



BALCONY DWELLERS

Kicks off Saturday 16 March

Embark on a journey of sustainable cultivation from the comfort of your balcony!

With a focus on environmentally conscious practices, discover the joy of cultivating your own greens, herbs and fruit, making the most of every centimetre of your outdoor sanctuary.

Monthly, third Saturday of the Month at Ōtakaro Orchard 10am – 12pm \$20 (\$25 Non-Members)
[Book Now](#)



Monthly Tips & Tasks

with Michael Coulter

March signals the start of the change of seasons from Summer to Autumn. As the days become shorter, plant growth slows down, and the tasks around the garden turn towards preparing for the Winter ahead. Watering is needed as we are still in need of rain to keep up good soil moisture for growth and the maturing of fruit and vegetables.

Pip fruits will be ready for harvesting this month, as will the last of the stone fruit. The right time to pick apples is a question that I often get asked. What I do is note when I picked the fruit last year, then cut a fruit in half and look at the pips inside. If they are brown, then I will pick them. Remember that pip fruit will continue to ripen after they are picked, so if you are going to store them, it is better to pick them just before they are fully ripe.

Many of the pests and diseases of our plants are most prevalent now, so a timely treatment after fruit is picked will help to reduce any carryover of these problems to the next season. Citrus plants can have their last feed of the season; this will help the developing fruit. Also, look for signs of scale and whitefly, which cause the black mould on the leaves, and treat with conquer oil or an insecticide. The flower garden will still be in full bloom with Summer flowers. Keep dead heading

as the Autumn plants gradually take over. Spring bulbs are available in retail outlets and mail order; only buy those that are firm and healthy and plant from now on. The bulbs that I lifted and stored have been sorted out and cleaned up. I kept only the very best for planting. Some have been planted into pots to flower early in the greenhouse, providing colour in the Winter. The rest will be planted into pots and placed around the terrace and the front door for a Spring display.

The perennial primulas that I divided up last month are growing well and will be ready for planting in April. The Dahlias that I grew in pots have been great, putting on a fantastic show. Only now are they showing signs of mildew, which I will treat when I spray my show Chrysanthemums, which are just forming flower buds now.

This month is the harvest time for much of our fruit and vegetable crops, giving us the opportunity to judge our success and decide what we could do better.

Enjoy the time in the garden, Michael Coulter

The CHS are working with the Southern Seed Exchange (SSE) to bring you a range of fabulous seed packs, for big and small gardens alike. Take a look [here](#).

GARDEN LIFE MARCH

Sarah Mankelow

*Regenerating the red zone
Projects, planting & possibilities
Wednesday 6 March 1pm
(Recorded session played at 7pm)*



There is enormous potential to transform the Ōtakaro Avon River Corridor into the jewel in Christchurch's crown, creating a place for residents and visitors to explore, play, connect and learn. At 602 hectares, the Ōtakaro Avon River Corridor regeneration area is three-and-a-half times larger than Hagley Park. Hear about the projects that are getting underway this year, including nearly 30,000 natives ready to be put in the ground, and the ways you can get involved. But it's not just the river corridor, our red zone team also looks after Southshore, Brooklands and the Port Hills properties as well – and there's moves afoot in those spaces too! These are inter-generational projects that may take 30-50 years to reach fruition – but what a city we will have! Can you imagine!

Mini Speaker - Kate Gislason

Environmental Education

Kate is an environmental enthusiast hailing from the US. She has been involved in sustainability and waste minimisation throughout her youth, forming environmental clubs at both universities she attended. Her passion for the environment and educating has put her in different positions including her role as Envirokids Facilitator. Kate has recently joined us as our Bot Tots Facilitator.

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

World Wildlife Day
Monday 4 March

Seaweek
Under the Sea
Monday 11 March

BOT TOTS
March
10am - 11.30am

Global Recycling Day
Recycling Materials
Monday 18 March

All About Leaves
Monday 25 March

The Kiosk
Canterbury Horticultural Society

Working Bee at CHS Ornamental Garden

Saturday 13 April 10am - 12pm

9 Evelyn Cousins Avenue, Richmond

Email office@chsgardens.co.nz if you can help or just show up on the day! Bring gumboots, gardening gloves, sun-hat. Shared morning tea.

Keep an eye on the [Facebook event link](#)

Kiosk Helpers Needed

Enjoy your Easter eggs at the Kiosk!

We need a couple of Kiosk helpers to cover staff on Easter Monday (1 April 2024). Let us know if you're happy to spend a few hours in the lovely Kiosk. Bring your Easter eggs and enjoy tea and coffee on us. Comfy couches and loads of gardening books.

\$10 grocery voucher koha for your efforts.

Email or call Sonja 366 6937

office@chsgardens.co.nz



Bot Tots

Mondays 10 - 11.30am (term time only)
Gardening and nature themed activities for preschoolers. Drop-in during school term time (\$2 koha per tamariki). [Facebook Page](#)

Watercolour Painting

Wednesday 13 & 27 March 10am

All welcome, BYO materials
The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Chrysanthemum Group

Saturday 16 March 1.30pm
Nelson's Home, Greens Road
Disbudding, General cultural notes, pest control. Housing of Late's, Problem solving and questions. New Members welcome.
Contact: **Robyn Purcell** tel: (03) 942 9871

Chrysanthemum Show

Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 April 10am - 4pm
The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Floral Design

Wednesday 20 March 2pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

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

Interested? Contact: Ray King

Tel: 021 037 0675

[See the latest arrangements online](#)

Christchurch Envirohub

Christchurch Envirohub are our partners in the Kiosk. Reach out to the team anytime to know more.

Stay connected with Envirohub with the following links:

[Eco Events Calendar](#), [Map and Directory](#) and [Facebook page](#) are valuable resources to keep you connected with environmental happiness in Ōtautahi.

Envirokids meet at the Kiosk every Saturday from 10am - 1pm for FREE activities.

December's programme has a sustainable gift wrapping workshop which looks like a great one to get into the festive season!

Check out their programme:

[@CHCHEnvirokids](#)

RIDE THE COASTAL PATHWAY

Learn about the bird life of our estuary, the history of the coastal pathway, and why the area was so important for Māori.



FRIDAY 1 MARCH 2024
START AT 5:30PM
REGISTER HERE:

MEETING POINT :
SCOTT PARK
18 MAIN ROAD
MOUNT PLEASANT,
CHRISTCHURCH 8081



- BIRD WATCHING
- GUEST SPEAKERS
- SPOT PRIZES

Green Drinks

AT THE CLIMATE ACTION CAMPUS

MARCH 21ST 2024
180 AVONSIDE DRIVE
6PM - 8PM

DRINKS, FREE PIZZA, AND MINGLING!
FREE ENTRY!

COMMUNITY INDOOR PLANT SALE

A chance to buy or sell indoor plants. No stall hire fee - as 25% of profits of each stall to go to Christchurch Envirohub

March 9th, 2024

WHERE: The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens
WHEN: Saturday March 9th from 3-4:30 pm

RSVP TO SELL



Be sure to secure your stall soon!



Free Guided Walks of the Botanic Gardens

Join a knowledgeable guide every day at **1:30pm** from October through April for a leisurely 45-60 minute stroll (unless otherwise specified). Meet at the CHS Kiosk.

Fri 1 Prince of Plants – the noble palm

Sat 2 NZ Gardens – NZ natives

Sun 3 Notable Trees

Mon 4 Plant Hunters – plants & their stories

Tue 5 Curious Conifers – Pinetum walk

Wed 6 General Interest Walk (90 mins)

Thu 7 NZ Gardens – NZ Natives

Fri 8 Notable Trees

Sat 9 General Interest Walk (90 mins)

Sun 10 General Interest Walk (90 mins)

Mon 11 Conservatories

Tue 12 NZ Gardens – NZ Natives

Wed 13 Herbaceous Border

Thu 14 General Interest Walk (90 mins)

Fri 15 Notable Trees

View the full schedule of walks online

www.friendschchbotanicgardens.org.nz

Mona Vale - Saturday Guided Walks

Meet at the Rose Garden by the Eros statue for a 90 min walk. **9, 16, 30 March 1.30pm**

Guest Speaker - Sunday 17 March 4pm

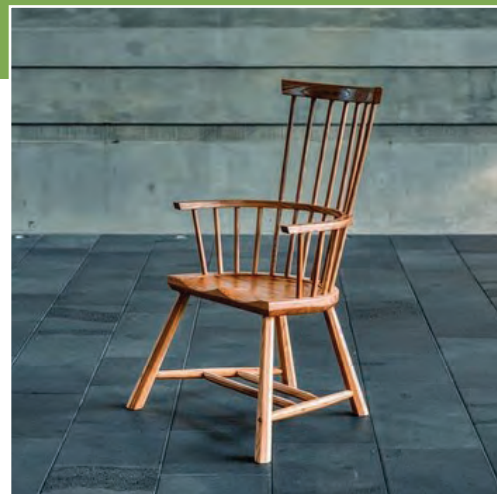
Chris Beardsley, manager of the Plant Variety Rights Office, will be speaking on the subject of Plant Variety Protection and intellectual property for plants.

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Fundraiser

As a result of the ongoing successful fund raising, much of it from the plant sales, we have decided to help fund another horticultural trainee. The previous trainee, Breanna Hill, who received funding for her three year training from the generous bequest of Helen Irvine, has completed her apprenticeship and is now working in the Conservatories. The Friends feel that helping to sponsor another trainee is one of the most effective ways of supporting the Gardens. If you know anyone who would like to contribute to this fund, we would love to hear from them.

As a kick start to this fundraising, we have



most generously been given a beautiful handmade Welsh stick chair made by David Laird Chairbler.

His chairs are made from timber which is either from an end of life tree, or from trees which have been damaged by storms. It is going to be sold by silent auction this month.

The chair will be on display in the Visitor Centre in the Gardens, so please do go and have a look and tell your friends and family about it! As well as being a beautifully crafted piece of furniture it is also very comfortable to sit in!

Green Thumbs Podcast

Monday 11 March 9am

Big thanks to our long serving green thumb, **Lorraine Campbell** who is hanging up the mic after many years on the show. Taking her place is CHS Member, Amy Wilson. Catch up with Amy and Ray on **Plains FM 96.9** as they chat to interesting folk from the gardening world. If you miss a session you can find the recordings on the [CHS website](#).

Fruit & Vegetable Group

Wednesday 27 March 7pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Admission is free to CHS members \$5 Non-Members. *Includes a cuppa and biscuit.*

Garden Club Reps

Wednesday 6 March 10.30am

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Christchurch Peony Club

Propagation and Grafting Workshop

Monday 4 March 7pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Spring and Autumn are the two best times to propagate peonies so come and learn about the different methods of propagating peonies in time to use this knowledge in your garden!

The evening will include a talk with videos and live demonstrations. *\$10 Non-Members*



Friends of Canterbury Museum support the work of the Museum by raising funds and hosting regular coffee mornings to hear curators, scientists, historians and others talk about the Museum collection and other topics of interest.

Tuesday 19 March 10am

Paul Scofield, Senior Curator Natural History, Canterbury Museum

New Research on the Giant Marine Reptiles of Northern Canterbury

Discover the latest research on the awe-inspiring giant marine reptiles of Northern Canterbury, dating back 100 million years. Dr. Scofield will share insights into the globally significant fossil findings and discuss the fascinating work he and UC student, George Young are undertaking to describe

this remarkable ancient fauna. Don't miss this unique opportunity to delve into the prehistoric wonders of our region!

Free, bring coins for raffles.



Thursday 21 March 7.30pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Claire Gilroy on David Austin Roses

Claire will cover their history, culture, and what new varieties are available for 2024. *Everyone is welcome.*

Richmond Gala 2024

Saturday 23 March 10am-2pm

Live entertainment, fabulous food vendors, and of course Avebury's famous Devonshire Tea in the House!

Annual General Meeting

The CHS AGM will take place on **Wednesday 10 April at 7pm** at the Kiosk (with Zoom facility to be advised).

Nominations are being called for President, Vice President and (4-7) Board Members. Nominations and items of general business and any notice of motion must be received at the CHS Office by **Wednesday 27 March** with confirmation in writing from the nominated member.

Nominations must be signed by two Financial members and any notice of motion must be signed by two Financial/Honorary Life Members.

The Agenda, President's Report, Annual Accounts and Auditor's Report will be available from the CHS Office 7 days prior to and at the meeting.

You can now find voting documents on our website. www.chsgardens.co.nz/agm

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

April

Wednesday 3 April 1pm

(Recorded session played at 7pm)

Josie Martin, *The Artist and the Giant*

Josie is a qualified Horticulturist and Fellow of The Royal New Zealand Institute of Horticulture, a painter, sculptor and ceramicist. Josie's unique home, The Giant's House, is a grand historic residence built in 1881 and situated in the historic French township of Akaroa. Her artists garden has featured on "Maggies Garden Show", Australian TV, the "NZ Gardener" the NZ House and Garden and in "Next" Magazine. Facebook Event: [Facebook Event](#)

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.



Sale Merchandise

These lovely items were designed to commemorate the 160th anniversary of CHS. With only a few left, we've made them available online at a special price. Don't miss out on the opportunity to own a piece of history – our tea towels are now \$18 (originally \$30), and tote bags are now \$8.50 (previously \$15). Act fast to snag these fantastic deals!

www.chsgardens.co.nz/shop



Scorpio Books

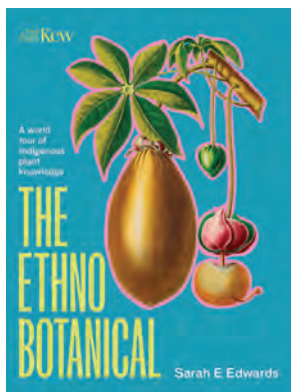
The Ethnobotanical:
A world tour of Indigenous
plant knowledge

by Sarah E Edwards

ISBN: 9781529427400 | \$75

'Ethnobotany' is an interdisciplinary field of study, using both social and natural sciences to explore the relationships between people and plants across cultures. Published in partnership with the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, this striking, large format book introduces us to this way of understanding plants.

Organised by region, The Ethnobotanical covers a diverse range of plants – from witch hazel to cacao, from ashwagandha to blue gum – diving deep into their uses by indigenous and local cultures across time in health, spirituality, food, shelter, and many more areas besides. Woven into



these stories are current day uses along with full colour illustrations, mostly archival. Written in informed and accessible prose, this book is full of curious and little-known social history, and is very easy to dip in and out of.

As the author argues in her introduction, it is crucial now more than ever that we understand the profound, deep, and ancient connection humanity has to the plants that surround us. This fascinating book is a brilliant, timely introduction to those connections, and will inspire you to think more deeply about the history and impact of the plants we grow, and the plants we live with.

Many thanks to Scorpio Books for this review.

CHS Members enjoy a 10% discount at Scorpio Books & Telling Tales

www.scorpiobooks.co.nz

The David Bell Gold Medal

The National Daffodil Society of New Zealand has awarded Dave Adams the prestigious David Bell Gold Medal for services to this beautiful bloom and the New Zealand Alpine Garden Society.

His work on miniatures have particular appeal to NZAGs members who love to grow these in rock gardens and troughs. Dave has hybridised many successful cultivars and 'Little Kiwi' is probably most famous. It is in commercial production in Holland.

The March bulletin of NZAGs will feature bulbs and Dave's work hybridising and producing winners at Templeton Daffodils.

Published in the February edition of NZAGS magazine.

Many thanks to Alan Jolliffe for sharing this great news with us!