



## Redefining the Garden City

**Tony Kunowski** *Manager, CHS*

We've come a long way since Austin Mitchell's seminal parody on life in New Zealand – the Half Gallon, Quarter Acre Pavlova Paradise. The forces of urban land economics coupled with changing lifestyles and the fast food industry have transformed the landscape.

Multi-unit, multi-storey apartment blocks have insulated their occupiers from the "instant makeover, manicured within a millimetre of its mono-cultural life" that so appals Colin Meurk.

Many of these apartment blocks are now just rubble and vacant lots which dominate the CBD. These have spurred a new level of community interest and creativity as evidenced by Bailey Peryman's Garden City 2.0 and its current urban farm project. Is this "communitarism" the shape of things to come or merely a passing phase as the city rebuild proceeds based around much greater green spaces interspersed with the inevitable concrete, glass and steel corporate edifices?

Both Bailey's and Colin's articles attested to our dependence on plants for food, however the development of agribusiness spurred largely by an era of cheap fossil fuels has created an urban-rural dichotomy to the extent that many youngsters don't know that potatoes grow underground!



As fossil fuels dwindle and energy prices escalate, and exacerbated by more frequent extreme weather events caused by climate change, it is likely that informed city-dwellers will seek a degree of self-reliance and develop an interest in growing their own food, be it in window boxes, vertical gardens, rooftops, community gardens or the old fashioned allotments.

In this new urban environment underpinned by a greater recognition of "sustainability", it is highly probable that Bailey's perception of "a community food culture inspires the deep transformation to 21st century sustainability, health and wellbeing for all" will become the new reality. Then it'll be "Christchurch – the city that eats!" And we'll still have Hagley Park!

*Next month Alan Jolliffe adds his views on the future of the Garden City.*

## From the President

What a Spring we have had this year! Nature has thrown nearly everything at us, but what a joy to see the colour back in Christchurch again.

The Ramblers have walked through the gardens at Otahuna and Ilam University - both were spectacular. Do join in with our November walks at Lincoln and Kaiapoi.

Congratulations to the Tai Tapu Garden Club which celebrated its 60th birthday in October with a wonderful lunch at Otahuna. It was a privilege for Annette and me to be there.

The baskets by Ballantynes will need replanting shortly, hopefully many of you will volunteer again to maintain them. Please let me know if you can help. We would also love to hear your ideas for the next Barnett Memorial Lecture. Contact the CHS with your suggestions for topics or speakers. Finally, thanks to our organisers, the Members' Evening at Oderings was again very successful, with lots of gardening goodies going out the doors.

Happy gardening, Elizabeth

## From the Board

**Kia ora from Dagmar Goeke!**

First of all, thank you for welcoming me so warmly to the Board of the Canterbury Horticultural Society. I'm very excited about being part of the rebuild and redefinition of New Zealand's Garden City.

But who am I? I am 33 and lived my first 30 years in the South of Germany, where I learnt to love beer, sausages, cosy beergardens, and being outside in nature. After finishing my PhD in Molecular Sciences & Biotechnology in 2010, I came to Christchurch to start a new life with my partner André. In the last three years lots has happened but we love it here so much. We live in Hei Hei and I work for Landcare Research as an Ecological Geneticist.

On the weekends we enjoy whitewater kayaking, while getting used to the joys and duties of home ownership. But there is nothing better than jumping in the garden after work for a couple of hours to clear the head. I'm looking forward to meeting you all soon.

Hei konā rā... Dagmar

## Calendar of Events

### JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thu 21 November 3.45pm-5pm  
Plant Identification PC Browne Room

### CHS RAMBLERS

Tue 12 Nov 9.30am Lincoln Walkway  
Meet corner Edward & Gerald Streets

Tue 26 Nov 9.30am Kaiapoi  
Meet at the Recreational Reserve,  
Fairweather Crescent, Kaiapoi

### LOCAL EVENTS

**Guy Fawkes Fireworks Display**  
Tues 5 Nov 9.00pm New Brighton Pier

**Cup & Show Week**  
Fri 8 - Sat 16 Nov Christchurch

**Canterbury A&P Show**  
Wed 13 - Fri 15 Nov 8.00am - 5.30pm  
Tickets: \$20. Senior (Wed/Thu only) \$10  
Visit the CHS Stand – Trade Pavilion,  
Site H, Northcote Drive side

**Coca-Cola Christmas in the Park**  
Sat 30 Nov 7:30pm North Hagley Park

### Daffodil Circle

Mon 11 Nov 7:30pm Watling Room

### Begonia Circle

Wed 13 Nov 7.30pm Watling Room

### Christchurch Beautifying Assoc

Wed 13 Nov 7.30pm Board Room

### Chrysanthemum Circle

Mon 18 Nov 7.30pm Watling Room

### Canterbury Rose Society

Tue 19 Nov 7:30pm PC Browne Room

### Floral Art Society

Thu 21 Nov 1.30pm PC Browne Room

### Fuchsia Circle

Mon 25 Nov 6.30pm PC Browne Room  
Mon 9 Dec 5.30pm Xmas Dinner Watling Room

### Fruit & Vegetable Circle

Pot Luck Dinner *Bring partners; own utensils, glasses and plates.*

Wed 27 Nov 6.30pm Watling Room

### Canterbury Orchid Society

Mon 2 Dec 7:30pm Watling Room

### Garden Club Reps Meeting

Tue 3 Dec 10am PC Browne Room

### ALL ABOUT GARDENING Special Christmas Session

Tuesday 3 December 7pm  
Wednesday 4 December 9:45am

# Plant of the Month

Exclusive Perennial Petunias **NEW AT ODERINGS!**



Create extraordinary baskets and dazzling planters, patios or garden borders with a huge range of new exclusive perennial trailing petunias which all pack a bounty of flowers.

