



Fruit Tree Workshops

Coming up
Winter & Spring

Last chance to catch these May workshops

Lovely Lilies Workshop

Tuesday 3 May 7-9pm

Make a stunning Lily Bouquet with Freya Flora and learn the art of bulb scaling with NZ Lily Society. Take home a beautiful hand tied bouquet; your choice of fragrant or not. A unique workshop and treat for Mothers young and old!

\$75 (\$94 non-members)

[Book online](#)

Macramé Plant Hangers

Thursday 5 May 7 - 9pm

Display your trailing plants in eco-friendly hangers. Take home two macramé hangers and the skills to create more at home!

\$40 (\$50 non-members)

[Book online](#)

Kokedama

Tuesday 10 May 7-9pm

Discover the Japanese art form of Kokedama with Allan Paterson of Magic Moss.

\$40 (\$50 non-members)

[Book online](#)

Terrariums

Thursday 12 May 7-9pm

Create a miniature world of plants to take home. A two-hour workshop including all materials run by Allan Paterson of Magic Moss

[Book online](#)

Bot Tots

Mondays 10 - 11.30am (term time only)

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

Green Thumbs Podcast

Monday 9 May 9am Plains FM96.9

Along with seasonal gardening advice, Ray and Lorraine are chatting to CHS Member **Bronwyn Adams-Hooper**, winner of the Ryman Gardener of the Year.

Winter Fruit Tree Workshops

Bookings for these practical winter workshops held at Richmond Community Gardens, will open soon. Keep an eye out on our website www.chsgardens.co.nz

Stone Fruit Pruning

Saturday 11 June 9am-12pm

Establishing an Orchard

Saturday 2 July 9am-12pm

Pip Fruit Pruning

Saturday 6 August 9am-12pm

Apple Grafting

Saturday 24 September 9am-12pm

ALL ABOUT GARDENING MAY

Monday 2nd 7pm & Tuesday 3rd 9.30am

Welcome back, reconnect with the Canterbury Horticultural Society at our first series of meetings back in The Kiosk since August 2021!

We are looking forward to hosting two fun and relaxed get-togethers for our members this May. These meetings are the perfect opportunity to introduce new members to all that the Society has to offer and as it will be the first CHS event in such a long time we want everyone know and experience what an approachable bunch we are. To our long-time supporters - we have missed seeing you all in The Kiosk at our monthly meetings, and to our new members – please do join us.

These welcome back meetings will be slightly different, and we are delighted to announce that for these first two sessions back we are hosting a CHS Horticultural quiz, as well as the chance to have your gardening and horticultural queries answered of course!

There is **no charge** to members for either of these meetings and visitors are welcome.

Join us at The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens.

Includes tea, coffee & biscuits and a raffle!



The Kiosk
Canterbury Horticultural Society

Free Mona Vale Guided Walks

Saturday 7 & 21 May 1.30pm

Meet at the Rose Garden adjacent to the carpark by the Eros statue.

Free guided walks of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens resume in October.

Winter Talk Series

Managing our water resources – what's changing?

Friday 20 May 10.30am

Dr Terry Heiler, *PhD Ag. Eng.*

Dr Heiler will talk about the big changes taking place here and internationally to better manage water for future generations.

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

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Visit to Texture Plants, Prebbleton

Friday 17 June

Hamish Prebble, one of the owners of this interesting nursery where they grow and sell plants will talk about plants, plants, plants ...
Details to come

Providing support for environmental and community groups in Christchurch.

Envirohub now has a new events calendar where every community or environmental based organisation can upload their events, helping to give a visual picture of all the environmental and community based events occurring in the wider Canterbury region.

Head to www.chchenvirohub.org to add yours.

The Christchurch **Envirokids** programme runs at The Kiosk on Saturdays between 10am - 3pm. Activities are provided and inspired by organisations in the Envirohub Network for primary and intermediate aged children with help from the Envirokids facilitator, Kate. Visit the Envirokids Facebook page [here](https://www.facebook.com/chchenvirohub) for more information.

For more information contact Ben Alder

tel: 022 157 2413

benalder@chchenvirohub.org

www.chchenvirohub.org

All grown up!

Thursday 21 April was the final Junior Gardeners session. With some of the 'juniors' now attending University it was time to call it a day.

This nurturing monthly session has been fostered under the patient instruction of long-serving CHS Member Dave Adams. As these warm-hearted comments testify, Dave's generosity with his knowledge will be a lasting legacy for the children.

"I would never have been able to comprehend how much you could do with your garden if weren't for Junior Gardeners – it's been an awesome experience."

– Dillon



Garden Club Reps

Tuesday 3 May 12.30pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Fruit & Vegetables

Winter recess.

