



WORKSHOPS & COURSES COMING UP

Botanical Ceramics

Make Bud Vases or Containers with ceramicist Jane McCulla - Perfect for Father's Day! Collect your glazed and fired ceramics two weeks later.

Sunday 7 September 2 - 4pm

\$65 (\$80 Non-Members) *all materials provided*

Veggie Seed Raising

Sunday 14 September 1.30 - 3pm

Grow healthy veggie plants from seed with Isabelle and Elizabeth. Perfect for beginners, or anyone keen to get their Spring garden started. **\$40** (\$45 Non-Members)

School Holiday Workshops

Monday 22 & Thursday 25 September

Our creative workshops include fun activities ranging from fun colourful pasta planters to botanical badges and flower looms!

\$25 per workshop (purchase 4 for \$10 off).

Halloween Scarecrow

Saturday 18 October 2-4pm

Get creative and spooky this Halloween!

Go solo or make a scarecrow with friends or whanau. At the end of the workshop, you'll leave with a unique, hand crafted scarecrow ready to display anywhere that needs a bit of Halloween magic.

\$55 Solo/Group (\$70 Non-Members)

Healing Herbs with Valmai Becker

Healing Herbs Demonstration

Sunday 2 November 2-4pm at The Kiosk

\$65 (\$85 Non-Members) Includes tissane to take home.

Herbal Skincare Workshop

Sunday 9 November 10am - 1pm at Phytofarm

Create your own healing salve & lip balm to take home. **\$145** (\$185 Non-Members)

Botanical Embroidery

Learn the art of hand embroidery - no experience needed!

Join textile artist Sawi Thorpe for a relaxed and inspiring 3-hour workshop exploring the timeless craft of hand embroidery.

Saturday 15 November 2 - 5pm

\$105 (\$135 Non-Members)



Book our courses
and workshops
online!

First Harvest

Thursday Evenings 6.30-9pm

9 October - 13 November 2025

Want to grow your own food but not sure where to start? This six-week course is designed to build your skills, confidence, and knowledge in growing seasonal vegetables - whether you're working with a backyard, containers, or a small urban plot.

\$245 (\$305 Non-Members)

Deck the Table

Tuesday 11 November 6.30 - 9pm

Join CHS Members Anne Gane & Gail Scrivener for a relaxed, hands-on workshop where you'll learn how to style a beautiful Christmas table using natural elements, layered textures, and a touch of sparkle.

\$45 (\$55 Non-Members)

A Taste of Tangleby

Saturday 22 November 1.30pm

An enchanting afternoon at the beautiful Tangleby Gardens. Featuring a talk from the award-winning author, cooking demonstration and decadent afternoon tea, you're sure to be inspired by Tangleby's captivating Canterbury setting.

\$95 (\$120 Non-Members)

Harakeke Crafting

Sustainable Nature Craft

Kono (four corner) Basket

Saturday 29 November: 1.30pm - 4.30pm

Sunday 30 November 10am - 1pm

Putiputi (Flax Flowers)

Sunday 30 November 1.30 - 4.30pm

\$40 (\$50 Non-Members)

Fresh Floral Wreaths

Thursday 11 December 10.30am - 1pm &

6.30pm - 9pm

Learn the art of making a stunning Christmas-themed fresh floral wreath. Perfect for adding a personalised touch to your Christmas door, table or gifting to someone special! A glass of bubbles on arrival. A repeat of Isabelle's popular workshop last year.

\$125 (\$145 Non-Members)

Unless noted our workshops are held in The Kiosk, just over the footbridge from the Armagh St carpark in the Botanic Gardens

GARDEN LIFE OCTOBER

Tuesday 7th 6pm & Wednesday 8th 1pm

Main Speaker: Paul Hooper - Intelligro



Paul Hooper is the Research and Development Technical Advisor at Intelligro, where he shares his expertise with both customers and staff. With a lifelong

passion for horticulture, Paul retrained at Lincoln University in 2014 and has since worked across nurseries in Selwyn and Christchurch. For the past four years, he has been at Intelligro, helping gardeners and professionals get the most from their soils and growing media.

In his talk, Paul will demystify compost and potting mixes—explaining what certified organic compost really means, why quality varies, and how the circular economy plays a role. He'll share insights into the components and purposes of potting mixes, the benefits of buying direct from manufacturers, and address common questions around composts, soils, and mixes. Bring your questions for practical, expert advice.

Mini Speaker: Yvette Edwards

Flower arranging with a twist

Yvette's love for flowers began in her grandmother's garden in North Wales and grew through visits to iconic gardens with her mother—an experience they still cherish today.

