



Have you
seen the amazing
planters at the
Kiosk!

BALCONY DWELLERS

Next Session Saturday 18 May

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

GARDEN LIFE APRIL Kate Gislason

A Life Without Waste

Wednesday 1 May 1pm & 5.30pm



A dedicated advocate for waste minimization, Kate Gislason currently serves as the owner/director of Without Waste, a pioneering company specialising in waste reduction solutions for events and businesses.

Her expertise spans a diverse spectrum, encompassing up-cycling initiatives, community outreach and education, event waste management, and childhood environmental programmes.

Kate will share her wealth of knowledge, shedding light on fundamental recycling practices, unpacking recent standardisation rules in New Zealand's kerbside bins, and drawing insights from her extensive tenure in the U.S. waste industry. Moreover, attendees can anticipate gaining invaluable zero-waste strategies and insights, distilled from Kate's hands-on experience and commitment to sustainability. This session promises to be an enlightening discourse, offering actionable insights and practical tips for individuals and organisations seeking to minimize their environmental footprint. Join us as we delve into the forefront of waste reduction efforts with Kate Gislason.

Mini Speaker: Dave Adams & Anne Gane
Edible and Sustainable Garden Awards
Dave and Anne will share highlights from the participating gardens.

The Kiosk, Botanic Gardens
\$5 (Non-Members: \$10) Pay on the door
Tea, coffee and biscuits afternoon
Cheese, crackers and fruit punch evening

Create a gorgeous ceramic leaf plate

Join ceramicist Jane McCulla for a hands on workshop at The Kiosk. Learn to imprint botanical textures on clay, hand-build a plate, add a foot ring, and smooth edges. Jane handles glazing and firing. Two weeks later, collect your glazed leaf plate, perfect for daily use.

Tuesday 4 June 10am – 12.30pm or
Sunday 9 June 1pm – 3.30pm

\$52 (\$58 Non-Members)

[Book now](#)



BOTANICAL PLATE
Workshop

perfect for
Mother's day

Monthly Tips & Tasks

with Michael Coulter

May is the cleanup month in the garden, as the leaves are nearing the end of falling and most of the summer-flowering perennials have finished.

Spring bulbs need to be finished being planted, and dahlias and tuberous begonias can now be lifted for the Winter.

Lawns are still growing, and good weed and moss control can be achieved now before the colder weather stops grass growth.

Garden Beds: Removing the died-off leaves from around plants like hostas will help reduce the overwintering of slug and snail eggs that hatch in the spring to eat holes in the new leaves.

Fruit Trees: Once the trees have lost all their leaves they can be treated with the start of the Winter spray program (copper and conquer oil).

Chrysanthemums and other perennials will

be finishing their flowering and should be cut back by 2/3 and labelled for their colour (or name if known), so that only the cultivars that you like are kept or divided.

Garlic: Last year, I planted garlic in May and harvested it after Christmas, resulting in a plentiful crop. I plan to repeat this timing for planting again, as I encountered no rust on the plants until they were ready to harvest.

Greenhouse: After harvesting all greenhouse crops, remove plant residue, thoroughly clean the greenhouse, and prepare for the Spring growing cycle. Pay extra attention to areas along foundations and corners, as pests and diseases tend to overwinter there. Protect tender plants from frost by relocating them to sheltered spots or providing overhead protection. Regularly check stored fruit and vegetable crops throughout Winter to ensure they remain firm and sound.

Happy gardening! Michael Coulter



NTA
National Trade Academy
developing future careers

**HORTICULTURE
PLANT PROPAGATION
STARTING LATE MAY**

PROGRAMME INFORMATION
Our part time Plant Propagation course is designed for people who wish to learn how to successfully propagate and apply knowledge of plant and soil science to the identification, selection and growing of plants. Weekend field days at McLeans Island & evening classes in the city.

CONTACT US
03 360 2192 marketing@nta.co.nz www.nta.co.nz
Course Costs \$500 - minimum number of students required



NTA
National Trade Academy
developing future careers

**NEW ZEALAND CERTIFICATE IN
HORTICULTURE
(NURSERY PRODUCTION)
LEVEL 3**

COURSE START DATE: 06/05/2024

CONTACT US NOW
marketing@nta.co.nz
www.nta.co.nz

From the Manager: Frost!

Jack Frost is coming to your town. You never know he might pop around to your place. When he gets there he will lay his sparking white coat down on the ground. Then he will climb onto your roof to gaze at the clear night sky and the bright stars. As the sun warms the ground he will be gone taking his coat with him.

The dormant spell is cast. Perennials go to sleep, pests and diseases die. In some plants like parsnips the sugar level increases and improves the flavour. While the perennials appear to be sleeping they are quite happily waiting for spring to warm the ground and wake them up. It is a good time to reassess your planting plan and move things around. Leaving the dead heads on the plant protects the crowns where new shoots will form. Dead heads can look so beautiful with a touch of frost. I try to leave them for as long as possible. Sedum "Autumn Joy" is particularly pretty in the frost.

