



Have you  
seen the amazing  
planters at the  
Kiosk!

# BALCONY DWELLERS

Next Session Saturday 15 June

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 JUNE Carolyn Collins

Phone photos can be phenomenal!!

Wednesday 5 June 1pm



## Monthly Tips & Tasks with Michael Coulter

the grapes and other fruit trees before pruning to ensure a thorough cleanup around the drip line, removing any old leaves that might carry disease or pests.

The greenhouse is now a major focus. I'm clearing out unwanted plants, pots, and plastic trays, and washing and disinfecting paths, walls, and the roof in preparation for the growing season. With the leaf fall and cutting back of flowering plants,

we have plenty of material for compost. Good compost requires the right ratio of carbon to nitrogen and adequate moisture. Since I don't have room for compost, I use the green bin for green waste suitable for composting, while non-compostable waste goes in the red bin.

Although we don't typically think about water conservation in Winter, it's worth considering how to collect Winter rains for use in the greenhouse or garden in the coming season. I collect rainwater from my greenhouse roof and could collect more with increased storage capacity. Just 25mm of rain fills one of my 400-litre tanks (I have two).

All pruning and other work is best done on warmer, sunny days to prevent the spread of diseases and to keep warm.

**Happy gardening!** Michael Coulter

A very late bloomer in the photographic sense, Carolyn caught the photography bug only around 10 years ago in her late 60s. She lamented the lost years when she could have been enjoying experimenting with all these genres that she loved so

much. As her Instagram said...  
*"so many images to take, so little time."*



Recently, Carolyn 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. Her phone was not new nor expensive, so with a few tricks, anyone could do this too. Carolyn recommends the free app, Snapseed. She encourages you to install it before Garden Life so you can practice tips together. If you have any blooms or small houseplants, bring them along to practice on!

*Disclaimer:* Carolyn takes no responsibility for others becoming as addicted as she is!

**Mini Speaker:** *The Tree People - Winter Tree Pruning*

Ra and Jarred will do a short demonstration and discussion on Winter pruning. Please email your questions and any problems (with photos) to: [raoni@thetreepeople.nz](mailto:raoni@thetreepeople.nz)

**The Kiosk, Botanic Gardens**  
\$5 (Non-Members: \$10) Pay on the door  
Includes tea, coffee and biscuits.



This year, Winter has arrived earlier than usual with frosty days and snow in May. Although we haven't had the usual amount of rain, it remains to be seen what the rest of the Winter will bring. I've prepared my chrysanthemums, begonias, and dahlias for Winter by either lifting them or moving their pots into the greenhouse, keeping only those I plan to use next season.

The first Winter treatments for the fruit trees have been applied, and I'll start pruning soon. The lawns appear to have stopped growing, and the weed and poa grass treatment I applied six weeks ago has been very effective. Remember not to cut the grass too low and, if possible, avoid walking on frozen grass to prevent damage.

Plants susceptible to frost damage should be covered with frost cloth. We've already had a hard frost that damaged some typically hardy plants, so when in doubt, cover them up. I wait until all the leaves have fallen off



Our radio programme is on air every two weeks! Fortnightly on Mondays at 9am, we chat to fellow green thumbs in Canterbury to help you discover more about our wonderful gardening community, followed by gardening book reviews to see if we can entice you to add more to your bookshelves (or visit your local library!).

Coming up on **Monday 10 June** we chat to local environmentalist and Eco-champion, Dave Bryce. With an incredible property up in Redcliffs (photos right), Dave has a wealth of experience to draw on when it comes to creating a truly diverse and sustainable garden.

On **Monday 24 June** we will be reviewing our next couple of books. First up is *Resilient Garden: Sustainable gardening for a changing climate* by Tom Massey, followed by a look at *The Joy of Gardening* by one of New Zealand's favourite gardeners, Lynda Hallinan.

Listen to Amy and Ray, CHS Green Thumbs, on Plains FM 96.9

[www.chsgardens.co.nz/latest-podcasts-radio-stories](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz/latest-podcasts-radio-stories)



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.

**Green Drinks: Riverlution - What role do we play in Shaping a Climate Resilient Future?**

**Morgane Honoré:** Operations Manager, Riverlution & Richmond Community Garden

**Thursday 20 June 6-8pm**

Cascade Bar & Courtyard, 219 High Street

**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:

[@CHCCHEnvirokids](#)

## Watercolour Painting

**Wednesday 12, 26 June 10am**

All welcome, BYO materials  
The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens



## Floral Design

**Wednesday 19 June 1pm**

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens  
The group is studying the upright styles of Ikebana under the tutoring of Ray King. This month the design focuses on using greenery only. Bring along different shaped containers to try.