She trained in floristry in the English countryside, gaining experience in everything from stately home weddings to royal luncheons. After moving to New Zealand, Yvette launched her wedding florals business from Island Bay before opening her first store on Tory Street, Wellington, in 2016. Known for its lush greenery and seasonal blooms, it became a destination for bespoke, sustainable floral design.

In 2025, Yvette relocated to Christchurch to begin a new chapter, continuing to grow her botanical journey.

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens
Free for Members (\$10 Non-Members)

Tea, coffee and baking *afternoon*

Wine & nibbles *evening*

September in the Garden

August in Christchurch was chilly, with an average temperature of just 6.8°C. Nights often dipped close to freezing, the coldest at -4.5°C, while the warmest day only reached 16.4°C. It was a fairly wet month too, with 91 mm of rain, most of it falling mid-month.

Looking ahead, September usually feels like a real shift into Spring. Daytime highs average around 14°C, nights about 6°C, and while frosts can still sneak in, the longer, sunnier days encourage everything in the garden to burst back into life.

In September it feels like Spring has truly arrived—bulbs are blooming and deciduous plants are bursting into life; growth is everywhere. With the changeable weather and the risk of late frosts, it's a busy month in the garden.



Soil & Planting: Prepare ground for sowing and transplanting, clear away winter crops, and finish pruning. Sow hardy vegetables like peas, carrots, lettuce, silverbeet, beetroot, and cabbage. Plant early potatoes and chit main crops for later.

Flowers: Propagate summer perennials (chrysanthemums, dahlias, carnations, petunias) from cuttings. Plant gladioli corms and start begonias in pots. Deadhead bulbs and annuals to encourage more blooms.

Care & Maintenance: Keep weeds in check before they smother young plants. Fertilise and mow lawns regularly. Treat fruit trees for pests and diseases as they flower. Prune spring-flowering shrubs once they've finished.

Greenhouse & Citrus: In unheated greenhouses, plant sturdy tomatoes and other tender crops. Feed citrus with Spring fertiliser and prune lightly for shape and airflow.

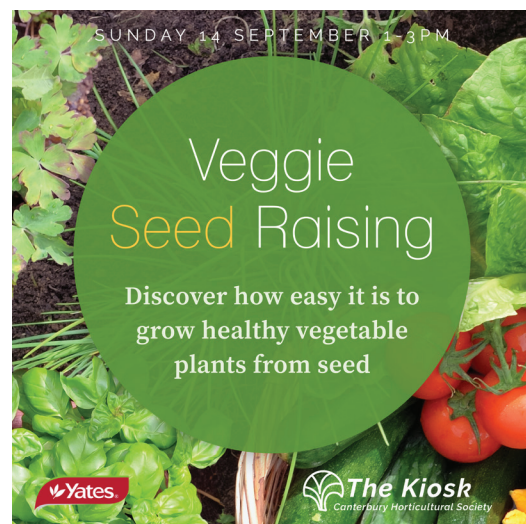
September sets the pace for the season—plan carefully, protect tender growth, and enjoy the burst of colour and energy in your garden.



ODERINGS
GARDEN CENTRES

Monthly Tips & Tasks from Julian Odering

Thanks to Julian Odering of Oderings Garden Centres for his seasonal insights last month at Garden Life. Julian returns this month to present Tips & Tasks (**Garden Life is on the 2nd & 3rd of September**), so bring along your gnarly questions — Julian is here to help.



Bot Tots

Mondays 10 - 11.30am (term time only)

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens
Gardening and nature themed activities for preschoolers. (\$2 koha per tamariki).

1 September: Fathers Day Hand Tree Card

8 September: Recycled Rockets

15 September: Shoe Box Bug Hotels

22 & 22 September: School Holidays - see our Holiday Programme

[Bot Tots Facebook page](#)

Watercolour Painting

Wednesday 10 & 24 September 10am

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

CHS Garden Club Reps

Wednesday 3 September 10am

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Riccarton Horticultural Society Spring Show

Saturday 13 September 12.30 - 3.30pm

St Peter's Church Hall

22 Main South Road, Church Corner

Refreshments available

Entries available from

Paul Phillips

tel: 384 2023 redcliffsrider@gmail.com

Avon Bonsai Society Spring Show

Weekend of 4th & 5th October 10am - 4pm*

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

The Avon Bonsai Society's annual show offers the public a chance to see the club's finest trees on display—from maples to pōhutukawa, kōwhai to larch—styled as group plantings, root-over-rock, miniatures, cascades and more. Last year's winner will judge the show, while visitors can also vote for their favourite.

Alongside the trees, there will be beautiful bonsai pots, stands and companion plants. Society members will be on hand to answer questions, share styling tips, and provide details on classes and membership. Raffles will also be held.