Next meeting:

Wednesday 31 August 7.30pm

Floral Design

Wednesday 18 May 2pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

This month we are creating a standing arrangement. Your container can be either a tall vase or a largish flat bowl. Branch material and flowers of your own choice but be aware of where you intend to place this arrangement. If using a flat dish or bowl you can use a Kensan.

Ramblers

Tuesday 10 May 9.45am

Horseshoe Lake Meet Lake Terrace Rd carpark

Tuesday 24 May 9.45am

Northwood Meet corner Northwood Blvd and Crombie Green

www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers

Contact: Alison Fussell tel: 027 251 3757

Monthly Tips & Tasks

with Michael Coulter

May is the time that the garden slows down ready for the colder winter months. Many of the month's tasks involve preparing the plants for frosts and wet weather.

Spring bulbs should now be planted and once the harder frosts have started, summer flowering bulbs and tubers should be lifted and dried off to be stored in a cool dry place.

While the soil is still workable a good hoe around the garden to clean up the weeds will ensure they are under control for the rest of winter.

The last of the leaves will be finished by the end of the month so a clean up before they get too wet will be a lot easier. Look around your paths for any signs of moss that might make the path slippery, and treat

with a moss killer (the same can be done for lawns).

Repairs to lawns may be done while the weather is still mild but try to complete it before the end of the month. I would recommend that any stone fruit trees be treated with a copper spray as soon as possible. This will be a good start on controlling leaf curl and brown rot next season.

This month is also a good time to plant trees and shrubs while the conditions are still workable as it allows the plants to settle in before the ground becomes too wet.

The vegetable garden will be slowing down, although do keep winter crops weed free. Garlic may now be planted.

As the autumn perennials finish flowering cut them back by two thirds or lift and divide.

Good

Gardening, **Michael Coulter**
Post problems on [HortTalk](https://www.horttalk.co.nz)
or email
coulchrys@extra.co.nz





"Thank you so much for sharing all of your amazing knowledge with us. I've really enjoyed learning about gardening with you." – David

"I've learnt so many amazing skills that have been so helpful and always will be."

– Renee

"Thank you for helping me throughout the time I've been at Junior Gardeners. I've had lots of fun and learnt a lot of stuff!" – PJ

From the President

Well CHS Members, it's like opening up a package that a good friend has left you. Once again - thank you Ray King for leaving the post in such good order.

My first month has been interesting with Covid restrictions backing off and a huge 80% of Members voting that you wished to return to The Kiosk for meetings - thanks team, 'my thoughts exactly'!

Back to AAG this month. Yes the old format-but changes are afoot here. One highlight from last month was exploring with curators of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens in 'Botanic Gardens Uncovered'. Now that AAG is back this event has been moved to the following week in the afternoon. Do come along and support these passionate curators. The walks reveal their extensive plant knowledge and are a fascinating insight into all aspects of their work.

I very much look forward to seeing you all at AAG and to meeting everyone new to the Society.

Allan Paterson CHS President

Welcome New Sponsor

A very warm welcome to our new sponsor, **The Tree People**, an organisation focused on sustainability who really care about what they do.

Locally-owned, and with 12 years' experience in arboriculture, The Tree People offer all aspects of tree work, ranging from mulching and trimming, removals and transplanting to work around power lines. They will even put the mulch back into your garden as ground cover.

The Tree People are offering CHS Members a generous 15% discount.

Enjoy their latest blog post,

[Love Your Leaves.](#)

[See all the Member discounts available](#)



Chrysanthemum Circle

No meeting this month.

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

Watercolour Painting

Wednesday 11 & 25 May 10am

All welcome, BYO materials

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Botanic Gardens Uncovered

Thursday 12 May 1.30pm

Meet at the Band Rotunda (nearest accessible car park is off Riccarton Ave).

Join curator **Lizzy Bristow** for a walk through the Heritage Rose Garden. Located adjacent to Christchurch Hospital in Hagley Park, this often overlooked garden was established in 1950 and has an extensive collection of roses

underplanted and interspersed with a range of other garden plants.

This special outside talk is free to any current CHS Member.

No need to register, just show up on the day.

Members attending will also qualify for a 25% discount on a coffee and a cabinet item at Illex Café on the day.



Herb of the Month

Thyme

Thyme, which has for many, many years been valued for its smell, flavour, and medicinal value, also happens to attract bees to the garden.

Thyme is a versatile herb in the kitchen. It can be used fresh, or can be added to stocks, stuffing, and sauces. Thyme's aroma works wonderfully in most savoury dishes: cheese, meat, fish, poultry, pasta, and even onion and mushrooms, are all improved with a bit of thyme. In fact, thyme can even be used in [savory biscuits!](#)

Thyme can also be paired with other herbs such as marjoram and sage, or in a bouquet garni



together with marjoram, parsley, and a bay leaf.

