



Tea in my GARDEN

Tea in my Garden

Join us for a delightful morning in nature!

Explore three unique Waitaha gardens, meet the gardeners, and enjoy a guided tour through their beautiful grounds.

December, February & March 10.30am – 12pm.

Meet at the garden, or carpool with friends \$20 (\$30 Non-Members) Includes garden entry, light morning tea. [Book Online Now](#)

GARDEN LIFE NOVEMBER

Giulio Sturla

Mapu Test Kitchen, Lyttelton

Tuesday 5th 6pm & Wednesday 6th 1pm



Mapu is the brainchild of Chef Giulio Sturla, who has garnered acclaim for his innovative approach, turning simple, locally sourced produce into masterpieces of modern gastronomy. His dedication to fresh, sustainable, and ethical ingredients is evident in every dish at Mapu.

The intimate dining space in Lyttelton only seats six guests. It provides a unique and personal experience, where diners can watch Chef Sturla create culinary magic. Mapu has recently been named in the New York Times as one of the top 50 restaurants in the world. A remarkable and memorable dining adventure.

Mini Speaker: Gina Russell (Ngāpuhi) Organic Fibre & Colour Farmer

A graduate of the BHU Organic College, Gina has been on an exploratory mission to create a local textile industry for New Zealand makers. With a passion for plant fibre, she has cultivated 1/2 an acre of her own organic linen flax while reconnecting to the past and our own linen production history.

Discover the process of pulling fibre from linseed straw for yourself at this informative and hands-on talk. There will be seeds available to purchase for those interested in growing your own fibre or dye plants.

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens \$5 (\$10 Non-Members) Pay on the door

Tea, coffee and biscuits afternoon
Wine & nibbles evening

Fresh Floral Wreaths

Create a Christmas themed floral wreath

Learn the art of making a stunning fresh wreath. Perfect for adding a personalised touch to your Christmas door, table or gifting to someone special!

Wednesday 11 December 7 – 9pm, The Kiosk

\$105 (\$125 Non-Members) Includes all materials, light refreshments and a glass of bubbles. [Book Online Now](#)

Fresh Floral Wreaths



Christmas Kokedama



Christmas Kokedama

Celebrate the festive season with nature's very own baubles!

Join moss-masters, Allan Paterson and Stargirl, and learn how to create a Christmas-themed Kokedama ball.

Sunday 8 December 10am-12pm & 1-3pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

\$60 (\$75 Non-Members) [Book Online Soon](#)

Grow your own Cut Flowers

Sow a variety of seeds to brighten your garden

A relaxed session led by self-taught flower enthusiast Isabelle Weston. You'll learn how to nurture a thriving garden and take home seeds for future planting.

Thursday 30 January 2025 7- 9pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

\$40 (\$45 Non-Members) [Book Online Now](#)

Grow your own Cut Flowers



Green Man Tile

Botanical Ceramics with Jane McCulla

Create an age old symbol of seasonal renewal and ecological awareness with ceramicist Jane McCulla. Includes all materials, glazing and kiln firing!

Sunday 2 March 2025 10am - 12.30pm

The Kiosk, Botanic Gardens

\$65 (\$80 Non-Members) [Book Online Now](#)

GREEN MAN TILE
Workshop



From the President

Kia Ora Members, Spring has sprung with a burst of Daffodil shows, garden tours, and blooming flowers! Exciting events are happening within the Kiosk, so please keep an eye on upcoming events on our website: www.chsgardens.co.nz.

The parking issue has been resolved, and we are learning how to use the parking area more effectively. Come and visit the Botanic Gardens – they're looking fantastic and well worth the time to walk around.

At Avebury House, it's been a busy season, with Elizabeth Wilks speaking at Garden Life about the CHS Climate Resilient Garden, and a successful Spring Fair at Avebury raising awareness about the project.

It's time to start making wreaths and preparing for Christmas. Remember: water, water, water – and don't forget the mulch! There's some magical mulch around that works wonders.

Happy gardening!

Allan Paterson, CHS President

Friends of Canterbury Museum

Tuesday 19 November 10am

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Norway to the South Pole: Edward Wilson's art and life. Dr Edward Adrian Wilson was a physician, naturalist and artist with Captain Robert Falcon Scott's Discovery and Terra Nova expeditions. He died with Scott on the return journey from the South Pole in 1912. This talk by Canterbury Museum Curator Human History charts Wilson's life through his drawings and paintings held in the collection. **Free**, bring coins for raffles.

