

Newsletter No 300 JULY 2023





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f groups/CHSHortTalk

Establishing Fruit Trees

Saturday 22 July 9am - 12pm Before planting any fruit tree it is important to understand your location's environmental factors and the needs of the tree itself. Topics will include: Climatic and soil considerations; slope and aspect considerations; plant selection and understory plantings. Book online \$65 (\$78 Non-Members)

Grapevine Pruning

Saturday 29 July 9am – 12pm

Rain day: Sunday 30 July

Seven Oaks, Hassal's Lane, Waltham

Tame your grape vine for a profusion of fruit! In this 3 hour workshop you will

learn about: Theory of pruning; Terms used; Types of pruning for the home gardener; What to do if your grapevine is out of control;

How to activate the fruiting cycle and Common pests and diseases

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

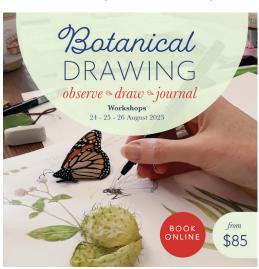
Introduction to Nature Journaling

2 Day Workshop : Thursday 24 & Friday 25 August 10am – 3pm

Create beautiful botanical drawings inspired by Te Māra Huaota o Waipapa.

Nature journaling is a wonderful creative practice for connecting with our natural environments through observational drawing, painting and writing.

Book online: \$189 (\$235 Non-Members)



Botanical Drawing for Beginners

Saturday 26 August 10 -3pm

This special one-day workshop is focused on drawing exercises referencing New Zealand's rich Botanical art history. The subject for the day's workshop will be beautiful leaves and foliage gathered from the gardens and will cover basic drawing techniques including pencil work, composition, form and building detail.

Book online: \$85 (\$105 Non-Members)

Grow Great Vege Inside & Out - Double Header

Year Round Vegetable Growing

Saturdays: 12 & 19 August 1pm - 4pm Enjoy a constant supply of homegrown

vegetables

Session One: 12 August

Planning for a year round harvest.

Session Two: 26 August Fitting more into the garden

Book online: \$128 (\$160 Non-Members)

Grow Under Glass

Saturday 26 August 1pm - 4pm

Successful Greenhouse Growing

Maximise your greenhouse or polytunnel Book online: \$65 (\$78 Non-Members)

Garden Design

Tuesdays 7 - 9pm **1 -29 August 2023** 5 week - 6 session introduction to urban garden design.

Transform your garden into a beautiful and practical outdoor space.

Explore different garden styles and creative ideas, be inspired by a trip to a local garden and create a vision for your own garden. Learn from workplace professionals who will lend their experience to assist you in designing a successful outdoor space. You will create a scale plan and plant list for your own garden.

Pricing and Bookings available soon

Fruit Tree Grafting

Saturday 30 September 9am - 12pm Seven Oaks, Hassal's Lane, Opawa

What is grafting? Discover how it is different to budding. After identifying why and when to graft, you'll learn all about rootstock, scion wood selection, collection and storage. After an in-depth grafting demonstration, try your hand at the techniques yourself using the correct grafting tools and equipment.

Book online: \$65 (\$77 Non-Members)

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 preseventeenth 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.

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.

Mini Speaker: Sonja Tschepp CHS Avebury Teaching Garden

The CHS Avebury Teaching Garden is taking shape. Sonja will share with members the vision and beautifully created plans to inspire members to get involved.

The Kiosk

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





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 29 July Saturday 26 August Saturday 16 & 30 September

Plant Stall Notice

The Plant Stall will reopen on **Friday 29 July** with lots of new stock for the coming Spring!

Tresillian Truffles Visit

Join us for a very different winter visit to Tresillian Truffles at West Melton!

This promises to be a fascinating visit and

will include going with the dogs to hunt for truffles, followed by a truffle tasting, including hot soup. This adventure usually costs over \$100 but is offered to us for \$35 pp (CHS Members included). Note that the walk with the dogs is over uneven ground. Robust footwear recommended.

Date: Friday 21 July 11am
Meet: Tresillian Truffles,

West Melton

You must book by Monday 17 July

Bookings and pre-payment are essential for catering

purposes. Address details provided after payment received. **To book** contact Vicki Steven tel: 022 1304 342. Please include people quantity and your name, if texting.

Pay \$35 pp either: Directly to Bank
Account: 02-0820-0420043-00 (Friends of
Christchurch Botanic Gardens). Use "visit" as the reference; or EFTPOS at the Kiosk
10am - 3pm any day. Make sure the Kiosk copy of the receipt is marked "visit" and your name, so we can keep track of payments.



Friends

While the Museum undergoes its exciting redevelopment the Friends meet in The Kiosk on the third

Tuesday of the month for coffee at 10am, and a guest speaker from 10.15am.

July Guest Speaker: Rebecca Le Grice Tue 18 July 10am The lives of giraffe weevils

Discover the secret lives of Giraffe Weevils with Rebecca Le Grice. Rebecca will share the insider story on these endemic beetles. Most recognisable by their very long 'nose' known as a rostrum, it's used by females as a drill, and males as a weapon. Male weevils fight each other for access to the females, but when up against a disproportionately large competitor smaller males exhibit sneaking behaviour to win their mate. These beetles are amazing and intriguing! Free but bring a donation for coffee and coins for raffles.