We love the standout Petunia 'Trinity' with its bright lime flowers and deep burgundy stripes.

Available in store exclusively at Oderings or online at [www.oderings.co.nz](http://www.oderings.co.nz)

## Top Tasks November

**Michael Coulter**

Warmer weather is here so we can now get on with planting all the warm loving plants outside.

**Vegetable Garden** - sow pumpkin, sweet corn, beans, courgettes and other summer plants.

Plant in warm parts of the garden tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers and chillies.

Keep cutting asparagus and keep up the water on the rhubarb to ensure a good supply.

Look out for pests and disease on fruit trees.

Liquid feed strawberries to help give good size fruit and a continuous supply.

**Flower Garden** - keep up water on daffodils until tops start to die down to give good flowers next season and treat for bulb fly.

Summer flowers can now be planted.

Keep up water and liquid feeds on roses and lilies to keep them in good health.

Trim up hedges as the spring flush of growth finishes.

**Lawns** - mow lawns regularly and feed and water to make them nice and green.

## Tour with us

This month our **Perennials & the Chelsea CHOP** Look, Learn & Enjoy tour has been very popular and is full with a waitlist. Our tour for Rose Lovers, **Romance of the Rose** is also filling fast.

In the office we are busy planning the **Ellerslie Garden Tours** and have some wonderful treats in store for late February to coincide with the Ellerslie International Flower Show. *Brochure available December*

**Romance of the Rose**  
Timaru Festival of Roses **Short Break**

29 November - 1 December 2013

From \$715 **Spaces filling fast**

**Ramblers Alpines in Flower** Field Tour

Look, Learn & Enjoy **Day Tour**

Friday 6 December 2013

Information and bookings CHS Office

**West Coast Wonders & Beyond**

14 - 16 March 2014 **Short Break**

A true West Coast experience with guide Patsy Tainui. *Brochure available late November*

**Misty Mountains & Doubtful Sound**

**Cruise** 7 - 13 April 2014 **Details December**

Visit our website for full listings or contact [tours@chsgardens.co.nz](mailto:tours@chsgardens.co.nz)

**We would love to meet you on tour!**

## Quiz Time

Give the common name for these plant genera?

- |                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1. Saintpaulia | 4. Muscari  |
| 2. Eucomis     | 5. Eranthis |
| 3. Narcissus   |             |

Answers online [www.chsgardens.co.nz](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz)

## Romance of the Rose



### Timaru Festival of Roses

29 November - 1 December 2013

Guide: Freda Hunter

3 Day Tour incorporating the Timaru Festival of Roses as well as stunning private gardens - lots of roses and lots of fun!

Cost: \$715 CHS Members

#### Highlights:

- Sue Rosevear Country Garden
- 8 Gardens in Timaru & Pleasant Point
- Botanic Gardens & Trevor Griffiths Rose Garden
- Judge the best shop window display

Tickets: CHS Office tel: (03) 366 6937

Email: [tours@chsgardens.co.nz](mailto:tours@chsgardens.co.nz)

## Plot to Pot

### Panfried Asparagus with Feta

Serves 4

#### Ingredients

- 1 bunch fresh asparagus
- 100 gm feta
- 2 hard boiled eggs
- 50 ml olive oil
- 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- Basil leaves or rocket microgreens
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Cut the feta in cubes, coarsely chop the eggs. Chop the basil. Wash and dry the asparagus and cut the stems.

Plunge the asparagus into boiling water and blanch for approx 5 min, drain.

Heat the oil in a large pan, add asparagus and gently roll around to brown slightly. Season lightly.

Place the hot asparagus on a serving platter, add vinegar to the pan and scrape up all the pan drippings with a wooden spoon, add the basil and add this sauce to the asparagus. Sprinkle over the chopped eggs and feta and decorate with basil leaves.

Serve



## All About Gardening

### Christmas Spectacular

7pm - 9pm Tue 3 December

9.45am - 11.45am Wed 4 December

Canterbury Philharmonia Orchestra

Special Christmas Performance

Tuesday evening session only

**Festive Supper/Morning Tea**

**Living Gifts**

Innovative young florists present ideas for beautiful Christmas gifts that last and last.

**Christmas Musical Interlude**

Wednesday morning session only

CHS Centre, South Hagley Park

Members: \$7 non-members: \$12

Tea, coffee and refreshments included

## Spring Garden Awards 2013

**Winner 4 Star Garden**

Peter and Jane Reed

**Winner 4 Star Plus Garden**

Janet and Brian Lovelock

**Winner 5 Star Garden**

Peter Van Der Zee

Commercial, Community & Retirement Home winners listed online at [www.chsgardens.co.nz](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz)