



CHS NEWS

Canterbury Horticultural Society
 Newsletter No 212 April 2015
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Oderings School Gardens Show a Huge Success

One of the judges, Christchurch City Councillor Ali Jones, describes the Gold winning Bromley entry (pictured here) as “stunning”. “The nautical, beach theme was implemented with a lot of thought and a great deal of attention to detail. I particularly liked the seagulls which all seemed to have a personality of their own,” she said.

ALL ABOUT GARDENING

May 2015

Located at the Canterbury Horticultural Centre

Tuesday 5 May 7pm - 9pm

Wednesday 6 May 9.45am - 11.45am

Seed Saving - During 2013 Danielle Johnson interned with Native Seeds/SEARCH, a US based seed conservation organisation which promotes the growth and use of desert-adapted native crops seeds found in the Southwest of the USA and Northwest of Mexico. She shares her knowledge gained during this experience.

Floral Extravaganza - with the Margaret Watling Memorial Demonstration coming up, local florist Angeline Ward is whetting our appetites with some clever and modern floral design ideas.

MENTORS WANTED

The Primary Industry Training Organisation (ITO) provides training for people in the agriculture, horticulture, water, equine and sports turf sectors. It is seeking expressions of interest from people to act as mentors to their trainees especially in the areas of literacy and numeracy.

Mentors are given training and all out-of-pocket expenses will be reimbursed. If interested please contact Tony Kunowski on email: tony.kunowski@chsgardens.co.nz

FROM THE PRESIDENT



So much has happened in the last month. Our prize-giving for Summer Garden Awards has been held in conjunction with the Christchurch Beautifying Association. Judging for the Edible Garden awards has taken place and of course the wonderful Oderings School Garden Show has been held.

Congratulations to all the participants and thanks to those who gave their time and expertise for them to happen.

Deputy Mayor Vicki Buck and CCC Sustainability Advisor Tony Moore discussed with the Board the City Council’s Food Resilience Strategy and what role the CHS might play in this. Clearly there is a lot of opportunity for us to work with community groups in both an educational and mentoring capacity towards the overall goal of “Edible Canterbury”. Enjoy the time of harvest in your garden. See you at our Garage Sale and Autumn Show.

Cheers *Elizabeth*

Autumn Show 2015

Saturday 25 & Sunday 26 April 2015

Celebrate this stunning season with a bounty of magnificent produce and blooms at the CHS Autumn Show.

Open: Saturday 1pm - 4.30pm

Sunday 10am - 4pm

FREE ENTRY



Suncheon

Would-Be Korean “Garden City”

In late February the CHS represented by President Elizabeth Peacock, Vice-President Alan Jolliffe and Honorary Life member Michael Coulter hosted a delegation from Suncheon, a city of approximately 300,000 in South Korea located in the Jeollanam region.

The delegation led by Professor Jongsang Sung from the Department of Landscape Architecture at Seoul National University comprised academics, research students and local bureaucrats and the purpose was to find out ways and means of “enhancing Suncheon’s international status as a garden city in Korea”.

Considered a must-visit eco-city for nature lovers, Suncheon offers a perfect blend of scenic beauty and rich biodiversity. Among its top attractions are the vast field of reeds at Suncheonman Bay Ecological Park (Field of Reeds) and the two temples recognized by the Michelin Green Guide for their picturesque scenery—Songgwangsa Temple and Seonamsa Temple. The city further established its reputation as an eco-city by hosting the International Garden Exposition Suncheon Bay Korea 2013.

The discussion covered a wide range of aspects of how

Christchurch achieved its status as “the garden city” and in particular what motivated private citizens to develop their colourful, floral gardens that have contributed so much to the city’s image.

The CHS’s role and its numerous activities such as All About Gardening, Interactive Horticulture workshops, Summer/Spring Garden awards and more recently Edible Garden Awards were discussed at length and a strong connection was made. It is likely that the CHS may soon receive invitations in the future to visit Suncheon in an advisory capacity.



ALL ABOUT GARDENING APRIL

*At the Canterbury Horticultural Centre
Tue 7 April 7pm & Wed 8 April 9.45am*

It’s Harvest Time Rachel Vogan talks about the Wai-Ora Trust.

