

# Canterbury Horticultural Society

The Kiosk

Christchurch Botanic Gardens Open every day 10am – 4pm

Newsletter No 298 MAY 2023

f groups/CHSHortTalk

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#### The Art of the Indoor Plant

Three workshops for indoor plant lovers from macramé plant hangers to the basics of indoor plant care and propagation.

Macramé Plant Hangers Tuesday 23 May 6.30pm-9pm

Indoor Plant Care Wednesday 24 May 7-9pm

**Indoor Plant Propagation** *Wednesday 14 June 7-9pm* <u>Book online</u> **\$44** (\$55 Non-Members) The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

#### Food Forest - Design & Philosophy

Saturday 27 May 12.30pm - 2.30pm

Jon Roz Rolls of Edible Canterbury at Ōtākaro Orchard to learn about Food Forest Design and Philosophy. <u>Book online</u> **\$45** per person



#### **Indoor Edibles**

**Tuesday 30 May** 7pm – 8.30pm

Limited garden space? No problem, grow tasty and nutritious greens this season from your window sill! Includes sprouts and a small tray of microgreens to take home. <u>Book online</u> **\$44** (\$55 Non-Members) The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens



#### **Rose Pruning**

**Saturday 10 June** 10am - 12pm (Rain day Sunday 11 June)

Learn the art of pruning your roses to ensure flourishing growth and flowers for the Summer season.

Tutored by Michael Brown Abberley Park Rose Garden, St Albans <u>Book online</u> **\$44** (\$55 Non-Members)

# Winter 2023 Fruit Tree Workshops

Learn how to Winter prune fruit trees for improved health and fruiting

#### \$65 \$78 Non-Memi

#### Winter Fruit Tree Pruning

#### Saturdays - June, July & August

Join tutor Hamish Kelland at Richmond Community Gardens for these comprehensive theory and practical workshops.

Stonefruit Pruning Saturday 17 June 9am - 12pm

Establishing Fruit Trees Saturday 22 July 9am - 12pm

Pipfruit Pruning Saturday 19 August 9am - 12pm

Book online \$65 (\$78 Non-Members)

Garden Life Wednesday 3 May 1pm and 7pm Main Speaker: Mark Hutchings



Autumn has started to spread through Canterbury with the onset of spectacular displays of colour. This is an excellent time of year to establish new trees, Mark will guide you through selecting the perfect tree for year round colour, texture and management.

Be inspired as he shares ideal choices for any size of garden, especially with smaller specimens being his particular forte. Mark aims for everyone to have the best garden possible.

An accountant in a former life, Mark and his wife bought the Allwood Trees nursery 25 years ago. Specialising in growing trees with approximately 15,000 trees in stock at any one time (including deciduous, NZ native and exotic evergreens), Mark is a passionate plants man and tree enthusiast. He prides himself on growing quality trees rather than quantity.

**Mini Speaker: Cornelia Holten** Korukai Herb Farm

A short clip from Cornelia's recent talk for the CHS Fruit and Vegetable Group on Growing Great Garlic will be shown.

#### The Kiosk

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



# Friends of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens

### Friends of the Museum

# Friends of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens

The Friends guiding season at the Botanic Gardens has now concluded. They do continue the Mona Vale walks, a lovely opportunity to learn more about this local treasure.

#### Free Mona Vale Guided Walks

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

Saturday 13 & 27 May Saturday 24 June Saturday 29 July Saturday 26 August Saturday 16 & 30 September



# 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). <u>Facebook Event</u>

#### Watercolour Painting

**Wednesday 10 & 24 May** 10am All welcome, BYO materials The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

#### Mona Vale Restoration Fundraiser

The Friends are raising funds for the restoration of the Bathhouse at Mona Vale and have a selection of works by local artists for sale with 30% of profit from the sales going towards the restoration project. See below for details on purchasing an artwork.



Direct donations to the Bathhouse Restoration Project can be made online by internet banking, or by cash or eftpos at the Kiosk. To view the available artworks please visit: www.friendschchbotanicgardens.org. nz/an-edwardian-garden-party-artwork-sale

# Fruit & Vegetable Group

Wednesday 31 May 7pm AGM / Tools Maintenance

Have your say and get involved with the Fruit and Vegetable Group. Followed by a hands on session on how to look after you most important garden tools.

