

Canterbury Horticultural Society NEWSLETTER

Newsletter No 281 OCTOBER 2021



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# **Garden Propagation**

Wednesday 20 October 6-8pm

Create multiples of your favourite outdoor plants and turn your home garden into your very own garden centre. Share your abundance with friends, swap with neighbours or give away!

**BOOK ONLINE** <u>www.chsgardens.co.nz</u>

# Events coming up at The Kiosk

## **Green Thumbs Podcast**

Monday 11 October gam Plains FMg6.9 Ray and Lorraine hope to chat to Caitlin Thorburn from Freya Flora.

## **Bot Tots**

Mondays 10 - 11.30am On hold until Level 1 Gardening and nature themed activities for preschoolers. Drop-in during school term time (gold coin entry). Facebook Event

#### Q & A at The Kiosk

#### On hold until Level 1

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

## Watercolour Painting

On hold until Level 1 All welcome. BYO materials.

# Art of the Indoor Plant

Tuesday 5 October 7-9pm Full - wait list **Terrariums with Magic Moss** Tuesday 12 October 7-9pm **General Plant Maintenance** \$40 Members / \$50 Non-Members **Book online** 

# **Garden Tools Maintenance**

#### Tuesday 19 October 7 - 9pm

Fine tune your gardening tools for the upcoming season with Geoff McMillan of Kiwiflora Nurseries. \$40 Members / \$50 Non-Members Book online

## **Garden Propagation Workshop** Wednesday 20 October 6 - 8pm

Learn how to take softwood cuttings to propagate a wide range of perennials and deciduous shrubs. \$40 Members / \$50 Non-Members

**Book online** 

## Macramé Plant Hanger Workshop

Thursday 4 November 6.30pm - 9pm In this beginner class participants will learn how to make two plant hangers for trailing plants. All materials supplied. \$40 Members / \$50 Non-Members **Book online** 

## Macramé Wall Hanging Plant **Holder Workshop**

#### Thursday 18 November 6.30pm - 9pm

In this intermediate class participants will each create a wall hanging plant holder. \$34 Members / \$40 Non-Members Book online

# ALL ABOUT GARDENING NOVEMBER

Monday 1st 7pm & Tuesday 2nd 9.30am

## Most likely to go ahead at Level 1

**Elizabeth Jenkins** 

A Tale of Two Welbecks.

An illustrated talk on Elizabeth's two favourite homes. One in England where she grew up and the other that she created in Okuti Valley.

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

\$5 Members \$10 Non-Members. Includes tea, coffee & biscuits.



# **Plant Sale**

Saturday 9 October 9am - 12pm St Peter's Church Hall Church Corner, Upper Riccarton

Large range of plants, tools and garden accessories. Cash & eftpos. Proceeds to St Peter's Church. stpeter@world-net.co.nz



# Friends of the Gardens events

#### Spring Talk Series at the Kiosk

Ng King Brothers Chinese Market Garden Settlement

#### Sunday 17 October 4pm

Dame Anna Crighton (New Zealand heritage campaigner and historian, and former local body politician) will talk about how the Ng King brothers emigrated from China in 1921, in the hope of building a better life, and established a market garden in Ashburton. This site where the settlers lived is now a category 1 historic place and a post 1900 archaeological site.

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

# Mona Vale Guided Walks

Saturday 23 & 30 October 1.30pm Meet at the Rose Garden entrance by the car park. Free

#### Daily Guided Walks - October

Free guided walks of the Botanic Gardens run every day from the Kiosk at 1.30pm for approx 45 mins. See the full list <u>here</u>

# **Floral Design**

Wednesday 20 October 2pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens



# Christchurch Envirohub

# Support for your Group

If you would like support for your environmental or sustainability group, please contact the Envirohub at 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

## Envirohub Facebook Page

**Biketober** is a month long festival to enable everyone in Christchurch to get out on their bike. Envirohub have organised two <u>events</u> as part of the festival.