Orchids - on show in the CHS Combined Autumn Show. Lesley Newton of the Canterbury Orchid Society discusses some of the many varieties of these beautiful and fascinating plants.

CHS CIRCLES

- Begonia Circle**
Wed 8 Apr 7.30pm Watling Room
- Daffodil Circle**
Mon 13 Apr 7.30pm PC Browne Room
- Floral Art Circle**
Thu 16 Apr 1.30pm Watling Room
- Chrysanthemum Circle**
Mon 20 Apr 7.30pm Watling Room
- Fruit & Vegetable Circle**
Wed 29 Apr 7.30pm Watling Room

CHS AFFILIATES

- Garden Club Reps Meeting**
Tue 7 Apr 10am PC Browne Room
- Orchid Society**
Mon 6 Apr 7pm Watling Room

PLANT OF THE MONTH

Snowdrops



Snowdrops – on a wet and cold day when Winter has us firmly in her grip, how a patch of snowdrops can gladden the heart.

They begin their flowering when little else does and therefore make themselves an invaluable addition to our gardens.

Plant these lovely corms this month to ensure you are see the lovely flowers appear in July/August. Planted under deciduous trees they should bulk up quickly if fed a little and kept mulched for even moisture.

Purchase at any Oderings store or online at www.oderings.co.nz

The City's

LARGEST

and friendliest

GARAGE SALE

SAT 11 APRIL 8.30-12.30

CANTERBURY HORTICULTURAL CENTRE 57 RICCARTON AVE HAGLEY PARK
031 366 6937 OFFICE@CHSGARDENS.CO.NZ WWW.CHSGARDENS.CO.NZ

Considered a must-visit eco-city for nature lovers, Suncheon offers a perfect blend of scenic beauty and rich biodiversity.



CHS President Elizabeth Peacock along with Alan Jolliffe and Michael Coulter greet members from the Suncheon City delegation

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thu 16 Apr 3:45 - 5pm Watling Room

New Juniors Needed!

As older children move on we really need **four** new members for this year.

Parents or grandparents usually stay through the session and are valued as part of the interactive nature of the programme.

For more information contact
Dave Adams tel: 342 6236

CHS RAMBLERS

*Tue 14 Apr 9.45am Hagley Park
Meet at the CHS*

*Tue 28 Apr Tamara Park
Meet crn Rothsay Rd & Regalwood Cl*

UPDATED TIME for 2015

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

No walk if very wet.

2015 GARAGE SALE

Saturday 11 April 8.30am -12.30pm

The annual Garage Sale will be held in the Horticultural Centre on April 11.

Contributions from members are sought in the usual categories of Garden Products & Plants, White Elephant, Clothing, Books, Toys, Manchester and Jewellery. These can be dropped off at the Horticultural Centre between 9am and 4pm from Monday to Friday.

We look forward to another great sale!

Michael Coulter's Top Tasks



April is a busy month in the garden with the start of Autumn and cooler nights mean that we must get ready for the coming Winter.

The Summer annuals are at the end of their flowering season so they need to be removed and the ground worked over and rested before planting Spring flowering plants.

Harvest time in the vegetable garden for many of the Summer crops is drawing to a close so any unused ground can be planted in green crops for the Winter to improve the soil for next season.

After fruit has been picked it is a good idea to give the trees a clean up spray before the leaves fall to help control pest and diseases next season. Lawns can now be given some repairs and fertilisers to get some growth before Winter.

TOURS

Inspiring gardens
& rich culture

TARANAKI SPECTACULAR

7 – 12th November 2015

A showcase of outstanding gardens and other must do experiences of the Taranaki region.

This province is the garden grandeur of New Zealand, blessed with high sunshine hours and plenty of rain. Taranaki has rich volcanic soils and subtropical conditions conducive to the cultivation of a huge variety of gorgeous plants.

The itinerary includes a feast of gardens (large and small) scenic attractions, bush and coastal walks, garden centre visits and free time for retail therapy.

As well as Pukeiti (NZ's premier Rhododendron Park) we visit Tupare House & Garden, Pukekura Park, Te Kukumara, Boxwood and many more.

