



Have you seen the amazing planters at the Kiosk!

BALCONY DWELLERS

Next Session Saturday 20 July

Sustainable Gardening for Small Spaces

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 Online Now](#)

GARDEN LIFE JULY Michael Brown

Rose Pruning Demonstration
Wednesday 3 July 1pm



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: Leisa Falconer
Elixir Jayne Natural Skincare



Leisa will talk about how she came to formulating skincare, and the beautiful botanical ingredients she uses. There will be some fun competitions to test your nosebuds too.

Definitely bring some cash as her products are irresistible!

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

Monthly Tips & Tasks

with Michael Coulter

I have been busy this past month giving talks to garden clubs both in town and out in the country. What I have seen is a very dry province. June was frosty with little rain to recharge the ground with much-needed water. The garden looks very bare with little colour. Much of the work in and around the garden involves cleaning up, removing unwanted plants and weeds, and, if possible, mulching with pea straw to protect the soil and plants from the frosty weather. The lawns have stopped growing and look yellow-green, so it's best to leave them and wait until the end of winter before doing any work on them.



On bright sunny days after the frosts have gone, it is the best time to do the winter pruning and spraying with copper and lime sulphur. This year I bought some red

garlic to try and see if it is more resistant to rust. Despite what some gardening advice recommends, I think it is not the right month to be sowing seeds outside, and only in the greenhouse if you have some bottom heat.

Even then, only a few plants will do well as the days are very short. Plants that were taken as cuttings in the autumn and are well-rooted will need to be potted on, but they will have to be kept only lightly watered until they show signs of new growth.

On those days when the sun shines, the greenhouse can have a few hours in the middle of the day with the vents open to get some fresh air and remove some of the condensation from the glass or plastic. The bare-rooted fruit trees will soon be in the retailers. If you want any, I recommend getting in early to get the best choice, especially if you want to espalier them. Keep warm and only do what needs to be done in the garden on the sunny days.

Happy gardening! Michael Coulter

From the President

Allan Paterson

Kia Ora CHS Members,

Thank goodness it's July! With the shortest day now behind us, it's time to start looking ahead and preparing for the next season. This is the perfect time to review your seed packets and implement any necessary changes to your crop rotation. Let's get ready for a fantastic Spring!

Speaking of changes, you'll soon meet the new

faces in The Kiosk. A big thank you to Sonja Tschepp for all her contributions as Manager over the past year. We wish her all the very best as she moves to the warmer climes of Mapua later in the year!

This week, we welcome Isabelle and Jenny to the team. We're sure you will make them feel at home; please be patient as they familiarise themselves with the CHS way. These exciting changes promise to bring great benefits.

Enjoy the winter season and enjoy all our news!

The time has come for me to say farewell to the CHS community. It has been fabulous getting to know so many of you. No day at the Kiosk is the same, with so many different organisations coming and going.

I leave knowing that the Society has a great future ahead with many new avenues to explore that will entice the members.

Our new Activities and Events Coordinator Isabelle Weston came on board recently. Isabelle's tool bag is packed with a fantastic array of experience and expertise. Isabelle is a passionate gardener and loves everything about flowers. Her effervescence and enthusiasm will be apparent when you meet her. Watch this space for new and interesting events.

My replacement is Jenny Slattery-Cookson who I am sure will be a bright shining star in the Society. I am sure Jenny will fill you in on her credentials in the next newsletter.

Thank you to all of you who have supported and encouraged me on this journey. It has

been a pleasure to be a part of the CHS journey over the last 12 months.

My involvement with the Society won't stop here; I plan to stay involved with the Flower Garden at Avebury House until I move further North and start a new journey with more adventures.

Garden notes for the month.

Grey skies and rain have been a dominant factor in June making it hard to get much done in our gardens.

For me this is a time to cogitate over my planting layout and look for ways to bring colour and light into the Winter garden. Silver grey and maroon foliage look good together and bring a pop of colour to the Winter garden. A couple of silver foliage ideas are Santolina chamaecyparissus and Ballota pseudodictamnus. Maroon foliage of, Loropetalum burgundy, Nandina "Burgundy Wine" can lift a dull spot in the garden. White

flowers look great in low light areas. My favourite Winter flowering white bloom is the Japanese anemone. They are so delicate, a great cut flower and they attract butterflies.

Known to be invasive, so choose your spot carefully, somewhere that has a woodland feel is nice.



Blue skies will return soon. The garden will change again with winter bulbs starting to make a show.

Snow drops, hyacinths, early narcissus and autumn crocus will be popping up through the ground before you know it. There is nothing better than an early morning garden stroll to check up on their progress and inhale the winter scents of Witch-hazel, Daphne and Winter Sweet.

