



# Canterbury Horticultural Society NEWSLETTER

**The Kiosk**  
Christchurch Botanic Gardens  
Open every day 10am – 4pm

Newsletter No 295 FEBRUARY 2023

366 6937 [www.chsgardens.co.nz](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz) [office@chsgardens.co.nz](mailto:office@chsgardens.co.nz) [canterburyhorticulturalsociety](https://www.facebook.com/canterburyhorticulturalsociety) [groups/CHSHortTalk](https://www.facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk)

## Floral Photography

**Wednesday 15 February 7-9pm**

Easy tips to photograph and capture the beauty of your garden with Julia Atkinson-Dunn. Learn how to utilise natural light and compose images to record the beauty of your garden using just your smartphone or camera.

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

**\$40** (\$50 Non-Members) [Book online](#)

Tuesday 21 February 7-9pm

## OUTDOOR PROPAGATION

Semi-hardwood

Master the art of cuttings and expand your plant collection this Autumn

**\$40**

\$50 Non-Members  
Christchurch Botanic Gardens  
Te Māra Huaota o Waipapa

**The Kiosk**  
Canterbury Horticultural Society

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

## Outdoor Propagation

**Tuesday 21 February 7 – 9pm**

Create multiples of your favourite plants and turn your home garden into your very own garden centre.

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

**\$40** (\$50 Non-Members) [Book online](#)

## Growing Seeds to Save

**Wednesday 1 March 6 – 8pm**

Learn how to save seed for sustainable food production. Ōtākaro Orchard Urban Farm, 156 Peterborough Street

**\$40** (\$50 Non-Members) [Book online](#)

## Garden Organic

*An introduction to organics in the home garden*

**Tuesdays 7-9pm & Saturdays 9.30am – 1pm  
March & April**

Our popular Garden Organic sessions tutored by the experts from the Organics College and the Canterbury Permaculture institute return this March and April. Expand your general gardening knowledge with these pick and mix sessions including new topics of Organic Weed Control and the Soil Food Web taught at the Kiosk and Richmond Community Gardens. **Bookings available online soon!**



## PRECISION PRUNING

When, Why & How  
**Wednesday 8 March 7-9pm**

### Precision Pruning

When, Why & How with tutor Ryan Young

**Wednesday 8 March 7 – 9pm**

When should you prune which plant? Learn the basic principles of pruning ornamentals (perennials and shrubs) for general plant health, future flowering, shape and regeneration.

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

**\$20** (\$26 Non-Members) [Book online](#)



## Sustainable FLORISTRY

grow • pick • arrange

A four session course hosted at  
Canterbury Horticultural Society's Kiosk  
& Moon River Flower Farm

from  
**\$550**

The Kiosk  
Christchurch Botanic Gardens  
Te Māra Huaota o Waipapa  
[www.chsgardens.co.nz](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz)

## Sustainable Floristry

**Tuesdays 7-9pm 28 February | 7 March | 14 March & Saturday 11 March 12.30 – 2.30pm**

A four session foundation floristry course hosted at The Kiosk and Moon River Flower Farm. Tutor Claire Maetzig's philosophy is one of 'slow flowers' – field grown flowers that bloom in harmony with the seasons. Moon River flowers are natural, beautifully scented and have a whimsical cottage garden aesthetic. *All flowers and materials provided*  
**\$550** (\$610 with a CHS Membership)  
[Book online](#)

## Garden Life

**Wednesday 1 February 1pm & 7pm**

**Main Speaker:**  
Melissa Reimer  
How to use  
Sculpture in  
your Garden



As Curator of the Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden Melissa works alongside some of the most interesting artists in the country. She is committed to the Arts in New Zealand, with a passionate drive to see more sculpture in public spaces, homes and gardens.

Melissa will talk about Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden's 10-year history and purpose, a little about the history of sculpture in private gardens and how sculpture can enhance your own garden.

**Mini Speaker: Dr Colin Meurk**  
Honorary Botanist for the Canterbury Horticultural Society.

Dr Colin Meurk's wide ranging interests include applied biogeography, ecological restoration and design, landscape dynamics, urban ecology, conservation biology, and citizen science.

**The Kiosk**  
Christchurch Botanic Gardens  
**\$5** (Non-Members: \$10)  
Tea, coffee and biscuits included  
Pay on the door

**The Kiosk**  
Canterbury Horticultural Society





## Free Mona Vale Guided Walks

**Saturday 4, 11 & 25 February 1.30pm**

Meet at the Rose Garden adjacent to the car park by the Eros statue for a 90 minute walk.