Book now: \$2,199 Member
\$425 single supplement per person



LOOK & LEARN

Roses - Look & Learn

1.30pm Wed 13 May 2015

Book now: \$20 car pool

Day trip to Moffatt's Flower Company. Learn about all facets of the growing process from fresh made cuttings to full grown bushes in glasshouses.

IN THE PLANNING

Chiang Mai Flower Festival

Thailand 29 January - 10 February 2016

Norfolk Island - A repeat of this wonderful tour!

Now running in March 2016

For your brochure and bookings please contact the CHS Office tel: 366 6937 or email: office@chsgardens.co.nz

Floral Extravaganza

MARGARET WATLING
MEMORIAL DEMONSTRATION
7.30PM 20 MAY 2015

WOW WORLD OF WEARABLE ARTS

Wellington Short Break

2-4 October 2015



Includes a visit to Ruth Pretty's with demonstration and gourmet lunch, Government House & Grounds Tour, A Reserve 2015 WOW Awards Show tickets & much more!

Book now: \$1,045 Member
\$199 single supplement per person
Brochure out now

QUIZ TIME

Which plant has this clothing or accessory in its common name?



Slipper



Bonnet



Glove



Cap



Purse

Answers online
www.chsgardens.co.nz

Floral Designs for that Special Occasion

Created for you by international designers,
Gislinde Folkerts & Annette Waller

7.30pm Wednesday 20 May, CHS Centre

Tickets: \$25 (\$20 early bird sales before Mon 1 May)

Includes light refreshments

Purchase online: www.chsgardens.co.nz or from the CHS Office: tel: 366 6937

Member of the Month

Helen Bain

Where were you born and where did you spend most of your childhood?

I was born in Balclutha but grew up in Owaka in the Catlins where my father owned the local garage.

Where do you live now and with whom?

I've lived in Christchurch since 1958 when I took up a position with the Country Library Service. Right now I live here in Northwood with my husband Ken.

What aroused your interest in gardening or horticulture?

In Owaka we had a large veggie garden which we looked after so we had a constant supply of home-grown produce. It was a very vibrant community and people shared or traded their fruit and vegetables.

What gardening or horticultural interests do you have now?

My primary interest is in bonsai, the growing of miniature trees practice which emanated from China and Japan

What's your favourite plant and why?

I love rhododendrons. We lost our last house due to the earthquakes but we dug up and replanted our rhodies. They stay green, are generally well behaved and retain their colour for a long time.

What's been your most challenging and/or rewarding gardening project ?



Developing my bonsai garden here. The house is 11 years old and we've been here two and half years. Although neat, it was mainly grasses, flaxes, magnolias and olive trees. It wasn't well maintained so pulling it apart and replacing it with the Asian Garden has been a major and most satisfying achievement.

When did you join the CHS and why?

I can't honestly remember the exact year but it's well over 30 years ago. My love of flowers and gardening as a lifelong hobby made joining the CHS a no-brainer.

What is your passion for the future of the CHS?

I think it faces a huge challenge to attract younger members in the face of the technological developments which seem so compulsive for them. I think many of them are interested in gardening etc but don't want to come to meetings to find out how to do things. On a different level I think it would be good if the CHS could publicise what the attractions are in a particular month in say the Botanic Gardens to encourage more people to view them.

MONTHLY RECIPE

APRICOTS, CELERY, WALNUTS & CHEESE

Sweet fruit & crunchy nuts matched with tangy aged cheddar & crisp celery

Ingredients

200g ripe apricots (or apples)
4 stems of celery
100 g walnuts (or hazelnuts)
120 g aged cheddar cheese (cubed or crumbled)
Extra virgin olive oil
Salt & pepper

Method

Halve apricots and stone. Slice thinly and add to bowl.
Slice celery thinly and add to apricots.
Crumble over the cheddar
Add the coarsely chopped walnuts
Drizzle over a little extra virgin olive oil, a little salt and a grind or two of black pepper.