Contact: **Ray King** tel: 021 037 0675

[See the latest arrangements online](#)

## Garden Club Reps

**Wednesday 5 June 10.30am**

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

## Fruit & Vegetable Group

**Winter Recess**



## \$5 Plant Weekend prior to Winter Closure

Kings Birthday Weekend

**Saturday 1 - Monday 3 June**

In preparation for their winter closure (4 June - 27 July), all plants in the Friends' stall will be \$5 during the holiday weekend. This includes native shrubs and grasses, herbaceous perennials, and more.

*All proceeds from plant sales go to support the Christchurch Botanic Gardens.*

## Winter Talk Series 2024

**Gardening on the Wild Side**

**Friday 21 June 10.30am**, The Kiosk

Landscape designer Jill Simpson will tell us the story of her world famous garden at Fisherman's Bay on Bank's Peninsula.



Since 2005 Jill has gradually expanded the garden to over two hectares of spectacular planting, a beautifully curated mix of locally sourced native plants and exotics. Join us at the Kiosk for an illustrated talk on the creation of this wonderful garden.

*\$5 Members and CHS Members*

*\$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 18 June 10am at The Kiosk**

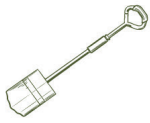
**Julia Bradshaw** - Senior Curator Human History, Canterbury Museum

With a BSc in geography, Julia began her museum career in 1993 at the Lakes District Museum. She later became Director of Hokitika Museum (2000-2017). As Senior Curator Human History, Julia researches Chinese-European marriages and women in NZ's goldfields. She has published four books and presented at numerous conferences.

**Free, bring coins for raffles.**



# PORTSTONE GARDEN CENTRE'S ROSE CARE



## Planting Instructions:

Dig a hole large enough to give your rose plenty of room. Put in a slow release fertiliser at bottom of the hole and place compost/soil on top. Place your rose in so the graft or bud union sits level on the ground and does not get buried. Fill hole with compost/soil and tread down firmly. A bucket full of water at planting time, then water every few days for a month.



## Watering Recommendations:

Roses thrive with generous watering. A steady trickle of water from a hose at the base of the plant every ten days ensures thorough hydration without wetting the foliage excessively, which can lead to disease.



## Winter Pruning Guidelines for Established Roses:

Remove any thin, weak, or dead stems completely. Trim back the remaining thick, healthy stems by about one-third using sharp, clean secateurs. Make cuts approximately 15mm above an outward-facing group of five leaves or a leaf nodule, angling the cut at approximately 45 degrees.



## Feeding Advice:

For optimal flowering, use rose foods rich in potash, and incorporate sheep manure, a favourite of roses. This combination promotes flowering and soil health, attracting earthworms and improving soil texture.



## Summer Pruning Techniques:

Trim back stems once they have finished flowering, cutting them down to the first outward-facing group of five leaves. Make cuts approximately 15mm above the joint, also at a 45-degree angle. Removing spent flower heads promotes the growth of new, weaker stems.



## Pest and Fungus Management:

In winter, apply GroSafe Free Flow Copper for fungal and disease control, along with GroSafe Enspray99 Oil for insect control following pruning. In spring and summer, continue to check for pests and best to spray early morning or evenings, on overcast days with no wind.

**CHS Members enjoy a 15% discount at Portstone Garden Centre**

[www.portstone.co.nz](http://www.portstone.co.nz)

Canterbury  
ROSE SOCIETY

free  
all welcome

## Rose Pruning Demonstration

**Saturday 15 June 10am**

Rotary Rose Garden, Corner of High and Ashley Streets, Rangiora.

**Saturday 22 June 10.30am**

Rose Garden, Christchurch Botanic Gardens.

Demonstrators will cover the art of pruning bush and climbing roses.

We hope you can enjoy these free demonstrations hosted by Canterbury Rose Society.

## 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). Join us for these great sessions!

**Mon 3:** No session - King's Birthday

**Mon 10:** Art in the Garden

**Mon 17:** Natural Stamps

**Mon 24:** What is a Fruit?

[Facebook Page](#)



AVON BONSAI SOCIETY

The Avon Bonsai Society meet on the second Monday of the Month at 7pm in The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

**Monday 10 June 7pm**  
(Committee Meeting, 6pm)

**Cement formations demonstration** by Tim. Tree type: Silhouette

**Monday 8 July 7pm**

**Grafting and root over rock** by Wayne. Tree type: Open

**Monday 12 August 7pm**  
(Committee Meeting, 6pm)

**Kokedama & Show preparation workshop**

Bring trees in you will be showing at the Annual Show  
Tree type: Informal Upright

For information about joining please contact:

**Esther Meadows**, Secretary Avon Bonsai Society

Email: [esther.bonsai23@gmail.com](mailto:esther.bonsai23@gmail.com)

No session Monday 3 June (King's Birthday)

Upcycle Art in the Garden  
Monday 10 June

What is a Fruit?  
Monday 24 June

Natural Stamps  
Veggie Prints!  
Monday 17 June

The Kiosk  
Canterbury Horticultural Society



# 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](mailto:coulchrys@xtra.co.nz)

## Garden Life July

Wednesday 3 July 1pm

### Main Speaker: Michael Brown Rose Pruning Demonstration

A passionate plantsman renowned for his extensive experience in growing and hybridizing roses, daffodils, chrysanthemums, and begonias. As the current and former president of the Canterbury Rose Society, Michael has showcased his expertise at a national level, both as a competitor and judge. Now retired,

he dedicates his time to creating new blooms on his 1-hectare property in Loburn, North Canterbury. Michael will be conducting a live pruning demonstration with plants suitable for pruning in bush and miniature form.

### Mini Speaker: TBC

In June & July Garden Life takes 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.

## Working Bee at CHS Ornamental Garden

Saturday 8 June 10am – 12pm  
9 Evelyn Cousins Avenue, Richmond  
Email [office@chsgardens.co.nz](mailto:office@chsgardens.co.nz) if you can help or just show up on the day!  
Bring gumboots, gardening gloves and morning tea to share.

[Facebook event link](#)

## Scorpio Books

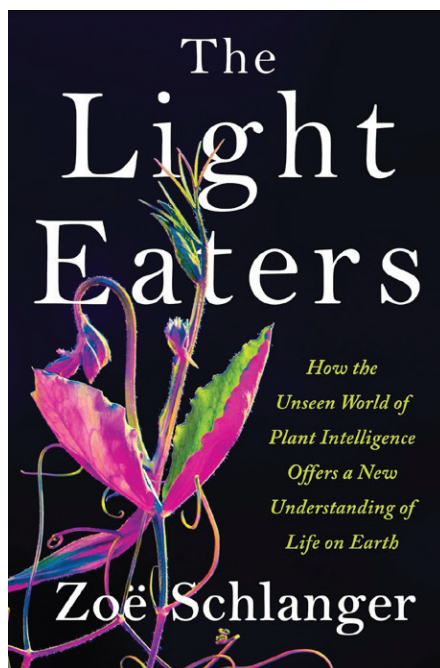
### Books of the Month

The Light Eaters: The New Science of Plant Intelligence

By Zoë Schlanger  
[Pre order online](#) | \$38.99

A narrative investigation into the new science of plant intelligence and sentience, from National Association of Science Writers Award winner and Livingston Award finalist Zoë Schlanger. Look at the green organism across the room or through the window: the potted plant, or the grass or a tree. Think how a life spent constantly growing yet rooted in a single spot comes with tremendous challenges. To meet them, plants have come up with some of the most creative methods for surviving of any living thing – us included. Many are so ingenious that they seem nearly impossible.

Did you know plants can communicate when they are being eaten, allowing nearby plants to bolster their defences? They move and that movement stops when they are anaesthetised. They also use electricity for internal communication. They can hear the sounds of caterpillars eating. Plants can remember the last time they have been visited by a bee and how many times they have been visited – so they have a concept of time and can count. Plants can not only communicate with each other, they can also communicate with



other species of plants and animals, allowing them to manipulate animals to defend or fertilise them.

So look again at the potted plant, or the grass or the tree and wonder: are plants intelligent?

Or perhaps ask an even more fundamental question: are they conscious?

*The Light Eaters* will completely redefine how you think about plants. Packed with the most amazing stories of the life of plants it will open your eyes to the extraordinary green life forms we share the planet with.

*“This is that rare book that fascinates, challenges widely held assumptions, and enlightens in like measure ... In this lovely book, the plant universe finds a human champion appreciative of its earthly role, concerned for its welfare, and amazed at its capacities.”* Kirkus

*“Teeming with fascinating and enlightening insights”* Observer

*“An astounding exploration of the remarkable abilities of plants and fungi ... There are mind-bending revelations on every page, and Schlanger combines robust intellectual curiosity with delicate lyricism.”* Publishers Weekly

Thanks to Scorpio Books for this review

CHS Members enjoy a 10% discount at Scorpio Books & Telling Tales [www.scorpiobooks.co.nz](http://www.scorpiobooks.co.nz)

In-Store Only

Five Lanes at the BNZ Centre  
120 Hereford St, Chch Central



ANNUAL SALE ON NOW

50-70% off selected titles



Scorpio Books  
Telling TALES  
Scorpio Children's Books