## Free Guided Walks Botanic Gardens - February

**1.30pm from The Kiosk 45 - 60 mins**

**Wed Feb 1** NZ Gardens – NZ Natives

**Thu Feb 2** Curious Conifers – a walk in the Pinetum

**Fri Feb 3** Conservatories

**Sat Feb 4** Plant Hunters – trees & their stories

**Sun Feb 5** General Interest Walk – 90 mins

**Mon Feb 6** General Interest Walk – 90 mins

**Tue Feb 7** NZ Gardens – NZ natives

**Wed Feb 8** Curious Conifers

**Thu Feb 9** General Interest Walk – 90 mins

**Fri Feb 10** Gondwana Collection

**Sat Feb 11** Biggest, smallest, quirkiest, tallest

**Sun Feb 12** Trooping the colour – our

Herbaceous Border

**Mon Feb 13** General Interest Walk – 90 mins

**Tue Feb 14** Extraordinary Trees

**Wed Feb 15** General Interest Walk – 90 mins

**Thu Feb 16** General Interest Walk – 90 mins

**Fri Feb 17** General Interest Walk - 90 mins

**Sat Feb 18** Plant Hunters – trees & their stories

**Sun Feb 19** Gondwana Collection

**Mon Feb 20** General Interest Walk – 90 mins

**Tue Feb 21** Guides' Top 10

**Wed Feb 22** Guides' Top 10

**Thu Feb 23** Leonard Cockayne Garden – a hidden gem

**Fri Feb 24** Curator's House Potager Garden

**Sat Feb 25** Extraordinary Trees

**Sun Feb 26** Rock & Crevice Garden

**Mon Feb 27** Trooping the colour – our Herbaceous Border

**Tue Feb 28** Extraordinary Trees

**Tickets: \$120 pp** available from [www.friendschbotanicgardens.org](http://www.friendschbotanicgardens.org)

**Or bring a party of ten for \$1,000!**

For this discounted offer contact Jeanette: [jeanette.christensen44@gmail.com](mailto:jeanette.christensen44@gmail.com)



## 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](#)

## Watercolour Painting

**Wednesday 8 & 22 February 10am**

All welcome, BYO materials

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens.

## Fruit & Vegetable Group

**Wednesday 22 February 7pm**

Meet at Ōtākaro Orchard and Urban Farm to enjoy a personalised tour of the Food Forest and Farm with their kaitiaki and local permaculture tutor Roz Rolls.

*Gold Coin donation for Non-Members*

## Garden Club Reps

**Tuesday 7 February 12.30pm**

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

## Chrysanthemum Group

**Sunday 26 February 11.30am**

Visit to Brian Glassey at Ashburton. Picnic Lunch. (Contact Robyn for directions as he is off the beaten track).

General cultural notes, pest control and bud securing of lates. All CHS members are welcome.

New Members or guests please contact **Robyn** on tel: 942 9871

## Monthly Tips & Tasks

*with Michael Coulter*

February, the height of Summer and a very busy time in the garden; from harvesting to planning ahead for the Winter.

The weather so far has been challenging, with average day time temperatures, strong drying NE winds, above average sunlight and below average monthly rainfall.

While you are harvesting fruit from the stone fruit trees look out for any signs of disease that can be treated once the fruit has finished so that there will not be any carry over to next season.

Keep the water up on the pip fruit to keep them developing the fruit and look out for any signs of black stop and mildew that may need to be treated.

Old fruiting canes on the berry fruits should now be removed to encourage new growth and a application of fertiliser on strawberries will help the plants to continue fruiting.

Harvest garlic and dry the bulbs off before storing them.

Tomatoes, peppers, chilies and potatoes can be effected by the tomato/potato psyllid. Spraying with an insecticide can prevent this.

The heat will dry out the lawns so a regular deep watering, feeding and treatment for grass grub will keep the grass in good condition.

The flower garden will now be in peak flowering; dead heading, staking, watering and weeding will extend the flowering right through the Summer. Flowering perennials such as chrysanthemums and dahlias will need to well staked to keep them from wind

damage.

Thrips are about so treat the plants that are prone to thrip attack and treat them now before the damage is done to the foliage.

Citrus plants need to be kept well watered as the fruit develops so that the fruit will not be dry or small at harvest time. They will also benefit from an application of fertiliser now.

An important tip - always run out the water from your outside hose until the water runs cold as the hot water can scold you or your plants.

