

The Kiosk

Christchurch Botanic Gardens Open every day 10am – 4pm

Newsletter No 299 JUNE 2023

f groups/CHSHortTalk

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Bonsai Curious

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



INDOOR PLANT PROPAGATION

Indoor Plant Propagation

Wednesday 14 June 7-9pm

Addicted to indoor plants, but don't have the budget for more plant babies? Learn the basics of how to propagate and extend your collection for free. With tips on dividing plants, to taking cuttings, all will be revealed! This is a hands on workshop with examples to take home and tend.

<u>Book online</u> **\$44** (\$55 Non-Members) The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens



Winter Propagation

Increase your plant and fruit tree collection this Winter

Hardwood Propagation

Saturday 17 June 1pm - 3pm Richmond Community Gardens \$44 (\$55 Non-Members)

Fruit Tree Grafting

Saturday 30 September 9am - 12pm Seven Oaks, Hassal's Lane, Opawa \$65 (\$77 Non-Members)



Winter Fruit Tree Pruning

Saturdays - July & August Join Hamish Kelland at Richmond Community Garden for these comprehensive theory and practical workshops.

Establishing Fruit Trees Saturday 22 July 9am - 12pm

Pipfruit Pruning (almost full!) Saturday 19 August 9am - 12pm Book online **\$65** (\$78 Non-Members)

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. His specialty area was organic and biological farming techniques. Mike has also 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 establish 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.

Mikes 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.

Mini Speaker: Michael Coulter National Chrysanthemum Show Michael will share inspiring images and feedback on the 2023 show in Invercargill.

The Kiosk

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



Friends of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens



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 24 June Saturday 29 July Saturday 26 August Saturday 16 & 30 September

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: <u>www.friendschchbotanicgardens.org.</u> nz/an-edwardian-garden-party-artwork-sale

Bot Tots

Mondays 10 - 11.30cm (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 14 & 28 June 10am All welcome, BYO materials The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Plant Stall Notice

The Plant Stall will be closed for a month from **Monday 26 June to Friday 29 July** to allow our dedicated propagators to have a short break and allow stock time to establish for the Spring flush.

Trough Gardening

Friday 16 June 10.30am

Joe Cartman, who had a career spanning 42 years with the Christchurch City Council Nursery until his retirement in 2017, will present a workshop on trough gardens.

He will give advice on soil mix, rocks, plants, planting, and maintenance, and point out some pitfalls to avoid.

\$5 Friends & CHS Members (\$10 Public) The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Visit to Tressillian Truffles Friday 21 July Details to be announced.

Fruit & Vegetable Group

Winter Recess - watch out for a pruning demonstration in July

Garden Club Reps

Wednesday 10 June 10am NEW TIME The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Guest speaker **Nicole Harris of Three Roses** followed by morning tea then the AGM (meeting concludes at 11.30am).

Monthly Tips & Tasks

with Michael Coulter

Winter has now begun with frosty mornings and the last of the leaves falling from the trees.

The weather has a big influence on the type of work that may be done in and around the garden. This year we are entering Winter with wet and cold ground which limits what can be achieved.

The lawns will need some careful attention so raise the mowing height and only mow once the grass is dry and the ground is not too wet so that the soil does not come to the surface making it muddy. Also keep off the grass while there is still frost on it to avoid any damage.

Clean up the last of the fallen leaves and weed the garden. When the ground is

suitable I like to cut back the old leaves of the hellebores so that the flower buds will come up higher than the new leaves. I also like to clean up all the dead leaves from the hostas and remove any slugs that may try to over winter in the crown of the plants.

Once the frosts have cut back the top crown of the dahlias and begonias, they can be lifted and stored for the Winter in a cool dry place. I will brush off the soil from the tubers once the soil is dry and check them over for any pests or disease that may damage them while being stored.

This month is the start of the pruning season which should only be started when the weather is fine and sunny - never while it is raining. Winter treatments for fruit trees can start now, especially conquer oil and copper sprays which help to protect the plants from pests and diseases this coming season.

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.

June Guest Speaker: Graham Chick Tuesday 20 June 10am

The Christchurch Botanic Gardens has a magnificent collection of trees and someone who knows them well is Friends of the Gardens volunteer, Graham Chick. Graham has been a volunteer with the Gardens for over six years and is a regular on their free guided walks, one of which is on Commemorative Trees. Using the Commemorative Trees brochure as a basis Graham will give an illustrated presentation that's sure to inspire a walk in the gardens following the meeting!

Free - all welcome (but bring some coins for the raffle)

Green Thumbs Podcast

Monday 12 June 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>.

Chrysanthemum Group

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

The green house is where much of my work is carried out, I'll be cutting back the chrysanthemums that are in pots and lifting and cutting back the plants that were grown in the ground to put in trays ready for cuttings later on. Once I have cleaned out the green house I will bring in any frost tender plants and the pots of Spring bulbs that I grow for early flowers.

This month is the right time to plant garlic and shallots. Green crops can also be sown. Other than that there is not much to be done so keep warm and dry.

Good gardening, Michael Coulter

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



Envirokids Meet at the Kiosk every

Saturday from *10am-3pm* Check out Envirokids on Facebook @CHCHEnvirokids for events at The Kiosk and out and about in Christchurch.