Free entry - come along and vote for your favourite tree! *Open until 5pm Saturday

Avon Bonsai Society

Monday 8 September, 7pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Club Night Combined Meeting with Christchurch Bonsai

Christchurch Bonsai Club Presentation - Styling Semi-Cascade Trees. **Tree of the Month:** Trees in Flower.

Visitors welcome. Join us to learn and chat about bonsai.

www.avonbonsai.org.nz

Canterbury Daffodil Show

Sunday 7 September 12.30pm

(rain day 21 September)

Natures Haven

39 School Road, West Eyreton

Tania and Peter welcome you to Natures Haven for a delightful day in the garden. Enjoy early-flowering daffodils and meet members of the NZ Daffodil Society along with fellow garden enthusiasts.

Set on 10 acres, with nearly 5 acres of gardens to explore, Natures Haven boasts over 1,000 show daffodil bulbs (400+ rare varieties), 300+ roses, and 50+ rhododendrons—with more being added each year.

\$15 cover cost for tea/coffee and 5 acre open garden.

Envirohub

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.

Christchurch Envirohub hosts **Green Drinks** networking events every month. Join them on the third Thursday of each month for more engaging environmental talks and great company!



Envirokids

Run by the Christchurch Envirohub Trust Envirokids is a fun, year-round programme for kids passionate about the environment. Each week, children can take part in different nature-themed activities, meet others, and learn through hands-on experiences. Sessions often feature guest groups from our wider environmental networks.



See: facebook.com/CHCHEnvirokids

Friends of the Gardens

Guided Walks in the CBG **resume next month**. The next scheduled walks are at **Mona Vale** on **Saturday 13 & 27 September** at 1.30pm (90 mins).

Talks with the Friends in the Kiosk
Sunday 21 September 4pm
\$5 CHS Members (\$10 Non-Members)
Canterbury Museum: Past, Present, Future

Andrea Webley, Fundraising and Development Manager, will give an illustrated talk about the Museum's major redevelopment of its Rolleston Avenue site. She will discuss the evolution of the Museum's building complex over the last 150 plus years, the numerous reasons behind the need for the redevelopment, and the massive project to move the collection and staff to offsite storage and offices while running an open museum. The talk will conclude with some sneak peeks at what the new Museum will look like when it reopens in 2029.

The Plant Stall has lots of affordable options for your garden. All plants **\$7ea**. Pay by cash or eftpos.

Garden Club News

Join the Papanui Garden Club!

Love gardening? Come and be part of the Papanui Garden Club, a welcoming community of garden enthusiasts based at the Papanui Club on Sawyers Arms Road, Bishopdale.

We meet on the **second Wednesday of each month at 7pm**, with evenings full of inspiration—guest speakers, seasonal garden tips, competitions, a sales table, and raffles. Members also enjoy four garden outings each year, with easy bus transport provided.

Our Garden Section has been thriving for 34 years, growing into a vibrant club that's fresh, friendly, and stimulating for today's gardener.

Membership is simple: join the Papanui Club for \$30, plus a Garden Section subscription of just \$10.

Interested? We'd love to welcome you! Contact **Anne Gane** on tel: 021 323 790 or email: anneganenz@outlook.co.nz

For more on CHS Garden Clubs visit:
www.chsgardens.co.nz/chs-garden-clubs

Chrysanthemum Group

Saturday 20 September 1.30pm

Michael and Susan's home

General cultural notes, Propagation of Chrysanthemum plants. Contact **Robyn Purcell** if you are interested in coming along as a guest or joining this small group of growers. Tel: 942 9871 dandrurcell@gmail.com

Fruit & Vegetable Group

Wednesday 24 September 7pm

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Welcome back after Winter break. *All welcome*



Tea in my Garden

Our affordable, self-drive **Summer Garden Visits** are back! Bookings open next week for:

Saturday 6 December 10.30am - 12pm
Te Whare Waiutuutu Kate Sheppard House

Friday 13 February 10.30am - 12pm
Blue House Amberley

Friday 13 March 10.30am - 12pm
Flaxmere

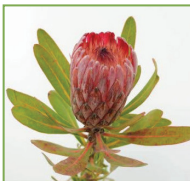
Plant of the Month

Proteas

Proteas are striking, long lasting and a little fussy about where they put down roots. Originating from South Africa they thrive in conditions that mimic their natural habitat - sunny, free draining and low in nutrients. In NZ they'll flourish best in coastal or frost-free areas.

The most important factor is drainage. Proteas detest wet feet and soggy soil will lead to root rot. A sandy or gritty soil is ideal. Raised beds and sloping sites are also excellent for keeping their roots dry. They love full sun and need at least 6 hours of direct light each day to produce their spectacular blooms. Warm, sheltered positions are best as strong winds can damage their long stems and flowers.

Proteas prefer low phosphorus soils and fertilizers. They're also drought tolerant once established, but they'll still appreciate occasional deep watering in extended dry spells. They dislike heavy pruning but benefit from regular tip-pruning of spent flowers to encourage more blooms.



At Portstone the following Proteas will be available.

Protea Cynaroides, also known as King Protea, have the largest flower head of all proteas. It features flowers with deep crimson bracts and a cream-coloured centre from autumn through until spring.

Protea Venus, known for its stunning large pink to rose-coloured flowers with a velvety, silvery appearance.

Protea Niobe, an erect growing hybrid protea. It has silvery green bracts tipped with black tufts and a black/purplish centre. Once established they will tolerate a light frost and will bloom mainly from late autumn to early Spring.

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

**Please note: discounts exclude roses and some other items. Full details are available in store.*

Garden Life November

Tuesday 4th 6pm & Wednesday 5th 1pm

Main Speaker: Helen Osborne - Te Whare Waiutuutu Kate Sheppard House Museum

Where Change Took Root: Kate Sheppard and the Landscape of Suffrage



This talk explores the remarkable life and enduring impact of Kate Sheppard through the lens of her home and garden in Ōtautahi Christchurch. As Aotearoa New Zealand's leading suffrage campaigner, Kate Sheppard understood the power of persistence, strategy, and community — values still deeply rooted in the place she once called home.

Helen Osborne shares insights into Kate's vegetarianism and its influence on the historic garden, as well as the transformation of the house into a public site of memory. The presentation highlights how this space continues to spark conversations about women's rights, political change, and social justice — inviting reflection on how heritage places can serve as powerful reminders of activism, resistance, and the everyday lives that shape history.



Helen is the Property Lead for Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga, where she manages Te Whare Waiutuutu Kate Sheppard House Museum.



Mini Speaker: Bear Astil - Midgarden

Discover the world of chilli peppers with Midgarden, a small organic farming enterprise based in Ōtautahi/Christchurch. Founded by Bear Astil and Amy Wilson, Midgarden began with a lockdown passion for growing chillies and has since grown into a thriving business specialising in organic, flavourful varieties—some familiar, others rare and surprising.

Join us to hear their story, learn about sustainable growing, and explore the fiery, flavourful world of chillies!

The Kiosk, Christchurch Botanic Gardens Armagh Street car park footbridge

Free for Members (\$10 Non-Members)

Tea, coffee and baking *afternoon*

Wine & nibbles *evening*

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

Green Thumbs

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!).

On **Monday 1st September** we'll be chatting with **Charlotte Lockhart from Urban Eden** about vertical gardens, composting, and easy veges that grow well in small spaces.



On **Monday 15th September**, Amy will be reviewing *'Nettles and Petals'* by Jamie Walton, and Ray, *'Down to Earth Gardening'* by Philip Thomsen. On **Monday 29th September**, we'll have one of our 'third show in the month' special sessions!

Listen to Amy and Ray, CHS Green Thumbs, on Plains Media 96.9 (link available via the CHS website). Listen to Amy and Ray, CHS Green Thumbs, on [Plains Media](#)
Link available from: www.chsgardens.co.nz

Spring Fair fundraiser for CHS Climate Resilient Garden

Saturday 18 October 10-2pm

This year the CHS has an opportunity to run a modest stall at the **Richmond Community Garden and Avebury House Spring Fair** and we're hoping CHS Members will support the venture! We're seeking donations of:

- Plants (labelled)
- Gardening/horticulture books
- Garden tools
- Pots/planters etc
- *and anything botanically inspired*

To make life easy (and to avoid our small Kiosk becoming overloaded) we're also looking for Members who would be happy to act as **drop-off points across the city**. If you have a home that has easy access, and some room, then please reach out to Jenny in the office so we can share your details. We will coordinate the uplift of the items - or they can be brought to the fair if you have the capacity to do so.

On the day we're looking for **volunteers to help with the stall** while we show people around the CHS Avebury Climate Resilient Garden.

Jenny Cookson office@chsgardens.co.nz

Spring is Blooming...



LINCOLN EVENT CENTRE | 15 MEIJER DRIVE | \$5 ENTRY

SATURDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 1PM - 5PM

SUNDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 10AM - 4PM

National Daffodil Society Show

The South Island National Daffodil Society Show celebrates its 99th Annual Show at the Expo this year. Expect a Spring spectacular of daffodils in every colour and form, from classic standards to delicate miniatures and intermediates—perfect for smaller gardens or containers.

Highlights also include stunning doubles and split varieties, all showcasing over a century of breeding from wild European species.