Good gardening. *Michael Coulter*

**Remember:** questions can be posted on [HortTalk](#) or you can email Michael directly at: [coulchrys@xtra.co.nz](mailto:coulchrys@xtra.co.nz)



**Envirokids: Connecting kiwi kids to our environmental community.** A free Saturday programme based at The Kiosk.

**Saturday 4 February 10am- 3pm**

**E-waste Hands-On Learning with EcoTech**

**Saturday 11 February 10am- 3pm**

**Envirokids Valentines Day Upcycle**

Get crafty and make special Valentines Day gifts! All ages FREE event. Bring along your friends and stay for as long as you'd like.

**Saturday 18 February 10am- 3pm**

**Become a Cloud Expert**

We will learn about the different types of cloud and what role they play in our everyday lives.

**Saturday 25 February 10am- 3pm**

**International Polar Bear Day**

To check out the rest of the events in February, be sure to follow Christchurch Envirokids on Facebook [@CHCHEnvirokids](https://www.facebook.com/CHCHEnvirokids).

## Floral Design

**Wednesday 15 February 2pm**

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

**Currently the group is studying the upright styles of Ikebana under the tutoring of Ray King.**

**Line.** Basic upright style in a shallow dish using a pinholder/Kensan. You will need 2 firm branches 1cm in thickness and about



While the Canterbury Museum undergoes it's exciting redevelopment the Friends will meet in The Kiosk on the third Tuesday of the month for coffee at 10am, and a guest speaker from 10.15am.

We look forward to this new arrangement for us and will enjoy reconnecting with The Kiosk and learning more about the Canterbury Horticultural Society.

**Ravenscar House**

**Museum Gallery and Home**

**Tuesday 21 February 10am**

Frances Husband is the Associate Curator of Human History at Canterbury Museum.

Frances will provide a deeper look into some of the artworks and artists featured in the Ravenscar House Museum; the stylish new home for Jim and Susan Wakefield's cherished art collection.

*All welcome.*

1m in length, some leaves such as hosta or ivy and 3 to 5 flowers with firm stems such as gerberas, carnations or dahlias as long as the stem is sturdy and will hold the flower head up.

**Interested?**

Contact: Ray King tel: 021 037 0675

See the latest photos on the Flickr album [online here](#)

## Exclusive Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden Tour with owner Peter Joyce and the CHS' Honorary Botanist, Colin Meurk

**Thursday 16 March 10am**

Tai Tapu Sculpture Garden is an evolving landscaped park of native plantings and regeneration; a stunning setting for permanent and temporary sculptures, of small to large scale, by established and emerging artists.

*"Our mission is to support contemporary sculpture practice in NZ and to enhance native biodiversity in Canterbury."*

Owners, Annabelle and Peter Joyce have designed and implemented this outstanding venue as artists, landscape architects and conservationists themselves. Our group will be welcomed by Peter and Colin Meurk and provided with a guided tour of the site - approx 45mins. We will then be free to wander at will for an hour. A guide booklet will be provided to everyone as part of the entry fee.

*Make a day of it with lunch at the Raspberry Cafe or The Store in Tai Tapu afterwards. \$10 Entry Fee*  
Meet at The Kiosk at 9am to ride share

## Green Thumbs Podcast

**Monday 13 February 9am**

**Plains FM 96.9** Along with seasonal gardening advice Ray and Lorraine chat to interesting folk from the gardening world. If you miss a session you can find the recordings on the [CHS website](#).

## Notices

*from the CHS Office*

### Get Involved

The plans for our ornamental garden in the grounds of Avebury House, Richmond are coming together. From late Autumn we will start planting after ground preparation. In the meantime, we need to start clearing the section and discovering the horticultural gems that may lie hiding beneath.

On **Saturday 4th March** from 10am - 12pm we will hold a working bee on the section with a shared morning tea. If you would like to help please contact Rachel Oliver. [rachel@chsgardens.co.nz](mailto:rachel@chsgardens.co.nz)

## From the President

Kia Ora and welcome to CHS Members. What an interesting year for both your garden and your garden knowledge.

It's a year of letting us help increase your skills form sketching that flower to propagation of your favourite plant, which I challenge you to try one of our exciting courses this year.

Either way, lets have some fun and teach each other something new.

Happy 2023 from Me and your CHS Board.

*Allan Paterson*

## Annual General Meeting

The CHS Annual General Meeting is on next month - **Thursday 30 March 7pm** at The Kiosk. Keep an eye on our website and emails for voting documents.