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 12 & 26 July 10am
All welcome, BYO materials
The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Garden Club Reps

Wednesday 5 July 10am NEW TIME
The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Chrysanthemum Group

Sunday 23 July 1.30pm AGM 32 Haughey Drive. New Members or guests please contact Robyn on tel: (03) 942 9871

Green Thumbs Podcast

Monday 10 July 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>.

Fruit & Vegetable Group

Winter Recess

Monthly Tips & Tasks

with Michael Coulter

This month and the next are the coldest of the Winter so most of the work in the garden is restricted to the fine sunny days.

The lawns will not be growing so this is the time to get the lawnmowers serviced and sharpened.

I have now lifted all my tuberous begonias and once they are dried off will give them a light brush and check them over for any signs of black vine weevil or rot.

I've also lifted the chrysanthemum plants and put them in trays of potting mix ready for them to grow new shoots for taking cuttings in the Spring.

Dahlia tubers that have been lifted and stored need to be looked at and only the sound ones that have eyes kept. Next month is the start of the indoor Spring seed sowing so the preparation of the seed trays or pots by washing and disinfection should be done. I like to use fresh seed raising mix each year; any of last seasons unused mix I will spread on the garden.

Bare root fruit trees will now be on sale. These I like as I can see the root structure of the plants before I buy them and there is also plenty of choices for shape so I can choose for how I intend to grow them.

This is considered the pruning time for most fruit trees and roses which is best done on warm sunny days.

Winter treatments for pests and diseases following pruning is recommended.

The new seed catalogues will be available to look over and order but if you are like me it may be a good idea to check the seeds you already have and get rid of any that are past



their use by date, and order those that are needed.

We all have insecticides, fungicides and herbicides in the shed and along with fertilisers I suggest that you check them over so that you use up the opened packets first before buying more.

Good gardening, Michael Coulter

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

Christchurch Envirohub



Envirokids Meet at the Kiosk every Saturday from 10am-3pm www.facebook.com/CHCHEnvirokids

The **Environmental Calendar** also has environmental initiatives and activities. www.chchenvirohub.org/eco-calendar.

Canterbury Rose Society

Presentation on the History of Rose Gardens and Breeders in New Zealand Thursday 17 August 7.30pm at The Kiosk

This presentation is compiled by Haydon Foulds, President of the National Rose Society. The slide show features beautiful NZ-bred roses in all their glory! Anyone in any way interested in roses is welcome to attend. The flower photos are stunning and a treat to see. *Free, all welcome*.

Michael Brown, President CRS mandmbrown.nz@gmail.com

Chicken Manure Fundraiser

Saturdays 26 August & 2 September (if stocks last) 8.30am - 4pm

Support Christchurch South Rotary Club's community fundraising project.

12kg (approx.) bags - \$7 per bag

Available from the following sites:

Wairakei Road, close to Wairakei School

Innes Road, Malvern Park

Harewood Road, Nunweek Park

Ferrymead, McCormacks Bay Road

Thorrington, Colombo St (outside the Cashmere Club)

Cashmere Road, opposite Crighton Terrace

Pages & Woodham Road corner

Halswell Road, opposite Halswell Timber

Yaldhurst Road, west of Racecourse Road

THIS is so GOOD!!! ... Don't miss out on this great product!!!

CHS Garden Club Reps & Floral Design Clubs

Mid-Winter Get-together & Fundraiser

Wednesday 19 July 2023 10.30am - 3pm

Ahuriri Room - Tai Tapu Community Centre Rhodes Park, 722 Old Tai Tapu Road

You are invited to attend a
Mid-Winter Get-together & fundraiser
Includes: finger food, lunch and hot drinks
Plus Raffles & Sales Table

Christine Knight – Floral Demonstration *A Winter Wreath.....for Winter Cheer*

Kate Williams - The After Hours Stylist
A love of nature and a need to celebrate whateach season offers is at the heart of Kate
Williams' passion for creativity and styling.

Margaret Copland Guest Speaker Talented storyteller and historian Margaret will wear period costume and recreate the life of an extraordinary woman from Poland.

Mark Chandler *Guest Speaker* Gardener, Ohinetahi Governors Bay



Cost \$25 per person

RSVP no later than Saturday 15 July
(for catering purposes)
to Gail Scrivener gail.scrivener@xtra.co.nz

This is a CHS Garden Club Reps Initiative. Prepayment may be made to CHS Garden Club Reps Account: **03 1707 007 6089 000**

A portion of funds raised will be gifted to the CHS Teaching Garden at Avebury House

Floral Design

Wednesday 19 July 2pm
The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

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

Line. Either shallow dish or tall container using mainly branch material to form straight lines. Some flower material may be added for colour.

Interested? Contact: Ray King Tel: 021 037 0675



From the President

Kia ora CHS Members and welcome to newsletter number 300! That's certainly something to celebrate. Another thing to celebrate is volunteers! 18-24 June was Te Wiki Tūao ā-Motu – National Volunteer Week, which honours the collective energies and mana of volunteers in Aotearoa. Here at the CHS we are fortunate with the wonderful volunteers we have, but like many organisations need more!