**Free for CHS Members** \$5 for Non-Members

Monthly Tips & Tasks

#### with Michael Coulter

We are now well into Autumn, meaning so much of the garden work is about preparation for the coming Winter.

The rain fall is well above average for this time of the year which has encouraged moss to grow on the paths and in the lawns so treat the lawns with sulphate of iron and the paths with one of the liquid moss killers.

Once the frosts have started dahlias may be lifted as well as tuberous begonias, only keep those that are sound and healthy.

Complete planting Spring bulbs before the ground becomes too wet, ensuring that they will not be sitting in ground that puddles.

<u>Pelargonium</u> cuttings may be taken now to over-winter in readiness for planting in the Spring. Green house maintenance at the end of the growing season includes washing down the inside with a solution like one of the liquid moss killers and removing the shading from the outside. Any plants still in the green house need to be checked for the presence of pest or disease and if they are unhealthy dispose of them.

Once all the leaves have fallen off fruit trees they should have a good clean up - removing any dried up fruit still on the tree and rubbish around the base, this well help stop any disease carry over to next season

In the vegetable garden you can sow broad beans, plant garlic, and in the green house grow some Winter greens (spinach and spring onions etc.).

In the Winter grass grows very slowly so needs little mowing. To keep the lawn in good condition raise the height of the mower so

# Canterbury Museum

While the Museum undergoes its 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.

**Tuesday 16 May** - All welcome Free (but bring some coins for the raffle)



# Garden Club Reps

*Tuesday 2 May 12.30pm* The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

# Green Thumbs Podcast

#### Monday 8 May 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 <u>CHS website.</u>

that a good swath of grass covers the ground so that it will not become muddy, especially at the harder wearing areas.

For colour in the garden Winter annuals planted in pots mixed with Spring bulbs placed around the patio or pathways will cheer any Winter's day, so go and plant some up today.

Good gardening, Michael Coulter

**Remember:** questions can be posted on HortTalk or you can email Michael directly at: coultchrys@xtra.co.nz

#### Winter Propagation

We have two propagation workshops coming up; Hardwood Propagation with Pratima Dhakal Acharya - a 2 hour theory and practical workshop in June and Fruit Tree Grafting with Hamish Kelland in September. Keep an eye on the website and emails.



#### Virtual Reality Marine Education with BLAKE

Saturday 20 May 10am-3pm



Sian from BLAKE will be running a virtual reality drop-in opportunity providing a glimpse into marine environments through a range of 360° videos captured by NZ Geographic in the Hauraki Gulf.

This Virtual Reality experience will be followed-up with a range of activities which dive deeper into the rocky shore and marine environment, and how we can all act as a kaitiaki for the moana.

### **Floral Design**

*Wednesday 17 May 2pm* The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Currently the group is studying the upright styles of Ikebana under the tutoring of Ray King. Line: Basic slanting style in a shallow dish using a pinholder/ Kensan. Material: leaves in Autumn colours and flowers either complementary or contrasting. Interested?

# **From the President**

#### Kia ora all,

Well, I have seen all sorts of workshops happening in the kiosk, so it would pay to register early to make sure that you get a place within the desired course.

For those of you who are sharpening up the tools, we have Rose Pruning and Fruit Tree workshops coming up. Please check the website for these and other great workshops <u>www.chsgardens.co.nz/shop</u> will take you straight to all our workshops and courses. Remember, as a CHS Member you get discounts on all purchases.

As you will see from our newsletter, we are making more friends - with the Friends Canterbury Museum, Friends of Christchurch Botanic Gardens and our other neighbours. Each has their own events to keep an eye out for. Check out Envirokids on Facebook <u>@CHCHEnvirokids</u> for events at The Kiosk and out and about in Christchurch.

Looking for something to do on your days off? Check out our **Environmental Calendar**, which promotes upcoming environmental events in your area. You can also add your own events to the calendar, helping to spread the word about important environmental initiatives and activities.

#### www.chchenvirohub.org/eco-calendar



Come along to Christchurch Envirohubs **Casual Couch Talk** every Thursday at The Kiosk from 1-3 pm and have a chat with our trust manager Ben about anything related to the environmental sector.



Even on those Winter fresh days there is always something happening in the gardens or at a local orchard or park!

Mark Hutchings from Allwood Trees is our next speaker at Garden Life on Wednesday 3 May. He is always excellent value and has huge knowledge about trees - for all garden sizes.