## Botanic Gardens Uncovered

**Thursday 9 February 9.30am**

**Shizuka Cornelius**

Originally from Japan, Shizuka Cornelius started as a volunteer at the central rose garden, and then became a trainee at the Christchurch Botanic Gardens.

Now in her third year as the central rose garden's collection curator, Shizuka really enjoys working in her area which also includes the peace bell, rosaceae border and dahlia borders.

She is looking forward to sharing her knowledge with CHS Members as she takes us around this section of the Botanic Gardens.

*Free to all CHS Members*



# GARDEN LIFE

Monthly gardening programme  
for the everyday gardener

## We want your Problems!

We love to hear from our gardeners, especially any niggling problems, be they edible or ornamental! Bring questions to Garden Life, post them on [HortTalk](#) or email Michael Coulter [coulchrys@xtra.co.nz](mailto:coulchrys@xtra.co.nz)

## Garden Life

Wednesday 1 March 1pm and 7pm

**Main Speaker: Marg and Geoff Allison**

*Not Just Pretty Flowers - the NZ Dahlia Collection at Christchurch Botanic Gardens*

**"Dahlias are the supreme summer and early autumn flowers. They sparkle in soft light. It is only in the last decade that more gardeners have come to appreciate their charms."** The Garden RHS, September 2022

Marg and Geoff Allison, as volunteers under the umbrella of the Friends of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens, have taken responsibility for the dahlia collection for the past five years. Both retired, Marg has a health sector background and Geoff with the Ministry of Agriculture. Between them they can spend up to 30 hours a week working with the collection. In addition time is

spent at home networking, researching and maintaining records.

In their illustrated presentation Geoff and Marg will outline their five year journey of recovering and reimagining the New Zealand dahlia collection and including the species dahlias; the guidance and encouragement of Dr Keith Hammett and other New Zealand dahlia raisers and experts; the successes and challenges of developing and maintaining a collection in a public gardens.



**Mini Speaker: Scott Astill**

*CHS Scholarship Recipient*

**The Kiosk**

Christchurch Botanic Gardens  
Armagh Street car park footbridge

\$5 (\$10 Non-Members)

Tea, coffee & biscuits included

See our [website](#) and [Facebook](#) for updates.

## Garden Life 'add-on' sub

Now is the perfect time to sign up for a Garden Life 'add-on' subscription – pay for your entry in advance and save!

Single members pay \$30 and receive 11 sessions of Garden Life.

Double members pay \$50 and receive 11 sessions of Garden Life.

Contact us at [office@chsgardens.co.nz](mailto:office@chsgardens.co.nz) to arrange payment.

## Scorpio Books

### Houseplants and Design: A New Zealand Guide

Liz Carlson

[0781991006110](tel:0781991006110) | \$45.00



This book is an accessible, detailed, and beautiful guide to houseplants and their many benefits, from Lyttelton-based writer Liz Carlson. The photography in this book is outstanding, with a combination of detailed images of a huge variety of specimens alongside inspirational photos of everyday New Zealanders and the green spaces they've cultivated. Carlson is an engaging writer, and her knowledge of houseplants and their specific needs is deep as well as broad, honed with the experience of owning and running NODE, a gorgeous houseplant store on Lyttelton's London Street.

She writes candidly about the many benefits of caring for plants, especially at times when life was a real struggle. As well as advice on caring for plants, the book includes a wealth of advice on interior design, and the impact of well-placed houseplants on the overall feel of a space.

Growing houseplants is often a first step toward a life-long passion for gardening, and for people who are time-poor, or living in apartments, rentals, or homes without

access to gardens, they are often the only option. This book would make the perfect gift for those just starting out on their gardening journey, and is a great read for anyone who wants more greenery in their home. A stunning and inspiring book – I highly recommend it.

Many thanks to Ray from Scorpio Books for this review. [www.scorpiobooks.co.nz](http://www.scorpiobooks.co.nz)

## Edible & Sustainable Garden Awards

2023 was the 10th year of the Edible & Sustainable Garden Awards and this year four Community Boards have participated. Assessment of gardens in the Waitai Coastal-Burwood-Linwood; Waimāero Fendalton-Waimairi-Harewood; Waipapa Papanui-Innes-Central and Waihoru Spreydon-Cashmere-Heathcote wards begins this week. We can't wait to see what everyone has been growing (and how) and look forward to sharing the highlights with you.