Environmental Network Gathering *Thursday 8 June 7 - 9pm* at The Kiosk



Floral Design

Wednesday 21 June 2pm The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Currently the group is studying the upright styles of Ikebana under the tutoring of Ray King. Line: Slanting style in a tall container. Concentrate on Winter colours and textures. **Material:** leaves in Winter colours and flowers either complementary or contrasting.

From the Manager

Winter is here, some mornings the light is low and the fog rolls into my seaside garden making everything look soft and moody. The leafless trees and a decided lack of floral colour, leave my garden laid bare disclosing it's true form. In these moments I can see the gaps in the garden structure. It's time to consult the gardening books to find inspiration for new plantings.

Come & Enjoy the Library!

Short days and long nights are the perfect time sit and peruse gardening books. CHS has a wonderful and varied collection of over 100 books in our Library.

Our lovely librarian Anne Gallanders has been very busy cataloguing and labelling the collection. Thank-you Anne for your hard work.

Check out our **Environmental Calendar** for more environmental initiatives and activities.

www.chchenvirohub.org/eco-calendar



Interested? Contact: Ray King Tel: 021 037 0675 Latest photos on the Flickr album online

Garden information online

There is a wealth of information about all aspects of gardening, horticulture and conservation available on the internet.

Royal Horticultural Society of the UK www.rhs.org.uk

Digital Collections at RHS www.collections.rhs.org.uk

Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture www.rnzih.org.nz

Art and Science of Horticulture www.artandscienceofhorticulture.weebly.com

International Dendrology Society www.treesandshrubsonline.org

Horticultural Magazine

In defence of plants Blog www.indefenseofplants.com

The Garden Professors www.gardenprofessors.com

NZ Gardens Trust Gardens to visit www.gardens.org.nz

If you are interested in Garden History

NZ Garden History Foundation www.gardenhistoryresearchfoundation.com/ The Gardens Trust UK

www.thegardenstrust.org

Smithsonian Institute USA www.gardens.si.edu/collections/archives/ timeline-of-american-garden-history

The Sir Joseph Banks Society www.joseph-banks.org.uk

There are other resources available as well such as **Wikipedia.com.** If you are interested in videos and any aspect of gardening, then search **YouTube** (but take care when looking as most are from overseas and refer to different climates than NZ).

Winter is a great time to explore some of these offerings on the internet and give you ideas and inspiration for your own garden. *Thanks Alan Jolliffe for sharing this great list.*

We have also received an additional donation of a beautiful collection of popular gardening books from Pam Rabe.

Thank-you Pam for making these books available to CHS members to borrow. Come in and choose a book, you can borrow one book at a time and keep it for up to one month.

Sonja Tschepp, CHS Manager

If you do have books to donate, please send us the title list so we can make sure we don't end up with duplications.

Email <u>office@chsgardens.co.nz</u> or drop it in anytime to The Kiosk.

Finally, our congratulations to the **Tai Tapu Garden Club**. Last month they celebrated their 70th Anniversary. What a wonderful milestone to have reached. CHS Newsletter Archive www.chsgardens.co.nz/monthly-newsletter-archives

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 5 July 1pm and 7pm Main Speaker: Amy Wilson Medieval Gardening

Amy Wilson is a member of the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) - a worldwide group that pursues the research and re-creation of pre-seventeenth century skills, arts, combat and culture. This group has over 30,000 members around the world, who actively learn and recreate many aspects of medieval times.

Members range from enthusiastic amateurs, to accredited professionals. The local group (Australia and New Zealand) has a Herb and Garden Guild, which encourages the research and practise of herbalism and gardening within the SCA, and encourages members to

> make this information available to all.



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Amy will be presenting a talk on the Medieval Garden, with a look at history, garden design, plants and their uses, and modern day experiences of medieval elements.

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

A Forager's Life Finding my heart and home in nature

Helen Lehndorf <u>ISBN: 9781775542209</u> | \$39.99

A Forager's Life is a beautifully written memoir of a life living in the company, comfort and bounty of nature, by poet and teacher Helen Lehndorf. As a young person, Lehndorf's life was shaped by the land around her; she grew up rurally in Taranaki, in a small community where gathering, foraging, sharing, hunting, and fishing were all part of living life. As she grows up and moves to the city, Lehndorf finds solace from the stresses of university and being away from home through long walks foraging for weeks and plants along the river, and later, with her new husband, follows a calling for ancestral belonging to England.

Nature is woven throughout these stories of travel and family, so seamlessly and



beautifully that you get the feeling that, for Lehndorf, foraging, gathering, and being outdoors is as much about emotional and spiritual survival as it is about searching for physical nourishment. And this book is more than a memoir – each chapter takes the name of a different foraged item, and concludes with a recipe or two that centres that same item. At the end of the book, Lehndorf has compiled a guide to foraging and a guide to permaculture principles, along with a detailed list of recommended further reading.

A Forager's Life makes for a wonderful read for those seeking deeper connection with the environment around them – providing inspiration as well as practical support. For people who are already foraging and growing, Lehndorf's story is will feel familiar, comforting, and encouraging.

Whatever your background, *A Forager's Life* will have you noticing the world around you with fresh eyes.

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.