Welcome to the new CHS Board Members, Ross Beaumont and Gavin Treadgold. Both of which have skill-sets which will be great for further development.

Many thanks to our volunteers who attended the Avery House working bee in the weekend. Many hands make light work! It's coming along really well and our group of volunteers are very committed. There is still plenty to do, so reach out to <u>Rachel</u> if you can help.

Let's see you at Garden Life.

Allan Paterson, CHS President



Everyone is welcome, so don't hesitate to join us for some great conversation!

Join the movement to protect our planet today!

# Chrysanthemum Group

Saturday 6 & Sunday 7 May

South Island National Show, Invercargill

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



#### **Bonsai Curious**

6 week evening course

**Tuesdays 6 June – 11 July** 7pm – 9pm Absorb the ancient Japanese art of Bonsai under the careful tutelage of the Avon Bonsai Society. Discover the history, traditional styles, material selection, propagation, wiring techniques and create your own Saikei (planted landscape).

Book online \$180 (\$225 Non-Members) \$240 Course + CHS Membership The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

# 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 coultchrys@xtra.co.nz

# Garden Life

Wednesday 7 June 1pm and 7pm Main Speaker: Mike Daly

Mike Daly has had a long career in Agricultural/Horticultural Research having worked for 24 years in crown research organizations as a research Scientist. Mike specialty area was organic and biological farming techniques. Mike has had a long relationship with the Biological Husbandry Unit at Lincoln, as a researcher, Trustee, and supporter.

Mike was introduced to a Japanese technology called EM (Effective microorganisms) in 1995, and after a period of evaluation decided to set up a plant in NZ to make this product and develop supplementary products based on this microbial technology.



Naturefarm was founded around 20 years ago and makes a range of microbial products for Gardening and the Horticultural and Agricultural sectors.

Mike's talk will focus on EM technology: How it was developed, how it works, and how it

has become a global technology used in over 130 Countries. The talk will include practical demonstrations, how EM can be used to improve soil health, plant health and compost making.

#### The Kiosk

Christchurch Botanic Gardens Armagh Street car park footbridge \$5 (\$10 Non-Members) Tea, coffee & biscuits included

# See our <u>website</u> and <u>Facebook</u> for updates.

CHS Members, please feel free to bring a friend along to Garden Life. We can take their payment with our EFTPOS at the door, or if they would like to become a Member they can sign up at the Kiosk weekdays between 10am -3pm.

Scorpio Proks

#### Fungi of Aotearoa – A Curious Forager's Guide

Liv Sisson <u>ISBN: 9781761047879</u> | \$45.00

Written by local writer, forager, and foodlover Liv Sisson, Fungi of Aotearoa is an accessible and engaging book about the wonders and mysteries of fungi. Early on in the book, she outlines just how much there is still to learn about fungi, both globally and here in Aotearoa, meaning that backyard enthusiasts can sometimes stumble across a new, unknown kind of fungi – you don't have to have expert knowledge to discover something magnificent!

Along with detailed descriptions, facts, and stories of over 130 species of fungi in Aotearoa New Zealand, Sisson writes passionately about fungi and their crucial, specific, and sometimes unexpected role in nature and our lives. Sisson's writing is warm and chatty and



she clearly has a wealth of knowledge. There are also sections in the book dedicated to practical advice for people wanting to get out into nature and explore, honed from Sisson's experiences running foraging tours in the Red Zone. Fungi of Aotearoa – A Curious Foragers Guide comes out in early May, and is available for pre-order now. Whether you're looking for a deep dive into the science behind fungi, or looking to know the more practical ins and outs – what to eat, what not to eat – of fungi foraging, this book has youncovered and will delight and surprise you along the way. The Scorpio team were lucky enough to get our hands on an advance copy of this glorious, full-colour, meticulously detailed book and we can attest that it's a must-have!

Many thanks to Scorpio Books for this review. www.scorpiobooks.co.nz

#### CHS Members enjoy a 10% discount at Scorpio Books and Telling Tales - Scorpio Children's Books.

Visit their inner-city stores and browse the shelves, settle into a comfy chair, discover staff favourites, the best new releases in fiction and non-fiction, and all manner of bookish delights.

Five Lanes at the BNZ Centre, 120 Hereford Street, Christchurch Central City.