busy time in the garden. Nights are cooler and morning dew is on the grass.

Pip fruit harvest time is here with apples and pears at their very best. Choose only the very best, sound fruit for storage over the winter and the second quality fruit for now, or to make into sauces or jelly.

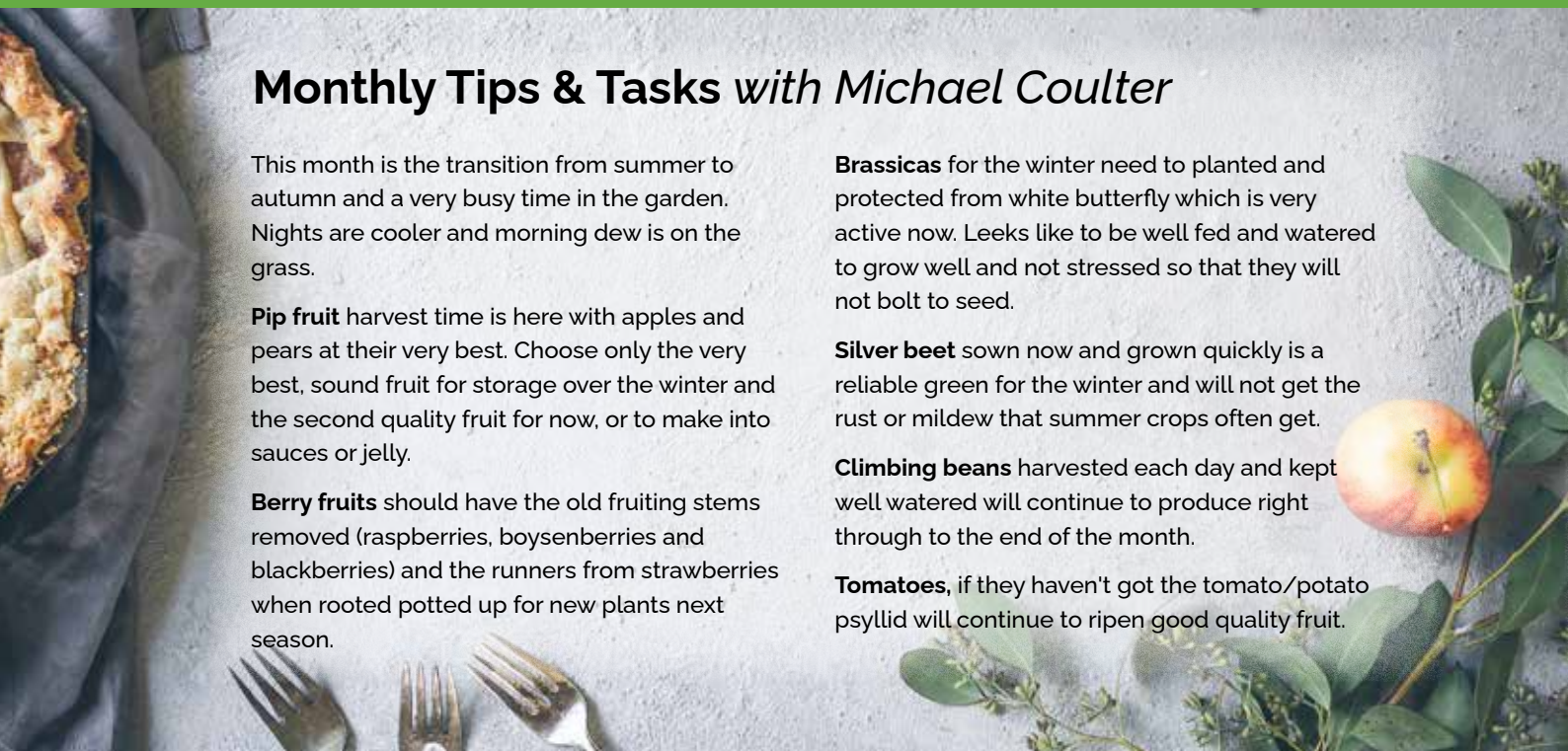
Berry fruits should have the old fruiting stems removed (raspberries, boysenberries and blackberries) and the runners from strawberries when rooted potted up for new plants next season.

Brassicas for the winter need to be planted and protected from white butterfly which is very active now. Leeks like to be well fed and watered to grow well and not stressed so that they will not bolt to seed.

Silver beet sown now and grown quickly is a reliable green for the winter and will not get the rust or mildew that summer crops often get.

Climbing beans harvested each day and kept well watered will continue to produce right through to the end of the month.

Tomatoes, if they haven't got the tomato/potato psyllid will continue to ripen good quality fruit.



From the President

Welcome to our second newsletter for 2021 and in particular to the new members who have joined us this month. I am so sorry to have had to cancel AAG yet again but under Level 2 it is almost impossible to fit you all in comfortably while following social distancing rules.

Despite Covid there are still some very interesting and fun things happening during March, from the Fundamentals of Horticulture course and Lily Workshop to SporeShift's demonstration on growing your own organic mushrooms. I imagine this will be a safer way to procure your own mushrooms rather than Peter Langlands

comment at AAG last month that you only get one chance with mushrooms, if you pick the wrong one you are dead, surely puts one off!

A huge amount of effort goes into organising and running these events so it is wonderful to see so many young and not so young people, both members and non-members attending them.