This month's recipe was from Ray King. If you have a favourite seasonal recipe you would like to share please email info@chsgardens.co.nz



Weekend Gardener



ODERINGS GARDEN CENTRES

The CHS gratefully acknowledges the valuable contribution of its sponsors and supporters which are listed above. The sponsorship categories are as follows: Principal, Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze and Supporter and will be populated as sponsors join the programme. Details of the programme may be found at www.chsgardens.co.nz/sponsorship

Horticultural Heroes

Exceptional quality

This new show, sponsored by Oderings, attracted eight Christchurch schools and much creativity and enthusiasm from the students. Gold awards were made to Bromley Primary School, St Albans Catholic School and West Spreydon School; Silver awards went to The Cathedral Grammar School and Aidanfield Christian School; Bronze awards were given to West Melton Primary School and Bishopdale School and Shirley Intermediate received a Merit Award.

Convenor of judges and former Ellerslie judge/ ambassador Rachel Vogan said the quality of entries was exceptional. **"As our judges noted, these gardens would not be out of place in an international garden competition," she said. "The gardens ranged from designs that encouraged bees, through to growing your own food, life at the beach, rural Canterbury. The re-use, re-purpose theme in one garden had Mums all over the city, planting up old pairs of jeans to use as planters."**

All schools participating were invited to vote for their favourite



garden (The School's Choice Award) which was won by Bromley School with over half the votes cast. The People's Choice award went to St Albans Catholic School for its Scented Night Garden exhibit (pictured centre). "We were delighted to share how a garden might look tucked up in bed" said teacher Nicky Ryan Yates.

All schools which participated in the Show have received an unexpected benefit from the principal sponsor – Oderings Garden Centres. Speaking at the awards ceremony Julian Odering pledged his company's support in the ongoing provision of plants and expertise for school gardens, fetes & fundraising events. "I have been impressed and amazed by wonderful creations of the students and I warmly congratulate them on their achievements", he said. **"Our sponsorship philosophy is very much oriented to young children, as they are our future, I'm happy to reward all the schools for their courage and enterprise in participating in this year's inaugural show".**

AUTUMN SHOW 2015

Saturday 25 & Sunday 26 April 2015

Join the Chrysanthemum Circle, Alpine Society, Orchid Society and participating Garden Clubs for a wonderful display of Autumn produce! The pumpkin entries from local schools will delight as will the sand saucers designed by pre-schoolers. There will also be a colourful display of delicious jams, pickles, bottling and relishes.

Free Entry

INTERACTIVE HORTICULTURE WORKSHOPS

Composting with Terry Windle

Saturday 25 April 2pm - 3.30pm

Sunday 26 April 1pm - 2.30pm

Templin Hall, CHS Centre

These workshops will be run in conjunction with the Autumn Show in the dock area of the CHS Centre.

Members: FREE Non-members: \$10

Book online: www.chsgardens.co.nz

2015 SPEAKER SERIES

The Winter Speaker Series returns with Our Living Landscape - "Canterbury & Further South"

Aaron Russ, Expedition Leader with Heritage Expeditions kicks off the series with: **Subantarctic Mega Herbs vs Alpine Flora**

Thursday 14 May 7.30pm

PC Browne Room, CHS Centre

Members FREE Non-members \$10

Book online: www.chsgardens.co.nz

FRUIT & VEGETABLE GARDEN

1. Check Winter brassicas for caterpillars, keep them well watered and fed.
2. Sow green crops on spare ground.
3. Remove lower leaves on tomatoes to help ripen the fruit.
4. Spray stone fruit trees with copper before leaf fall to control leaf curl.
5. Pick apples as they are ready and still firm so that they will keep better.
6. Feed leeks to keep them growing well.
7. Cover grapes from the birds as they will eat them before they are fully ripe.

FLOWER GARDEN

1. Cut back perennials as they finish flowering. Some can be divided up now.
2. Tie up and disbud chrysanthemums ready for flowering.
3. Cut back by about 50% dahlias as they finish flowering to build up the tubers.
4. Give the camellias and fungicide spray to help stop the petal blight later.
5. Check rhododendrons and viburnums for thrips and treat if needed.
6. Keep up the water if the weather remains dry.
7. Plant Spring bulbs.

LAWNS

1. Treat for weeds and any fungal infections.
2. Now is a good time to aerate and then top dress and over sow any bare patches.
3. Lawns can be now de-thatched and fertilised to reinvigorate them.