Canterbury Herb Society

CHS Members are warmly invited to join the Canterbury Herb Society for a special garden tour at The Herbal Garden. Discover the art of natural skincare, learn about a variety of herbal plants, and explore the world of organic teas. Meet the creator, Julie Powell-Booth, and enjoy the chance to chat with fellow herb enthusiasts.

205/1 Jowers Rd, West Melton

Thursday 28 November 6pm

\$15 pp (pay on the night). BYO picnic dinner and drink. RSVP by Nov 15 to Julie Rose 0274181620 or hollyhedge172@gmail.com

Cool Season Seeds

Planting your Cut Flower Garden in Autumn

Cool Season Seeds

Discover the benefits of planting hardy annuals in the Autumn with Isabelle Weston.

If you're a seasoned gardener or new to gardening, this workshop will help you prepare your garden for a beautiful early Spring bloom.

Thursday 27 March 2025 7 - 9pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens.

\$55 (\$70 Non-Members)

Bookings open online soon!

Watercolour Painting

Wednesday 13, 27 November 10am

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Garden Club Reps

Wednesday 6 November 10.15am

Julie's Iris Garden: 387B Ellesmere Junction Rd, Springston.

Fruit & Vegetable Group

Wednesday 27 November 7pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Floral Design

Wednesday 20 November 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 - **Intertwining lines** - use of vines.

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

[See the latest arrangements online](#)

Chrysanthemum Group

Saturday 16 November 1.30pm

David and Robyn's 11 Ruakaka Street

Chrysanthemum Propagation, potting up and stopping. General cultural notes, preparing soil and potting on. Pests and sprays.

Contact: **Robyn Purcell** tel: 942 9871

Email: dandrpurcell@gmail.com

Monthly Tips & Tasks

with Michael Coulter

As I write, the rain is falling – much-needed to give Spring a proper top-up of moisture in the soil before the demands of Summer arrive. Labour Weekend is the traditional time when the soil and daytime temperatures are warm enough to plant and sow all the plants that need warmth to grow. Spring bulbs will soon finish flowering and should be left with their foliage intact to ensure blooms next season; only remove the foliage once it has fully dried off.

The weather has been warm with plenty of sunshine, and plants have been growing very well. I've noticed early signs of aphids and mildew on some of my plants, so I've sprayed for these before they become problematic. Citrus plants are now entering their growth phase, making it the ideal time to give them

a feed and check for any signs of aphids and whitefly, which can lead to sooty mould on the foliage later in the season.

Pip fruit will be in flower or just finishing. Once the petals have fallen, sprays can be applied to control codling moth, aphids, and mites; also, a fungicide for mildew and black spot sprayed this month will help with early control before disease pressure builds.

Lawns will be growing quickly now, with grass producing stalky seed heads. Fertiliser and regular mowing will keep them looking tidy. This month is also the time to plant dahlias, chrysanthemums, begonias, and gladioli – I always add any supports needed as I plant the young plants.

Tomatoes growing in the greenhouse will now be thriving; regular watering will help prevent blossom-end rot as the fruit ripens. Other indoor crops, such as chillies, peppers, and cucumbers, may benefit from weekly liquid

feeds to encourage growth. Good ventilation on hot days will help keep temperatures around 25°C, reducing plant stress and keeping them healthy. Most greenhouses will also need shading during the hottest Summer months to prevent overheating.

As flowering shrubs finish blooming, prune any that need it before they start their next growth phase. This month is a busy time in the garden, with planting, weeding, and watering. It's better to get these tasks done today rather than leaving them until tomorrow, as that may be too late.

Love the Garden, Michael Coulter

Annual Plant Sale - Kaiapoi Garden Club

Sunday 2 November, 9am -12.30pm

Kaipoi Farmers Market, Charles St.

Great plants from local gardens Help & advice from Members. Bring your bags & containers.

Volunteer Call Out

We want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for the time, energy, and expertise donated by our Members.

Your continued support is invaluable, and our volunteers are truly pivotal to our programmes and our ability to serve effectively.

If you're interested in volunteering or know someone who might be, please reach out! Having a pool of volunteers to call on has made our work much easier, but we still have a number of opportunities where we would love your help:

Workshop Setup and Pack Down: Prepare for workshops and enjoy the presentations!

Baking: We'll provide the ingredients; you bring your creativity!

Refreshments and Sales: Assist with refreshments and door sales at Garden Life.

Kiosk Coverage: Occasionally cover shifts at The Kiosk during staff sickness and holidays.

Photocopying and Laminating: Join us on Tuesday afternoons for this essential task.