Not surprisingly, most plants growing near thyme are invigorated by it, and thyme is an effective companion plant for cabbage, as it deters cabbage worms and root-fly.

There are more than 300 varieties of thyme. Common Thyme (*Thymus vulgaris*) is evergreen, grows into a shrub that is about 20 cm high, and has pale purple flowers and small aromatic leaves on slender stems that tends to become woody.

Lemon Thyme (*Thymus x citriodorus*), with its subtle lemon scent, has pink flowers. It grows into a bush about 15 cm high.

Creeping Lemon Thyme (*Thymus serpyllum*) is, as the name suggests, a creeping groundcover. It has pale lilac flowers and doesn't grow much higher than 8 cm, but is hardy enough to survive

foot traffic, and looks pretty in containers, where it tends to grow over the edges.

Bushy thyme works well for hedges, while creeping thyme spreads out on stone and brick paths.

Thyme prefers to grow in well-drained soil, in full sun. The plant often self-propagates, especially when spreading branches touch the soil and generate roots. Thyme also grows easily from cuttings.

While thyme is a perennial plant, it needs cutting back every two years. Apart from that, thyme is almost maintenance free, and the best flavour comes from plants that have not been over-watered.

Supplied by [Canterbury HERB Society](#)

If you missed a Herb of the Month post catch up [here](#).

No meeting this month.

All About Gardening - looking back together

JUNE

Monday 6th 7pm & Tuesday 7th 9.30am

160th Anniversary Celebration

This month's All About Gardening is finally the opportunity to celebrate the 160th year of the Canterbury Horticultural Society.

We will be delving into the history of the club and its evolution through the years with stunning images and entertaining stories.

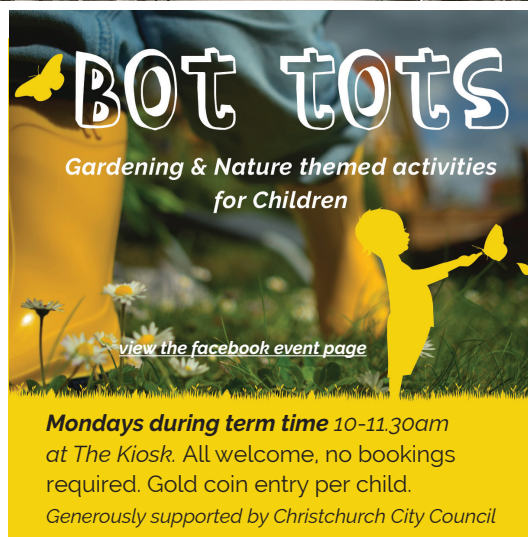
Free to all members and with a special supper and morning tea. A registration link will be emailed to Members closer to the time. Hats optional!



The Kiosk
Christchurch Botanic Gardens
(Just over the footbridge - Armagh Street carpark).



Opening of the Society's new premises,
Cambridge Tce 1963. Did you attend?



Scorpio Books

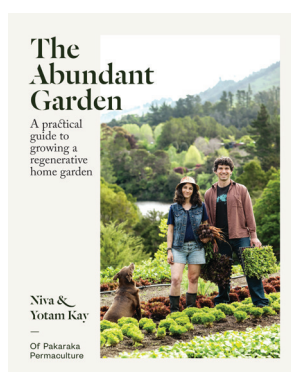
The Abundant Garden: A Practical guide to growing a regenerative home garden

Niva Kay & Yotam Kay
9781988547718 | \$45.00

Niva and Yotam Kay, of Pakaraka Permaculture in the Coromandel, say in the introduction to *The Abundant Garden* that they "love making gardening accessible, fun and attainable for as many people as possible" and this book achieves that in spades. It's a comprehensive and thoroughly enjoyable read, suitable to those new to gardening as well as more seasoned gardeners. It contains a mine of information including, but not restricted to, designing your vegetable

garden, cultivating healthy soils, plant propagation, weeding strategies, best practice watering and compost.

There's plenty of creative reminders within these pages, including fabulous use of the word 'lasagne' to describe a compost layering system. And although it deals with vegetable growing, many of the sections covered – especially soil health – could be applied to the flower garden too. The book is full of lush and beautiful photos of Niva, Yotam, and their family at work in their market garden, along with diagrams and planning templates to



support your own growing. There's even some fermenting recipes and ideas near the end for when your garden grows so abundantly that there are leftovers!

The authors' passion for their work is clear – they believe that "regenerative gardening is one of the most meaningful actions communities and individuals can take to combat climate change as well as supporting your mental and physical wellbeing". Detailed, clear, informative and passionate, this book will be a great addition to your shelf as you develop your garden, or as a gift for those just setting out.

Many thanks to Ray Shipley and Scorpio Books for this review.