With a range of exciting events coming up, we are going to need a hand with things such as writing up exhibition cards, helpers at the Kiosk, holding the fort out at the Botanical Expo and other events. Please contact the office if you can help. We offer coffee, biscuits, a warm Kiosk, and a very enjoyable time with fellow gardeners (not to mention a growing library).

CHS is heavily involved with Botanical Expo this year, presenting a comprehensive speaker and demonstration series running concurrently as the Expo. We also have the Daffodil Show which Members can enter. Please keep an eye out in the August and September newsletters for the programme.

Have your say on speakers – just a note to all of you that if you want to hear, or have heard a speaker that you feel is appropriate for the CHS, then let the office know. We are not running out of them (as it sounds) but let's be diverse in our range.

Well I must return to the heavy pruning in the garden, it has the compelling charm of Winter Sweet Bush (Chimonanthus praecox) in it. Keep warm and keep enjoying your gardens, be them, old, new or in-between!

Allan Paterson, CHS President

Ki Te Hoe! Kidsfest at the Gardens

1 - 16 July 10am - 3pm

The trail in the Botanic Gardens is about boat navigation/exploration. There are 5 trees/plants involved in boat making that the tamariki need to find. Then they are off to the Magnetic Observatory to use the compass then lastly to The Kiosk to make boats out of natural materials. *Bring the kids along!*

Winter Screening of Garden Inspiration

Monday 24 July 1.30pm at The Kiosk
Be inspired for the new growing season
Free members only event.
Tea and coffee provided.



Garden Life

Wednesday 5 August 1pm and 7pm Main Speaker: Ines Schonberger

Herbarium Manager at Maanaki Whenua -Landcare Research

A herbarium is sometimes referred to as a 'hortus siccus' (dry garden) or a plant morgue. What is believed to be the oldest herbarium specimen, held at Kew, is an olive branch discovered in 1885 in a tomb not later than the period of Ptolemy, which began in 305 BC.

The Allan Herbarium, named in 2001 to honour H.H Allan, is New Zealand's largest collection of dried plants, with over 700,000 specimens. It specialises in indigenous and exotic plants of the New Zealand and Pacific regions, and contains the largest collections from the Subantarctic islands of the Pacific

and Atlantic oceans.

Users of the herbarium include amateur and professional botanists, students, ecologists, biosecurity officers and the general public. Desks, microscopes, and photography and scanning equipment are available and everyone is welcome to visit and use the facilities.

Mini Speaker: Rachel Oliver Orchards in Schools

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.

Avebury House Working Bee

Saturday 29 July 10am -12pm

Volunteers are needed for the next stage of the CHS Teaching Garden at Avebury House. We will be concentrating on soil levelling. If you can help please email Sonja on office@chsgardens.co.nz The event is dependent on ground conditions so please check our facebook event page for updates or text the CHS mobile: 021 056 7712.

CHS Minute Taker

Tuesdays: 1 August & 5 September 4 - 6.30pm We require a temporary minute taker for our August & September Board Meetings. This is a paid role. If you can help please call or email Sonja on office@chsgardens.co.nz
Tel: (03) 366 6937

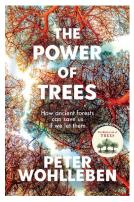
Scorpio Books

The Power of Trees: How ancient forests can save us if we let them

Peter Wohlleben ISBN: 9781760643621 | \$40.00

The Power of Trees is the followup to German forester Peter Wohlleben's well-loved *The*

Hidden Life of Trees. With passion and wonder, Wohlleben takes us on a journey into the science, beauty, function, and tenuous future of ancient forests. He argues that we must understand forests as more than just a collection of trees, diving deep into the complex ecosystems of ancient forests, and exploring their role in cooling their environments. The Power of Trees is a sobering critique of current forestry management practices, and a compelling argument for leaving ancient forests alone to let them thrive, and provide the planet with the help it needs.



Full of fascinating insights, and backed with well-researched, clearly communicated science, *The Power of Trees* is a must-read for anyone who recognises the specific magic of being in a wild and ancient forest, and wants to learn more about trees and their function in a warming climate. While not necessarily an easy read, it is an important one - and one you'll want to pass on to the

gardeners, growers, and nature-enthusiasts in your life as soon as you reach the last page.

Many thanks to Scorpio Books for this review.

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.

www.scorpiobooks.co.nz



Botanical Expo 2023

Spring is Blooming

Sat 16 September 1-5pm **Sun 17** 10am-4pm

A fun, affordable event for gardeners and plant lovers. Specialists will love the rare alpines, bulbs and perennials. Super stalls to buy those impossible-to-find treasures. Home vegetable growers will love the workshops. Hard-to-find gardening books. Chat to experts, then enjoy the lovely onsite pop-up cafe. Not to be missed is the CHS Daffodil Show, full of exquisite and rare blooms.

Only \$5 entry

Lincoln Events Centre, 15 Meijer Drive, Lincoln. Plenty of parking.