Bot Tots November

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

4 November Halloween Pinecones

1 November Plant a Seedling

18 November World Fisheries Day

25 November Nature Bookmarks

[Bot Tots Facebook page](#)

Join our Transformation Team

Sunday 14 November 9am - 12pm
9 Evelyn Couzins Avenue, Richmond

Help us prepare the Avebury site for the CHS Avebury Climate Resilient Garden. This month's working bee will start with an information session by designer Elizabeth Wilks. If you can't make the 9am start then just come along when you can! Bring your hand tools; we'll provide wheelbarrows, spades, and forks. If you have a trailer, we need help transporting red waste to the Council waste transfer station. Meet fellow experienced gardeners and exchange tips over morning tea. [Facebook event link](#)

St Barnabas Fendalton Garden Tour

Saturday 9 November 11am - 4pm

Tickets: \$60 pp available from the Church office, 8 Tui St or www.stbarnabas.org.nz

Thank you once again for being a vital part of our community. We look forward to your involvement! Please email Jenny office@chsgardens.co.nz

CHS Scholarships now open

Jeannie Dunlop Horticulture Scholarship

Are you passionate about a career in horticulture? The Jeannie Dunlop Scholarship, open to students studying horticulture or those planning to, offers \$1,000 to support studies in this field. It honours Jeannie Dunlop's dedication to horticulture and her commitment to helping aspiring gardeners grow. *Applicants must be current financial members of the Society and over the age of 18.* [Learn more online](#)

P.C. Browne Horticulture Scholarship

Enhance your horticultural knowledge with funding for Study, Research or Work Experience. This \$1,000 scholarship honours P.C. Browne's dedication to cultivating knowledge and skill in the field. If you're pursuing or planning to pursue a career in horticulture, this is an ideal opportunity to grow your future. [Learn more online](#)

Applications close end of November 2024

Christchurch Envirokids

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

November 2 DIY Tiny Worlds

November 9 Birds of the Estuary

November 16 World Sustainable Toy Day

November 23 Wonderful Wetland Birds

November 30 Mara Raupihī | Microgreens wananga with Para Kore

Check out programme: [@CHCHEnvirokids](#)

Green Thumbs Podcast

Tune in fortnightly on Mondays at 9am to Plains FM 96.9, where we chat with Canterbury gardeners to help you explore our wonderful gardening community and review books to inspire your green thumb.

On **Monday, 11 November**, we'll be chatting with Michelle Gurney of the Christchurch Peony Club about how to enjoy and cultivate these gorgeous flowers! (Rescheduled from last month.)

On **Monday, 25 November**, we'll review our next books: **Secret Gardens of Aotearoa** by Jane Mahoney & Sophie Bannan, followed by **Hands in the Dirt** by Leah Evans.

Listen to Amy and Ray, CHS Green Thumbs, **Live on Plains FM 96.9** or via a link on the [CHS Website](#)

Envirohub

Annual Environmental Network Gathering

Tuesday 19 November 6 - 8pm

180 Avonside Dr. Avonside, FREE

Come join the Christchurch Envirohub team and our network for an evening in our new shared working space!

Green Drinks

Thursday 21 November 6-8pm

Claudia's Journey-Fostering Leadership with Untouched World Foundation

Cascade Bar & Courtyard, 89 Lichfield St

Join us for an insightful talk by Claudia from the Untouched World Foundation, as she shares the organisation's 21-year commitment to empowering rangatahi through sustainability education. Claudia will delve into Untouched World's transformative programmes, designed to help young people explore their leadership potential and make positive change in their communities.

Free, all welcome

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.

Friends of the Gardens

Botanic Gardens Guided Walks

The Friend's FREE guided walks resume this month with a fabulous line-up of new and favourite walks through the Gardens. Walks take approximately one hour, starting at the Kiosk at 1.30pm. [See the full schedule online](#)

Summer Talk Series

Sunday 17 November 4pm

The Climate Challenge: what Council is doing and how to get involved.

Presented by Sara Templeton
The Kiosk, Members and CHS members \$5 (Non-members \$10) includes afternoon tea.

Mona Vale Guided Walks

Saturday 12 & 30 November 1.30pm
(90 mins)

Riverlution Pesti Day

Sunday 24 November 10am

Riverlution invites everyone to a hands-on day of eco-friendly gardening and pest management at Richmond Community Garden! Participants can learn organic pest control, get tips on urban trapping, build insect hotels, join a biodiversity insect check, explore the Pest App treasure hunt, help plant a bee garden, and gain insights on weed management. Bring friends and family for a day of learning, nature, and biodiversity enhancement.