Envirohub have collaborated with other organisations to run the **Sea Cycle** event on Sunday 3 October 10:30am - 12pm. This is a gentle 3Km bike ride from Tidal View to Red Cliff flats. Expert Tanya Jenkins will meet us and tell us all about it and answer any questions! This is a child friendly event, we will not be cycling on the road, we will be cycling along the wide path along the water front. Facebook page <u>here</u>.

# Watercolour Painting

*Wednesday 13 & 27 October 12.30pm All welcome, BYO materials. The Kiosk, Chch Botanic Gardens* 

# Garden Club Reps

**Tuesday 5 October** 11am (note earlier start time) The Kiosk, Chch Botanic Gardens This October **Green Drinks** have collaborated with Spokes Canterbury and Biketober to run a series of T**uesday seminars** at The Exchange 376 Wilsons Road. All start at 5.30pm (5pm drinks).

## Oct 12th Touring by Bike

**Oct 19th** Decarbonising Transport: The Science and the Politics

*Oct 26th* Bikes and Trucks: Reducing Crashes (panel discussion)

The Facebook page can be accessed <u>here</u>. All seminars are listed on the Biketober calendar with other events <u>here</u>.

#### Envirohub Regular get togethers:

Environmental Chat with Kat

Thursdays at The Kiosk

## Christchurch Envirokids

**Saturdays** 10am - 3pm, including school holidays at The Kiosk.

Envirokids is a free, fun activity-based programme for children aged 6 - 13 years Envirokids is about connecting kiwi kids to our environmental community and having fun while we are at it!

# **Junior Gardeners**

## Thursday 21 October 3.45pm

Meet at The Kiosk for a session on creating potted colour!

.New children welcome, please contact office@chsgardens.co.nz beforehand.

# Monthly Tips & Tasks with Michael Coulter

We are now well into spring and the weather has been typically varied from warm to cold to windy. The longer days mean that the plant growth will be rapid but so will the weeds.

Preparation for the main planting/sowing for the summer must be well under way. The soil is now in a good condition to dig over and worked up to a good tilth ready for plants and seeds.

**Green house** crops of tomatoes, peppers, chillies and cucumbers may be planted. Buying a bigger grade of plants will give a good head start. It is still too early to sow or plant the warmer loving crops outside.

I have been busy taking cuttings of my chrysanthemums but there is still plenty of

time to take them and many other plants as they come into growth. As **flowering plants** finish flowering they should be pruned, and spring bulbs (daffodils, tulips, freesias etc.) dead headed. Give plenty of water if dry to build up the bulbs and shrubs for next season's flowers.

**Fruit trees** are in flower so watch out for any late frosts and be careful about spraying on time and also not spraying when the bees are about! I will be repotting many plants into larger pots before they begin to grow to get the most benefit from the fresh potting mix. There are still plenty of good quality fruit trees available, and it is still OK to plant them now.

The **grass** is growing well now but I have started to give some irrigation as the top few centimetres of soil are dry, even though there seems to be plenty of moisture lower down. Weed control and fertilisers can now be applied for maximum benefit to the lawn. Regular mowing and catching the grass is also important to keep the grass healthy early in the season.

The fresh young growth on roses, fuchsias and many other plants can be infested with aphids. These usually appear more towards the end of the month so keep a good watch for them before they get too many causing a lot of damage.

Spring is the very busiest time in the garden because so much of what we do will effect the results we will get through out the growing season. Any problems put them on our <u>HortTalk</u> page to get an answer.

Enjoy the spring good gardening, **Michael Coulter. Don't be shy!** Bring your gardening questions to AAG or email us: office@chsgardens.co.nz

2021: "Grow to Give"

National Gardening Week

18-25 October 2021

While some Kiwis are enjoying home grown vegies like never before, many are going without vegetables altogether.

So this National Gardening Week everyone is being encouraged to grow-an-extra-row to share with neighbours, community pantries, food banks and other local food donation agencies.

To help get your extra row underway Yates is lending a helping hand. Visit <u>www.yates.co.nz/national-gardening-week/this-year/2021</u> from 1 -25 October to register for a free packet of vegie seeds.

Once you've grown your vegies to share check out the list below to find an organisation in your area that would welcome your donation of fresh homegrown vegies.

The following community based organisations gratefully receive food donations and will help you get your 'extra row' to people in need.

0800 Hungry Christchurch City Mission Foodbank Canterbury Satisfy Food Rescue



# Chrysanthemum Circle

*Monday 18 October 7pm* Olga's, 47 Kent Lodge Ave Avonhead

General cultural notes, cuttings.

If you are a new Member and would like to attend please contact Robyn on tel: 942 9871

# Fruit & Vegetables

BROUGH

GROW TO GIVE

*Wednesday 27 October* 7.30pm The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Free to CHS members but bring some gold coins for the raffle and sales table!

New programme available soon.

# Ramblers

*Tuesday 12 October 9.45am* **Marshlands-** Meet cnr Rananga Reserve near Korowai St

*Tuesday 26 October 9.45am Opawa- Meet Risingholme Park Cholmondeley Ave off Opawa Rd* 

2021 Programme out now: *www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers* 

Contact: Alison Fussell tel: 027 251 3757

# Herb of the Month Edible Flowers

With spring blooms starting to colour our gardens after winter, and many of us planting seeds for the coming season, I am excited to propagate a very special set of edibles in my garden – flowers. Edible flowers have seen a revival in interest in recent years as celebrity chefs and home cooks on social media wow with their beautiful creations. But flowers for eating have a long history – across cultures and all over the globe there are references of flowers being used in food (and medicine).

Besides being eye-catching cake decorations, or colourful garnishes though, edible flowers have their own delightful



flavours and health-giving nutrients to add to a meal. And indeed, can be included in every course – from hearty breakfasts to dainty canapés, big warm savoury offerings and light cool drinks.

It is also particularly useful for me to know that while the edible flowers are growing in my garden, many of them serve a horticultural purpose too – quite a good number of them are fantastic companion plants for the vegetable, berry or fruit garden, and help to attract pollinators and beneficial predatory insects, repel unwanted pests, or improve the soil conditions in which they grow. Edible flowers can be found all over the plant kingdom - from tiny annuals through perennials, to large trees.

Some edible flowers include: Pansies and violas, Nasturtium, Borage, Calendula, Citrus blossoms, Rosemary, Rose and Lavender.

**Safety:** only eat unsprayed flowers, only eat flowers you can positively identify as edible, clean flowers well before eating.

Minette Tonoli <u>www.meadowsweet.co.nz</u>

# Supplied by Canterbury HERB Society <a href="http://www.facebook.com/CANHERBSOC">www.facebook.com/CANHERBSOC</a>

October Meeting (*TBC on Social Media*) Heather Craw Gardening *Thursday 22 October* 10am & 7pm Avice Hill Craft Centre, 395 Memorial Ave. *Visitors welcome*, \$5 per meeting. CHS Newsletter Archive www.chsgardens.co.nz/monthly-newsletter-archives

# ALL ABOUT GARDENING

Monthly gardening programme for the everyday gardener

# Coming up at All About Gardening

# DECEMBER

Monday 6th 7pm & Tuesday 7th 9.30am

#### 160th Anniversary Celebration

We're hopeful the December All About Gardening will kick off (an uninterrupted) year celebration of the 160th year of the Canterbury Horticultural Society. We will be delving into the history of the club and it's evolution through the years with stunning images and entertaining stories. Free to all members and with a special supper and morning tea. Closer to the time we will ask Members to confirm their attendance.

# VENUE

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens (over footbridge - Armagh St car park). December AAG is free to members and \$10 to non-members. Includes special supper/morning tea.