Winter will be here before we know it so make the most of the good days to tidy up and mulch down the garden.

Kind wishes, **Sonja Tschepp**



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.

Our River is on Life Support: Is the Red Zone the Saviour?

Hayley Guglietta, Network Manager at Avon Ōtākaro Network

Thursday 16 May 6-8pm

Smoke 'n' Barrel, 616 Ferry Road, Woolston

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](#)

Fruit & Vegetable Group

Wednesday 29 May 7pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

As the meeting in May coincides with the Annual General Meeting (AGM), I encourage you to put on your thinking caps and come prepared with suggestions for learning topics. Whether it's challenges you've encountered in your garden or ideas for improving the group's activities, let's brainstorm together to ensure we put our

best foot forward. If anyone is interested in sharing their knowledge about growing, whether it's through a demonstration or discussion, please get in touch. See you all in May! \$5 Non-Members. *Includes a cuppa and biscuit.*

Watercolour Painting

Wednesday 8 & 22 May 10am

All welcome, BYO materials

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Chrysanthemum Group

Saturday 4 & Sunday 5 May

National Show, Dunedin

Our Chrysanthemum group will be heading south to enjoy the South Island National Chrysanthemum Show in conjunction with Dunedin Horticultural Society Autumn Show at the St Kilda Bowling Club.

New Members welcome.

Contact: **Robyn Purcell** tel: (03) 942 9871

Plant of the Month

Citrus (lemons, oranges, grapefruit, mandarins, limes, and kumquats) are ideal for growing at home in the garden or in pots.



They do best in a warm, sunny position sheltered from the wind and frost.

The best time to plant citrus is in Spring or early Summer or in Autumn. All citrus varieties are self-fertile so they can be planted alone, and fruit will be produced.

Take care when planting seedless varieties (like Mandarin Miho) with other citrus trees as they can form seeds if crossed pollinated

Citrus are acid loving. They require a well-aerated, free draining soil that is high in organic matter. If your soil site is damp, try digging through some compost or garden

mix. If it is clay based add gypsum to help break up the soil. Mulch is great for citrus. Mulch holds moisture and builds humus. Woodchips or peas straw is good but keep it away from the trunk.

Water deeply once or twice a week depending on weather conditions. During the growing, flowering, and fruiting season, feed with citrus and fruit food. Throughout the year use seaweed concentrate.

Although citrus is easy to grow, they can develop problems. To keep your citrus healthy, try a regular spraying program. Using GroSafe Enspray 99 or Yates Nature's Way on the tops and bottoms of the leaves each month will keep away insects and protect your citrus plant.

CHS Members enjoy a 15% discount at Portstone Garden Centre

www.portstone.co.nz



[See more photos online](#)



Autumn Nursery Tidy Up - 'Select and Collect' plant sales to support the Gardens

The Friends are tidying up their nursery in preparation for Winter and making space for new plants for the Spring. They have some healthy, well-grown plants in good condition that are getting root bound and would be better in the ground soon, rather than holding through to Spring.

Plants available include:

- Herbaceous perennials (1 litre pots)
- Natives suitable for home gardens or revegetation projects (1 - 2.5 litre pots)
- Trees, shrubs, sedges, grasses and groundcovers

Download the order form and plant list from: www.friendschchbotanicgardens.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Friends-Order-Form-and-Plant-Lists.pdf

Complete and return by email, or just email us with the names/numbers of the plants you

want friendsofthegardens@gmail.com. Make sure that you include your name and phone no.

Orders close: Friday 3 May

Pick up: Saturday 4 May 10.30am - 2pm at the Kiosk (BYO bag or box) (If this doesn't suit we can make another arrangement for pickup)



Costs:

- Trees, shrubs, groundcovers: **\$5 per plant**
- Herbaceous perennials: **\$10 for 3, \$4ea**

Orders are being processed as they arrive, the Friends will confirm with you whether they still have the plants you want in stock.

Please do not pay until you have confirmation.



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 21 May 10am at The Kiosk
Speaker to be confirmed
Free, bring coins for raffles.



Canterbury Rose Society Meeting
Thursday 16 May 7pm at The Kiosk

The programme will be the Annual General Meeting of Members followed by a presentation and talk on Chrysanthemums, some of which will be available to purchase. There are many types and varieties of fascinating Chrysanthemums and everybody is most welcome to the meeting. *Bring cash for plant purchases*

Floral Design

Wednesday 15 May 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](#)

Green Thumbs Podcast

Monday 13 & 27 May 9am

Plains FM 96.9 the [CHS website](#).

Green Thumbs airs twice monthly! Every second Monday, Ray and Amy engage with fellow green thumbs in Canterbury, sharing insights into our vibrant gardening community. On the fourth Monday of each month, they delve into gardening books, inspiring listeners to expand their libraries or visit local ones.