Happy gardening everyone and farewell from me.

Sonja Tschepp

Watercolour Painting

Wednesday 10, 24 July 10am

All welcome, BYO materials
The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens



Floral Design

Wednesday 17 July 1pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens
The group is studying the upright styles of Ikebana under the tutoring of Ray King. This month's theme is branches only. Revise self-fixing in a flat dish.

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

[See the latest arrangements online](#)

Garden Club Reps

Wednesday 3 July 10.30am

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Fruit & Vegetable Group

Winter Recess

Chrysanthemum Group

Recess until September



**Friends of the
Christchurch Botanic Gardens**

Winter Talk Series 2024

The Health of Christchurch's Waterways

Friday 19 July 10.30am, The Kiosk

A talk by Katie Noakes, Principal Waterways Ecologist for Christchurch City Council.

\$5 Members and CHS Members

\$10 Non-Members



**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.



Green Drinks: "The Rubbish Trip" Film

Screening & Discussion with Para Kore

Thursday 18 July 5.30 - 7.30pm

Tūranga - Auaha Hihi/Spark Place, 60 Cathedral Square

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](#)

Avon Bonsai Society

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

bonsai23@gmail.com

[com](http://www.bonsai23.com)



AVON BONSAI SOCIETY

Preparing your deciduous fruit trees

To ensure the health and productivity of deciduous fruit trees, it is best to prune them in Winter. Follow these steps for optimal results:

- **Remove Unhealthy Branches:**
Start by removing any dead, diseased, or damaged branches.
- **Create an Open Structure:**
Aim to create an open, outward-facing branch system to promote better air circulation and light penetration.
- **Pruning Young Trees:**
For first- and second-year trees, cut back branches by half.
- **Managing Mature Trees:**
For trees older than three years, determine the maximum height you want the tree to reach and prevent it from growing taller than that.

- **Making Cuts:**
Make cuts just above outward-facing buds at a 45-degree angle to direct water away from the bud.
- **Tools:**
Use high-quality secateurs and saws for clean cuts.
- **Disease Prevention:**
 - After pruning, spray the trees to prevent fungal and bacterial diseases. Copper-based sprays, such as Grosafe Freeflo Copper or Yates Liquid Copper, are recommended for application during winter while the trees are dormant
 - Apply the copper spray when the leaves are falling and repeat every four weeks until buds start to swell.
- **Insect Control:**
 - About seven days after a copper application, use a spraying oil like Grosafe Enspray 99 to control insects that hibernate over the Winter.
 - Spray again in early Spring for continued protection.

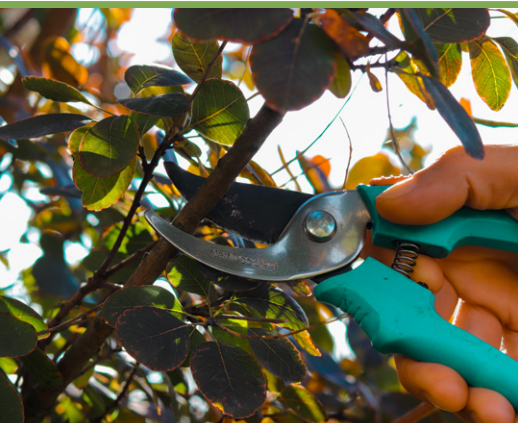
- **Frost Protection:**
Cover your fruit trees with frost cloth when they begin to blossom to protect new buds from late frosts, which can destroy your crop.
- **Soil Management:**
Keep the soil moist to help absorb and store heat during the day, which can protect against cold night temperatures.

By following these steps, you can ensure that your deciduous fruit trees remain healthy and productive throughout the growing season.

Many thanks to Portstone Garden Centre for this update.

CHS Members enjoy a 15% discount at Portstone Garden Centre

www.portstone.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). Join us for these great sessions!

Monday 1 July: Root Veggies
Monday 8 & 15 July: School Holidays
Monday 22 July: Butterflies
Monday 29 July: Match Nature Elements with Colours [Bot Tots Facebook page](#)



Green Thumbs Podcast

Our radio programme airs every two weeks! Fortnightly on Mondays at 9am, we chat with fellow green thumbs in Canterbury about our wonderful gardening community, followed by book reviews to tempt you to add more to your bookshelves or visit your local library.

Coming up on Monday 8th July, we chat with **Aaron Curtis from Shiro Bonsai**. Based in New Brighton, Aaron is enthusiastic about making bonsai accessible to everyone. He has opened Kusamono, a cafe serving delicious coffee, with bonsai and equipment for sale, and offers workshops and demonstrations. Join us for all things bonsai.

