

Norfolk Island

*beautiful gardens
resourceful people*



Soon after landing on Norfolk Island we were met by the President and members of the local garden club who put on the friendliest of greetings and a most welcome afternoon tea at the home of Jane Evans (head gardener, Government House). This relaxing time set the tone for our experiences for the remainder of our stay. The focus of our trip was to view some of the Islands' best private gardens, with their many variations of sub-tropical plantings, beautiful trees and spectacular views. Those visits were mixed with excursions to buildings and places of the Island's brutal past as a penal colony and of later years as the eventual settling place for the mutineers of the HMS Bounty and their Tahitian wives.

A highlight of the the trip was a private visit to historic Government House, followed by a garden tour with both gardeners. Manicured lawns, colourful herbaceous borders and an amazing vegetable garden (whose produce supports a local charity) were appreciated by all.

Our evenings were fun-filled, we dined on local produce and enjoyed entertainment such as Island Fish Fry, Wonderland by Night, Mutiny on the Bounty Show, Night as a Convict and Fletcher's Fate dinner - just to mention a few.

Our trip to Norfolk Island was everything the brochure said it would be; friendly resourceful people, wonderful scenery, beautiful gardens, interesting history and heaps of fun.
Gail Scrivener CHS Tours

HEBE RHUBARB & CUSTARD

Oderings Plant of the month



New for 2014, the colourful foliage tints of Hebe 'Rhubarb & Custard' make a big impression in pots and borders, while the pretty pink flowers add extra impact in Summer. The leaf colour of many hebes intensifies in winter, but these pink, cream and green leaves are vivid all year. A show stopper in a pot or border, the foliage is joined by small pink flowers in late Summer. Grow in well-drained soil in full sun or part shade. Height and spread 60cm (2ft), fully hardy.

Available in store or www.oderings.co.nz

AUTUMN SHOW 2015

Celebrating your harvest

The Autumn Show categories are now out! Will your entry be the Heaviest, Ugliest, Prettiest Decorated, Best Sculptured or Best Presented Gourd & Pumpkin Pair?

Collect your gourd seedling at the December AAG; especially for those who missed out on a pumpkin last month.



CHS NEWS

Christmas Greetings

Canterbury Horticultural Society
Newsletter No 209 December 2014
e: office@chsgardens.co.nz
t: (03) 366 6937
CHS Centre: office hours 9am - 4pm
www.chsgardens.co.nz
[facebook.com/CanterburyHorticulturalSociety](https://www.facebook.com/CanterburyHorticulturalSociety)



Garden Trends

*Is your outdoor and indoor space an extension of yourself?
Find out about the latest garden trends inside...*

QUIZ TIME

Christmas Knowledge!

1. Of all the trees in the wood which one bears the crown?
2. Which tree gives frankincense?
3. What is known as the New Zealand Christmas tree?
4. Which is the traditional Christmas tree?
5. Which tree gives myrrh?
6. Under what did Mummy kiss Santa Claus?
7. On which plant material did Baby Jesus sleep?
8. A name given to a whole tree used to heat the house?
9. The Christmas lily?
10. What plant material is used in a Christmas wreath?

answers: www.chsgardens.co.nz

Oderings School Gardens Show

Tony Kunowski, CHS Manager

In March next year the CHS will present the Oderings School Gardens Show involving 12 primary and intermediate schools. The introduction of the schools category to the 2014 Ellerslie International Flower Show was a huge success and given the loss of Ellerslie we want to maintain the momentum that this initiative has generated. We are pleased to have the support of Oderings Garden Centres as the naming rights sponsor with further support from Intelligro, Shrinkmaster, Rotary Club of Christchurch, Tui, Magic Moss, Weekend Gardener and Christchurch Star.

The schools will be required to prepare a brief to describe what their garden is intended to portray and they will be judged on four criteria - the wow factor, design & theme, educational elements and presentation. The show will be held over the three days 6-8 March in the Horticultural Centre and entry fee will be by gold coin donation. We want it to be a gala event so have arranged Jed's Rollickin' Gelato and The Brew Crew to be on site.



presented by
Canterbury Horticultural Society



TOURS



MELBOURNE FLOWER SHOW 2015

5 Day Short Break 24-28 March 2015
Fully escorted short break incorporating Melbourne Flower Show, Mount Macedon, Dandenong Ranges, Botanic Gardens, Melbourne sights and much more!
Brochure out now: \$2,149 twin share

A DAY ON THE PENINSULA

Hinewai Reserve & Fisherman's Bay Private Garden
Tuesday 27 January 2015
Book now: \$85 (BYO Lunch)
Includes: coach transport, garden entry and afternoon tea

Bookings & Registrations t: 366 6937
email: office@chsgardens.co.nz

IN THE PLANNING

WOW Wellington October 2015
Look & Learn March-December 2015
A range of affordable day tours around Canterbury
Norfolk Island November 2015
A repeat of this wonderful tour!
Chiang Mai Flower Festival Thailand January 2016

CHS OFFICE Christmas Hours

The CHS Office will close at 4pm on Friday 19 December and reopen 9am on Monday 12 January 2015.

Messages will be cleared during this time but the centre and office will be closed.

We hope you all have a safe and enjoyable Christmas and New Year celebration.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Visiting Norfolk Island with the CHS tour has shown us a very different life-style. Most of the 1500 locals are related and know those who are not. The warmth, co-operation and respect for both people and environment is mostly now missing in our world. Bananas and Norfolk pines grow well, but there are few crops that grow on the Island so there is great reliance on the ships coming in to provide everything. If the boat is late or cannot unload because of the weather many of the things we take for granted are unavailable. Here we have the ability to grow or buy anything we need or want. Be grateful we live in a land of plenty. With Christmas so close, I wish you Seasons Greetings and happy holidays, *Elizabeth*

Spying the latest in Garden trends

Are you a bed-head, colour-freak or rebel?

US-based Garden Media has been producing garden trend reports for 14 years and the 2015 report makes interesting reading.

Gardening was found to go hand in hand with a healthy lifestyle. "People see both outdoor and indoor spaces as extensions of themselves and are making conscious decisions to use plants and garden products as "tools" to increase their overall wellbeing, lead a sustainable lifestyle and make a positive impact on their communities and the planet". Sounds very much like the trends observable right now in Christchurch, apart from the last!

The report identified nine trends summarised here:

- The new consumers – young men spend \$100 more on garden plants and products than the average consumer
- Wellbeing from the outside in – people aren't just gardening for beauty but to nourish their communities, the environment and their own wellbeing
- Colour pops – trending colour palettes – ranging from vintage and muted rustic to teal and pink – show off personality in flowers, plants and outdoor products
- "Garden-tainment" – the party is moving outside and demand for outdoor plants is set to grow by 4%



- Bite-sized decadence – whether in a small space garden or on an apartment balcony, compact plants are packing a lot of punch with rich colours and textures
- Portable gardening – convenience and simplicity drive this trend which allows the "always-in-motion" generation to take gardening wherever they go
- Rebel Hoods – resident rebelling against planning rules and creating "agri-hoods" with urban chickens, bees and lawn-less landscapes
- Bed Head – purposefully un-styled outdoor spaces reflects an "anything goes" attitude
- Smoke your garden – legalisation in around 50% of the US will increase the grow-your-own marijuana trend

More online:
www.gardenmediagroup.com

A & P Show 2014

garden guru success!

Sharing our Knowledge

For this years A&P show the CHS invited members of the public to share a cuppa and a question with our best Garden Gurus.

Dave Adams, Carole Anderton, Michael Coulter, Freda Hunter, Alan Jolliffe, Athol McCully, Alan Paterson and Rachel Vogan fielded a range of gnarly horticultural and gardening questions over the 3 days of the event.

The support team gave away complimentary passes to All About Gardening to promote this flagship event to the wider public.

Thanks must go to Michael Coulter for growing such a great range of perennials for our colourful display and to Dave Adams for the wonderful daffodils.

The event finished with an amazing sell-off of all the plants, there was not one left! Many thanks to all our members who dropped by for a chat during the show.

Ray King



SPECIAL SKILLS WORKSHOP

Decorating The Christmas Table
Demonstration & Workshop with
Ray King & Freda Hunter

Wednesday 10 Dec, 10am – 12pm
Templin Hall, CHS Centre
All participants: \$10

Tickets: www.chsgardens.co.nz

Flax Weaving with Daphne O'Connell
On hold until further notice

CHS CIRCLES

Begonia Circle
Wed 10 Dec 7.30pm Watling Room

Chrysanthemum Circle
Mon 15 Dec 7.30pm Watling Room

CHS AFFILIATES

Orchid Society
Mon 1 Dec 7pm Watling Room

Garden Club Reps Meeting
Tue 2 Dec 10am PC Browne Room

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thu 18 Dec 3.45pm Watling Room

CHS RAMBLERS

Tue 9 Dec 9.30am Mona Vale
Meet in car park by lily pond.
Bring something for a shared morning tea.

The 2015 Programme is out now!

Walks will start at 9.45am every second and fourth Tuesday each month.

Download the flier from our website:
www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers

ALL ABOUT GARDENING CHRISTMAS

Tue 2 Dec 7pm & Wed 3 Dec 9.45am
Members: \$7 Non-members: \$12

Festive & Floral
Celebrate Christmas with flowers from your garden.

Musical Entertainment by the Sweet Adelines Barbershop Quartet, 'Key Note'

Michael Coulter's Top Tasks



Now is a very busy time in the garden. Plant growth is rapid and we need to keep on top of the many tasks that need to be done. The weather has been very changeable with a lot of wind.

This means that we will have to keep up the watering as winds increase transpiration in the plants.

FLOWER GARDEN

Begonias, marigolds, petunias and all the other Summer bedding plants can now be planted.

Keep the water up on roses and watch out for pest and diseases. Spray as needed to keep

plants healthy.

Prune back any excessive growth on trees and shrubs that may interfere with paths, windows or power lines before they become a problem.

Liquid feed any plants growing in pots or containers to keep them healthy and growing well.

Do not allow weeds to grow too big. Small seedling weeds are easier to control.

Remove the spent flowers on shrubs, annuals and perennials to encourage more flowers.

Add supports to taller growing plants before they get too tall and start to fall over.

Try to water in the mornings before it gets too hot and windy so that plants are dry at night this helps to stop the spread of fungus diseases on the plants.

LAWNS

Keep the grass growing by regular feeding and watering - do not cut too low.

As it gets drier and warmer grass will want to flower and go to seed. If this starts cut the grass a little shorter to remove the flower stems then feed and water well.

Cut the grass every week. This keeps it tidy and does not produce too much in the way of clippings to get rid of.

FRUIT & VEGGIE GARDEN

Sow parsnips, plant leeks and keep a continuous planting of leafy veggies to give a good supply all the time.

Keep the water up so that plants make good growth to give the best crops. Tomatoes and beans need plenty of water.

Keep the weeds down to reduce plant

competition so the crops can grow to their best.

Remove the laterals on tomatoes (best done in the morning when plants are cooler as they break off better then) and keep plants pest and disease free.

Spray apples for codling moth and black spot now and in January spray for spider mite to give good quality crop.

Harvest produce when it is ready to ensure you get the best from the garden, especially beans, zucchini, peas and runner beans as these are better consumed when they are tender.

Mould up potatoes and look out for the tomato potato psyllid which attacks the plant reducing the crop to useless. This pest attacks plants belonging to the potato, tomato and pepper group of plants. If seen (usually on the underside of the leaves) spray with an insecticide to treat.

ALL ABOUT GARDENING IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Please note that both **February** and **March** All About Gardening sessions will be held at the new Visitor Centre in the Botanic Gardens. In the morning sessions of **4 February** and **4 March** the electric shuttle will be operating to deliver members from the bridge opposite the Tea Kiosk to the Visitor Centre between 9.00am and 9.45am, and returning to the bridge from 11.45am to 12.00 pm.

To minimise any walking, members are advised to park as close as possible to the bridge and the ferrying to and from the Visitor Centre will operate on an "on demand" basis.

We will confirm the topics via email and posting on our website as soon as we have finalised the details.

SUMMER GARDEN AWARDS 2015

Entries close on **Wednesday 28 January 2015** and judging will be held on **Sunday 1 February 2015**.

Please download the brochure and entry form from www.chsgardens.co.nz/competitions/summer-garden-awards or pick one up from the CHS Office in South Hagley Park.

Entry is FREE and open to all!