Scheduled for May 13 is an interview with **Whānau Whanake**, offering Garden to Plate services to over 100 households, boasting 20 vegetables and 4 tunnel houses. They've distributed nearly 750 seedlings!

On May 27, they review Matt Morris' book on Bob Crowder, NZ's organic gardening pioneer, and discuss Niva and Yotam Kay's *The Abundant Garden*.

Tune in to CHS Green Thumbs on Plains FM 96.9!

Congratulations to our Chrysanthemum Growers

Champion Vase and Incurred (David Higgins)
Exhibited by D & R Purcell (image right)



Reserve Champion and Anemone (Twinkle) Exhibited by B Glassey

Intermediate Decorative(Carl Hanson)
Exhibited by C Robb

Reflex Decorative (Xenia Noelle)
Exhibited by M & S Coulter

Fantasy (Chesapeake)
Exhibited by M & S Coulter

Container Grown (Yellow Gumdrops)
Exhibited by M & S Coulter



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).

We have a fabulous line up for May

Mon 6: Flowers

Mon 13: Nature Journals

Mon 20: herbs

Mon 27: Plant Paint Brushes and Wands

[Facebook Page](#)

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

Garden Life June

Wednesday 5 June 1pm

Main Speaker: Carolyn Collins
Phone photos can be phenomenal!!

I'm a very late bloomer in the photographic sense, catching the photography bug only around 10 years ago in my late 60s. I lament the lost years when I could have been enjoying experimenting with all these genres that I love so much. As my Instagram says...
"so many images to take, so little time."

Recently I've discovered that phone cameras take excellent photos and all kinds of effects can be used to make them look as though they were taken on an expensive camera. My phone is not new nor expensive so with a few tricks, you too, can do this. One free app which I'll speak about is Snapseed.

Please install this on your phone, so that we can practice tips together. If you have any blooms/small houseplants, please bring them to practice on.

Disclaimer: I take no responsibility for you becoming as addicted as I am.

Mini Speaker: The Tree People Winter Tree Pruning

Ra and Jarrod will do a short demo and discussion on Winter pruning. Please **email your questions and any problems (with photos) to raoni@thetreepeople.nz**

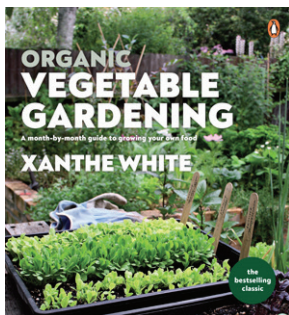
In June & July Garden Life will take a break from evening sessions, returning in August with lots of new ideas for Spring! From August onwards the evening sessions will run at 5.30pm.

Scorpio Books

Books for Gardeners

Organic Vegetable Gardening: A month-by-month guide to growing your own food

by Xanthe White
[Pre order online](#) | \$45



The expert guide to growing your own vegetables organically in New Zealand.

In this revised bestseller, expert landscape designer Xanthe White takes readers by the hand and walks them from backyard bomb-site to productive vegetable garden in a single year. White's month-by-month guide demystifies organic gardening and offers invaluable advice on seed-raising, planting, composting, mulching, chemical-free pest and disease control, companion planting, soil rotation, essential varieties and much more. This inspirational and practical guide is perfect both for beginners who want to grow their own food and seasoned gardeners looking for new ideas.

The only book you'll ever need for delicious vegetables from garden to table.

Working Bee at CHS Ornamental Garden

Saturday 11 May 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. [Facebook event link](#)

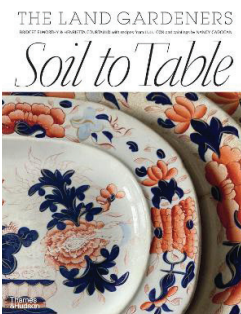
Mother's Day solved

We still have a few 160th commemorative items left. The hessian bags look lovely filled with plants and the Friends have a great range in their plant stand - all \$7 each. Tea towels \$18 (were \$30). Tote bags: \$8.50 (were \$15).

www.chsgardens.co.nz/shop

Soil to Table: The Land Gardeners

by Bridget Elworthy & Henrietta Courtauld
[Purchase online](#) | \$89.99 **on sale for \$69.99**



The Land Gardeners – Bridget Elworthy and Henrietta Courtauld – are gardeners and healthy soil researchers and advocates based in the UK. Their first book, *Cut Flowers*, focused on the role of healthy soil in growing beautiful blooms. *Soil to Table* is a stunning follow-up, combining their passion for soil science and health with a growing desire to see their research used in the food and farming space.

This book is really something special. Practical, inspirational, warm, and incredibly beautiful, it is an absolute treasure. Scorpio reviewed this last year. Read the full review [here](#). Thanks to Scorpio Books for these reviews.

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

www.scorpiobooks.co.nz