On Monday 22nd, we will review *The Bonsai Beginner's Bible* by Peter Chan, and *The Abundant Kitchen* by Niva & Yotam Kay of Pākaraka Permaculture.



Listen to Amy and Ray, CHS Green Thumbs, on Plains FM 96.9 www.chsgardens.co.nz/latest-podcasts-radio-stories



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 August

Wednesday 7 August 1pm & 5.30pm

Main Speaker: Charlotte Roberts Natural Dyes

Charlotte is a textile artist with a passion for natural dyes and fibres. She spent the Summer growing natural dye plants and linen flax at the BHU organic farm in Lincoln, which you may have heard about on the Green Thumbs podcast.

Working from her home studio in Birdlings Flat, she dyes local wool with natural dyes and hopes her work will reconnect people with where their clothes and textiles come from.

Mini Speaker: Bridget Allen Sensory Nature Play

Bridget will introduce us to The Green Lab's Sensory Nature Play project on Brooker Ave. This innovative concept is transforming the landscape and fostering new connections between people and nature. Bridget's vision centres on creating a community-focused space where the rhythms of nature can be experienced through the senses.

Bridget brings her unique perspective and passion to this inspiring initiative.

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens
Armagh Street car park footbridge
\$5 (\$10 Non-Members)
Tea, coffee and biscuits *afternoon*

Cheese, crackers and fruit punch *evening*
See our [website](#) and [Facebook](#) for updates.

Working Bee at CHS Ornamental Garden

Saturday 13 July 10am – 12pm
9 Evelyn Cousins Avenue, Richmond
Please email Elizabeth Wilks elizabeth@wildtech.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

Book of the Month

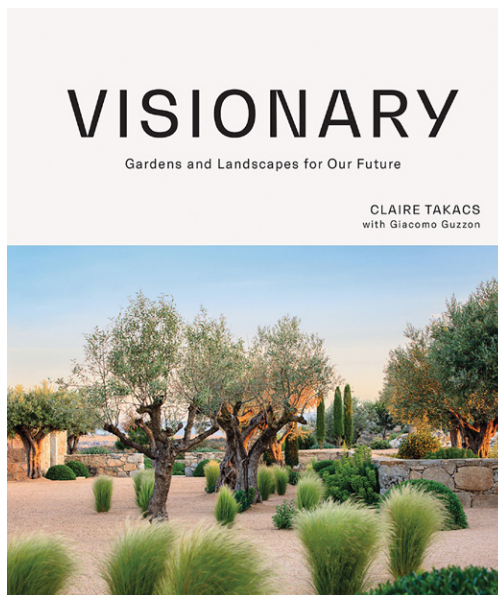
Visionary: Gardens and Landscapes for our Future

By Claire Takacs with Giacomo Guzzon

[9781743797624](tel:9781743797624) | \$74.00

In *Visionary: Gardens and Landscapes for our Future* photographer Claire Takacs and landscape architect Giacomo Guzzon introduce stunning private and public gardens from around the world that have addressed both sustainability and climate change with outstanding results. Be inspired by the new ways garden and landscape designers are thinking about planting and garden design in the face of climate change.

Featuring more than 80 exquisite gardens from across the globe including New Zealand, the USA, the UK, Europe, Asia and Australia, this beautiful book is guaranteed to inspire you with exciting gardens and innovative design solutions that look to the future. From the author of *Dreamscapes: Inspiration and beauty in gardens near and far*.



Thanks to Scorpio Books for this review
CHS Members enjoy a 10% discount at Scorpio Books & Telling Tales

www.scorpiobooks.co.nz

Pick up a copy of *The Inklings Winter edition* from the Kiosk for all the latest releases at Scorpio Books

Canterbury Museum Friends

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

Tuesday 16 July 10am at The Kiosk
Rebecca (Bex) Le Grice
Curator Natural History
Funky flies and their stories

Most people are only aware of a handful of fly types, such as 'the ones that live in your fruit bowl', 'the ones that can't find their way out of an open window', and 'the ones that bite'. However, this is a narrow view of the fly community, which deserves far more appreciation. In the Canterbury Museum collections alone, there are balloon flies that can spin silk, flightless flies that get around on foot, and bat-winged flies that live in the mountains. Around the world, you can encounter the largest fly, the smallest fly, and the stalk-eyed fly, which rivals any alien in looks. The world of flies is extraordinarily diverse and their evolutionary journeys are almost unbelievable.

Free, bring coins for raffles.