March is also an important month for the CHS as it is time for our Annual General Meeting. You will remember that last year due to Covid-19 we had to hold our AGM through CrowdCast, however, all being well this year we will hold it in The Kiosk on **Monday 29 March at 7pm**. This is the

opportunity for members to come along and hear how things are moving ahead and our plans for the future.

The most important thing you as a members can do is to nominate anybody you think would contribute to the running of the Society. Nomination forms are available on the website and at The Kiosk.

Nominations need to be in to the CHS office by 4pm on **Monday 15 March** and signed by the person being nominated.

Enjoy your gardens as we drift into autumn, hopefully it will be a golden season with lovely still days and cooler nights.

Ray King President, CHS

Succulent & Cacti Display

Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 March 10am - 4pm

The Christchurch Cactus & Succulent Society are taking over The Kiosk with a fabulous display of cacti and succulents. There will be information about growing and how to become a member.

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens
Free



PLANTY Affair

Houseplant Lovers Garage Sale & Market

Sunday 21 March 10am-2pm

Rangiora Showgrounds

\$10pp tickets available through [Eventfinda](#)

(provides access to the event from 10am)

Gate sales from 12 noon **\$5pp** (cash only)

Kids under 12yrs free

Ramblers

Tuesday 9 March 9.45am

Beckenham

Meet Hunter Tce near South Library

Tuesday 23 March 9.45am

Cracroft

Meet Cashmere Rd / Hoon Hay Rd

2021 Programme out now:

www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers

Contact: Alison Fussell tel: 027 251 3757

Fruit & Vegetables

Wednesday 31 March 7.30pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Admission is free to CHS members but bring some gold coins for the raffle and sales table! (Non-members \$2 entry)

Annual General Meeting with Dinner – Bring a plate.

Envirohub

EnviroHub Regular get togethers:

[Environmental Chat with Kat](#)

Thursday mornings at The Kiosk

[Networking - Drinks with a purpose](#)

Once a month at the Exchange

[Sea Cycle](#) - Bird watching bike ride from Ferrymead to Redcliffs with Guest Speaker, Tanya Jenkins "Why our Estuary is of International Significance; and the extraordinary birds who share it with us."

Pumpkins will be ready for harvest later in the month or early next month once the leaves have died down and the skin is firm or hard.

Seed from some of our plants, be they vegetable or flowers may be saved.

Select the best plants, wait until the seed is mature, then put the seed heads in a paper bag in a cool dark place upside down. Once the seeds have dropped to the bottom of the bag they can be collected and stored in envelopes with their name and date, ready to be used later.

Lawns respond in the autumn to weed control and feeding as the cooler days and nights encourage rapid growth. Topdressing, new sowing, and other repairs

done now will respond quickly.

In the **flower garden** the summer flowers are coming to their end. Annuals can be removed so that the ground can be readied for planting winter and spring plants.

Now is the time to prepare the ground for **spring bulbs** (although it is too early to plant them yet). Of the bulbs now available for sale choose only the best, firm bulbs (and count them - I have come across a few short packets!). Keep them until the ground is right for planting.

Autumn perennials are at their peak flowering. Ensure they are well supported and remove spent flowers for continuous flowering. April flowering chrysanthemums

will have their buds developing so removal of the side buds will give better, larger flowers on each stem if done now.

There are always **weeds, pests and diseases** in the garden so it is much better to deal with them as soon as they are noticed before they get to be a real problem.

Good Gardening, Michael Coulter

Remember: bring your questions to our monthly AAG meeting, post them on **HortTalk** or email Michael directly before the meeting on: coulchrys@xtra.co.nz.

ALL ABOUT GARDENING

Monthly gardening programme
for the everyday gardener

Coming up at All About Gardening

APRIL

Monday 5th 7pm & Tuesday 6th 9.30am

Michael Brown - All About Rose Culture

Michael will share some of his extensive knowledge on new rose varieties that grow well in Canterbury conditions.

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

Members: \$5 Non-members: \$10

Includes tea, coffee and biscuits

MAY

Monday 1st 7pm & Tuesday 2nd 9.30am

Wendy Millichamp - Lilyfields

Having owned the Mt Somers Lilyfields for over 25 years, David and Wendy Millichamp bring considerable plant and Lily growing expertise to the gardening table. Whilst David is passionate about trees and plants, Wendy feasts on all things floral and is a keen marketer.

The opportunity to take on the established Dunhampton Lilyfields, now branded

as Lilyfields Mt Somers, enabled the couple to use their various backgrounds to establish a wide customer base across the country. More importantly they are personable and passionate about what they do and love meeting their customers at the numerous garden events and A & P shows they attend.

Wendy will speak in May on behalf of her and David and is known as an entertaining and confident speaker. She will bring prepacked tulips and lilybulbs to sell.

Cash or EFTPOS will be available

Find the CHS & Partners at The Kiosk during the festival



Christchurch Botanic Gardens, 12-14 March 2020 - see you there!

www.growotautahi.org.nz | www.facebook.com/growotautahi

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. coulтчrys@xtra.co.nz

[Facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk](https://facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk)

2021
Membership
available now

Sign-up
Online

chsgardens.co.nz

15% off

courses and
workshops for
Members

BECOME A MEMBER

Gardening & horticulture questions answered facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk

