



## Events coming up at The Kiosk

### Green Thumbs Podcast

**Monday 14 February 9am** Plains FM96.9  
Vicki Stevens joins us from the Friends of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens.

### Botanical Photography

**Thursday 10 February 7pm - 9pm**

Learn to photograph flowers and plants in interesting and creative ways.

**\$40** (\$50 non-members).

[Book online](#)

### Horticulture at Home

**Thursday Evenings 7-9pm**

**17 February – 17 March 2022**

Join us for the second instalment in our Horticulture at Home course. Suitable for previous students or gardeners looking to improve their horticultural knowledge and confidence.

**\$160** (\$192 non-members)

[Book online](#)

### Floristry Foundations

**Mondays 12.30-2.30pm**

**21 February – 28 March 2022**

Discover your passion for flowers in a beginner floristry course. All flowers and materials provided.

**\$860** (\$910 course + CHS membership)

[Book online](#)

### Bulbs in Containers

**Thursday 28 April 7-9pm**

In this workshop run by Dave Adams you will learn how to successfully grow bulbs in containers as well as tips for their maintenance.

**\$40** (\$50 non-members)

*Includes potted bulbs to take home*

[Book online](#)

### Bot Tots

**Mondays 10 - 11.30am Restarts 14 February**

Gardening and nature themed activities for preschoolers. Drop-in during school term time (*gold coin entry*). [Facebook Event](#)

### Garden Organic

**Tuesdays 7-9pm, 15 March - 19 April**

**and Saturday 2 April 9am - 1pm**

Start your organics journey with national experts in the field from Lincoln University. Learn the principles of organic home gardening with this six week theory and practical course.

**\$260** (\$325 non-members). *Available soon*

### Outdoor Propagation

**Semi-hardwood Propagation**

**Thursday 24 March 7pm - 9pm**

Missed out on our spring propagation workshop? Grab your chance to transform your garden without leaving home. Learn how to take cuttings and increase your outdoor plant selection.

**\$40** (\$50 non-members) *Available soon*

## From the President

I know we were told to expect it, but going into traffic light red has come along so much faster than we imagined. It looks likely to affect everything we do for the foreseeable future so our staff are planning on how to present interesting gardening advice, tips, stories etc., to you in a safe and easy way.

The Society's AGM is coming up at the end of March, probably as a Zoom meeting, so you will see in this newsletter the call for nominations for your board. This is a vital part of the Society and is very rewarding for those who take the opportunity to sit on the board for a year or so. If you are at all interested please don't hesitate to chat with one of the existing board members, I am sure they will be happy to explain how the board works and what is entailed.

We were hoping to at last hold our long awaited 160th trip down memory lane with Freda Hunter, Neiel Drain and Alan Jolliffe in February. Now with Omicron on our doorstep they will be presenting some of their fondest memories and some interesting tales from the past in the coming months.

**Ray King**, CHS President

## Mona Vale Guided Walks

**Saturday 12 & 26 February 1.30pm**

Meet at the Rose Garden entrance by the car park. 90 minutes duration. *Free*

## Free Daily Guided Walks

Meet at The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens 1.30pm (walks are approx 45 mins).

**Tue 1** Prince of plants – the noble palm

**Wed 2** History Walk – the Armstrong Lawn

**Thu 3** Herbaceous border

**Fri 4** Conservatories

**Sat 5** NZ Gardens – NZ natives

**Sun 6** Herbaceous border

**Mon 7** Curator's House Potager Garden

**Tue 8** General Interest Walk (90 mins)

**Wed 9** General Interest Walk (90 mins)

**Thu 10** Curator's House Potager Garden

**Fri 11** General Interest Walk (90 mins)

**Sat 12** Gondwana Collection

**Sun 13** Love of Trees 101

**Mon 14** Gondwana Collection

**Tue 15** NZ Gardens – NZ Natives

**Wed 16** Prince of plants – the noble palm

**Thu 17** Plant Hunters – trees and their stories

**Fri 18** General Interest Walk (90 mins)

**Sat 19** Herbaceous Border

**Sun 20** Love of Trees 101

**Mon 21** NZ Gardens – NZ natives

**Tue 22** General Interest Walk (90 mins)

**Wed 23** Herbaceous Border

**Thu 24** Notable Trees

**Fri 25** Curator's House Potager Garden

**Sat 26** Gondwana Collection

**Sun** Love of Trees 101

**Mon 28** Herbaceous Border

## Spring Talk Series

### The Art and Craft of Beekeeping

**Sunday 20 February 4pm, The Kiosk**

Paul O'Donnell and Gordon Nairn, Hobbyist Beekeepers' Club

**\$5 Friends & CHS (\$10 non-members)**

### Garden Tour

**Sunday 20 March 2pm**

Visit to Frensham Garden, Tai Tapu

**\$15 per person** (add a delicious afternoon tea for \$13).

Contact the Friends to book.

[friendsofthegardens@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofthegardens@gmail.com)

The Christchurch Envirohub is a meta-organisation to provide support for environmental and community groups in the wider Christchurch area. If you would like to find out what support is available for your environmental or community organisation, email [info@chchenvirohub.org](mailto:info@chchenvirohub.org).

You're also welcome to contact Kat by telephone: 021 744 909.

Envirohub have regular events and often help connect and coordinate other organisations with events. Their new [website](#) is now live and is a great resource, or visit the Facebook page [here](#).

Christchurch Envirohub run an **Envirokids** programme. Pop into The Kiosk in the Botanic Gardens on Saturdays between 10am - 3pm even in the school holidays. Activities are provided and inspired by organisations in the Envirohub Network for primary and intermediate aged children with help from the Envirokids facilitator, Kate. Check out the Facebook page [here](#).

## Watercolour Painting

**Wednesday 9 & 23 February 10am**

All welcome, BYO materials

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

## Garden Club Reps

**Tuesday 8 February 12.30pm**

The Kiosk, Chch Botanic Gardens



## Junior Gardeners

**Thursday 17 February 3.45pm**

Meet at The Kiosk for an informative and fun horticultural session. Aimed at children aged 7 - 12 years.

This month we're looking at seeds and how they develop and grow.

New children welcome.

Please contact us beforehand on [office@chsgardens.co.nz](mailto:office@chsgardens.co.nz).

## Monthly Tips & Tasks

with Michael Coulter

This is one of the busy times in the garden when many of the fruit trees will start to ripen their fruit.

Berry fruits are well through their season so a tidy up of any branches that have finished fruiting will give room for new growth in preparation for next year's fruit. Strawberry plants can look untidy so remove any old dry leaves and weeds then give them a side dressing of fertiliser to encourage some later fruit.

Vegetables that were planted in the spring will be ready for harvest, especially climbing beans which if kept well watered and picked each day will continue to produce right through to Autumn. Areas

for winter crops should be prepared for planting. Leeks, parsnips and carrots may be planted or sown now. Many of the pests and diseases that attack our fruit and vegetable plants will be around now, so look out for them and treat as needed.

Summer prune the branches on trees and shrubs that are growing over paths, lawns or drives so that they do not become more of a problem.

The summer heat can be hard on our lawns, to keep them green water regularly once a week. They may also need to have a fertiliser applied. Don't mow too low and cut only one third of the grass leaf at any one time.

Summer annuals and perennials are starting to come into flower so the usual staking, dead heading and weeding are the

main tasks; look out for insect pests and diseases on roses and other shrubs and treat as needed.

There is a lot to do in and around the garden but the days are longer and the evenings cooler, making them a good time to work in the garden without getting too hot.

Enjoy your gardens. **Michael Coulter**

Post problems on [HortTalk](#) or email [coulchrys@xtra.co.nz](mailto:coulchrys@xtra.co.nz)



## Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Canterbury Horticultural Society Inc., (CHS) will be held in The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens **7pm Tuesday 29 March 2022.**

Nominations are being called for President, Vice President and (4-6) Board Members. Nominations and items of general business and any notice of motion must be received at the CHS Office by Tuesday 15 March with confirmation in writing from the nominated member. Nominations must be signed by two Financial members and any notice of motion must be signed by two Financial/Honorary Life Members. 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. [www.chsgardens.co.nz/agm](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz/agm)

**"Becoming a member of the CHS board has been a very rewarding experience for me. I have met some fantastic people, gained a lot of knowledge, and have developed a deeper appreciation for the diverse backgrounds of our CHS**

**community. I am particularly enjoying seeing how the CHS is growing and changing, and making the most of the opportunities presented to us in this rather interesting time!"**

Amy Wilson

**"Being on the CHS board is a the best way to shape the organisation's mission and vision while bringing a unique perspective to the table. The diversity of thinking and skills is key to ensuring we make better quality decisions by understanding the society and the community".**

Kelly Perazzolo

## From the Manager

Hello CHS Members,

Thank you to everyone who has paid their annual subscription on time and welcome to our new members for 2022!

As Ray mentioned in her recent message, over the coming months we are going to find new ways to engage with you and offer some interesting things to

watch and do during this time at the red setting of the Traffic Light System. In the interim I want to hear your ideas, as this is YOUR society! What are you wanting to see more of? What were you hoping for when you joined? What can we do for you? Please phone or email me at the office as I would love to hear from you!

I'd also like to take this opportunity to say thank you to our wonderful volunteers (you know who you are). From staffing The Kiosk over Summer and public holidays to helping out with Bot Tot's and Edible and Sustainable Garden Award assessing, you all do such a wonderful job and we couldn't do everything we do without you! If you are interested in volunteering please do get in touch.

I look forward to seeing you all in our Zoom Members' Meeting on Monday 7 February, which you will find out more about below.

Best wishes to you all,

**Sharnaé Beardsley**, CHS Manger

[office@chsgardens.co.nz](mailto:office@chsgardens.co.nz)

Tel: 03 366 6937

## Chrysanthemum Circle

**Monday 21 February 7pm**

David and Robyn's home

General cultural notes, pest control and bud securing of lates.

*If you are a new Member and would like to attend please contact Robyn on*

*tel: 942 9871*

## Fruit & Vegetables



**Wednesday 23 February 6.15pm**

**Visit to the Kaiapoi Food Forest**

Departing 6.15pm via car pool.

## Ramblers

**Tuesday 1 February 9.45am**

**Summer in the Botanic Gardens**

Meet at The Kiosk

**Tuesday 15 February 9.45am**

**Kaiapoi**

Meet Charles St, New World supermarket

**2022 Programme available now**

[www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers)

**Contact:** Alison Fussell tel: 027 251 3757

## Herb of the Month

**Lemon Verbena (*Lippia citrodora* or *Aloysia citrodora*)**

When brushing past the foliage of a Lemon Verbena shrub, you are surrounded by a most refreshing perfumed fragrance, redolent of lemons. The leaves are light green, thin and pointed with a slightly sticky feel and a wonderful citrus aroma.

This versatile plant which originates from Chile, could be used as tea, or as basis for an iced tea. The twigs and leaves can be put into a wardrobe to keep linen fresh and scented. It can be blended into cosmetics and the finely chopped up leaves can be used in desserts or with grilled fish. A sprig of lemon verbena give rice a lovely flavour



and a twig can even be used to infuse custard or lemon curd.

Lemon Verbena is loved by all who know it.

I grow it as a shrub in a tub, but it grows better directly planted in the light, well-drained soil. It grows well in sandy as well as alkaline soil - some sources say the poorer the soil, the stronger the plants. In colder areas (like on the South Island) it needs full sun.

Plant in a sheltered position to protect from frost and winds. The roots can be mulch - some people cover the plant itself with hessian or frost cloth. In cold areas, the plant will lose its leaves in winter and should be sheltered from frost and wind. In spring, gardeners sometimes mistake the plant as being dead, but just

give it time - in Christchurch the new shoots and new leaves often only arrive around October or November.

The plant benefits from being watered but the roots do not like to stay wet.

Leaves can be picked any time - cut off the flowering tips if you want the plant to become bushy and even more luscious. It responds well to a prune and is a great way to attract butterflies to your garden.

**Supplied by [Canterbury HERB Society](#)**

If you missed a Herb of the Month post catch up [here](#). **Monthly Meetings** Avic Hill Craft Centre, 395 Memorial Ave.

**Thursday 24 February 7pm**

AGM and election of President, Secretary and Treasure. Please comply to COVID-19 regulations (mask and vax certificate). Keep an eye on [Facebook](#) for updates.

## Update

Due to the current restrictions of the red traffic light setting, we have made the difficult, yet necessary decision, to temporarily pause our AAG meetings.

For this month we will instead be holding an online Zoom meeting for CHS Members. **On Monday 7th February at 7pm please join us online** - the evening will include a welcome from our president Ray King, Freya Flora will be discussing her upcoming course at the CHS and giving a small seasonal demonstration, followed by an in-depth Q&A with Alan Jolliffe and

# ALL ABOUT GARDENING

February Members' Night  
Meeting via Zoom!  
**Monday 7 February 7pm**

Alan Jolliffe and Michael Coulter who will answer them at the meeting.

Later this week an official invite to the meeting will be emailed out to you all, and on Monday 7th February a reminder will go out again too – please keep an eye on your inbox.

If you don't have access to email or the internet we encourage you to get together with another member who does and make a night of it.

If you need help using Zoom or have question please phone the office on tel: 03 366 6937.

Michael Coulter featuring your specific gardening questions.

From now until midday on Monday 7th February, please email the CHS office at [office@chsgardens.co.nz](mailto:office@chsgardens.co.nz) with any of your gardening questions (feel free to send in a photo too if that helps illustrate your question), these will be forwarded on to

**BOT TOTS**  
Gardening & Nature themed activities for Children

*view the facebook event page*

**Mondays during term time 10-11.30am** at The Kiosk. All welcome, no bookings required. Gold coin entry per child.  
Generously supported by Christchurch City Council

February/March Evening Course

**HORTICULTURE AT HOME**  
Autumn Series

**\$160**  
\$192 Non-Members

FREYA FLORA  
botanical artist

**FLORISTRY Foundations**

21 FEBRUARY - 28 MARCH 2022  
MONDAYS  
12.30 - 2.30pm

BOOK ONLINE  
[www.chsgardens.co.nz](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz)

**\$860**  
\$910 Course + CHS Membership

## Floral Design

**Wednesday 16 February 2pm**  
**Arrangements on the table**

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens  
**Container:** Any low container or containers of your choice. **Flowers:** Choose a selection of colours to harmonise with the place you are going to put the arrangement. Ensure the flowers are clean, have no pollen to

drop and that they are not heavily scented

**Leaf and branch material:** choose clean, undamaged leaves and if using branch material make sure it is clean and free of insects etc.

**Mechanics:** We are not using flat dishes for this exercise so you will not need a Kengan, the material is to be arranged freely.

As we have only one book and there is a lot of preparation for some of the classes I will make copies of relevant pages for everyone. To be able to take part in these sessions we are going to need everyone doing as much prep as they can so we can achieve our goal of learning more!!  
If you are interested in joining the group contact the CHS office on tel: 366 6937.  
*See you all soon, Ray King*

up to **20% off** courses and workshops for Members

Sign-up Online  
[chsgardens.co.nz](http://chsgardens.co.nz)

**BECOME A MEMBER**

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