More info: [Facebook event Link](#)

Garden Life *Monthly gardening programme for the everyday gardener*

December 2024

Tuesday 3rd 6pm & Wednesday 4th 1pm

Main Speaker: Valmai Becker
Phytofarm, Little River



In the 1980's Valmai owned The Old Shipping Office, an Akaroa restaurant popular for its provincial cuisine, artful plate design; use of herbs and edible flowers. She attained a Diploma in Naturopathy (ND) in 1980 and with this qualification she established and

managed a clinical practice for eight years, specializing in using the philosophies and traditions of natural medicine and a holistic self-healing model of wellness. She used Herbal Medicine, Nutritional and Massage Therapy to manage acute and chronic conditions.

Valmai is a well known Naturopath from her years as a clinical practitioner and her involvement in the establishment of Canterbury College of Natural Medicine (CCNM). With her passion for Natural Medicine as the course director, she wrote curriculum to New Zealand Qualifications Authority standard for the Diploma programmes taught at the college and was a teacher in many aspects of Natural Medicine.

Phytofarm is now her primary passion, where she brings together a number of her skills: gardener, teacher, learner and care taker of 10 acres of forest and gardens.

Mini Speaker: Dr John Clemens AHRIH

John Clemens is a horticulturist and landscape ecologist who has worked with plants, gardens, and nurseries in the UK, Australia and – for almost 40 years – in

New Zealand. He was awarded an Associate of Honour by the Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture in 2023 for teaching, research, and advice to the horticultural industry. He was Curator of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens. He currently works as a Biosecurity Advisor (Special Projects) for Environment Canterbury. In this talk he will introduce you to today's "special project": how we can work together to minimise the impact of pest plants in our gardens and neighbourhoods. Get to know the problem pests and what we can do to conquer and replace them!

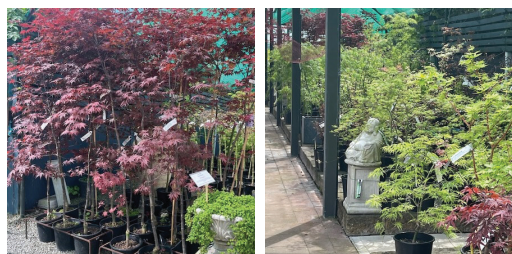
The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens Armagh Street car park footbridge
\$5 (\$10 Non-Members)
Tea, coffee and biscuits *afternoon*
Wine & nibbles *evening*

See our [website](#) and [Facebook](#) for updates. 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

Plant of the Month - Acers



Acers, commonly known as Japanese Maples are a fantastic addition to any garden for their beauty, versatility, and low maintenance requirements.

One of their main attractions is the stunning foliage, which offers vibrant colours throughout the year. During spring and summer leaves come in shades of green, red or purple and in autumn, they transition into fiery hues of orange, gold and crimson, creating a dramatic seasonal display.

These trees are ideal for both small and large gardens due to their compact size and slow growth rate. With a variety of forms ranging from upright to weeping, Acers can fit in any garden style, whether traditional, modern or Japanese inspired. They also thrive well in containers, making them suitable for patios or balconies.

Beyond aesthetics, Acers are relatively easy to care for. They prefer partial shade, well drained, soil and sheltered spots protected

from strong winds. Once established, they require minimal pruning and are resistant to pests and diseases.

Additionally, Acers promote biodiversity offering habitat and food for insects and birds. These trees also have symbolic and emotional appeal in Japanese culture. They are associated with peace, renewal and tranquillity, making them perfect for creating serene garden spaces. Whether used as a focal point or part of a border. Acers bring elegance, seasonal interest, and ecological benefits, making them worthwhile investment for any gardener looking to enhance their outdoor space. A few of my favourites are:

Acer pal Beni Hime - Ideal bonsai or container. Compact dwarf maple with tiny bright red leaves. **Acer pal Chishio** - Tub or front border. Small flame pink leaves in Spring turning coppery salmon. **Acer pal. Scolopendrifolium** - Strong growing upright bush tree, long narrow bright green leaves Ht 4m. **Acer pal. Orangeola** - Smaller rounder dissected foliage, freely branching habit weeping. New spring growth dark orange-red turning bronze-red with green undertones in Summer/Autumn bright Scarlet-Orange Ht 1-3m



Thanks to Portstone Garden Centre for this update. CHS Members enjoy a 15% discount at Portstone www.portstone.co.nz



Botanical Watercolour

Immerse yourself in the art of botanical watercolours with artist Kay Duncan

Whether you are a novice or a seasoned painter, this workshop offers a fantastic opportunity to hone your skills and create stunning botanical artwork. *For anyone who missed Kay's popular October workshop, this is a chance to attend a repeat session.*

Sunday 6 April 2025 10am - 1pm, The Kiosk, Botanic Gardens. \$125 (\$155 Non-Members) [Book Online Now](#)