

# TOURS

*Inspiring gardens  
& rich culture*

## SPECTACULAR TARANAKI

**Freda Hunter previews Jenny & Guy Oakley's Garden, one of the gardens on the Taranaki tour itinerary.**

Shelter has been an important factor in the development of this large family garden. Situated over 2kms on the exposed west coastline Jenny's garden features a series of rooms with hedge lined paths interspersed with warm brick walls.

Jenny has called upon her love of gardening and background in landscape design to construct a charming cottage-style garden with carefully selected trees, shrubs, roses and perennials plus a vegetable potager.

A group of pots are often a focal point in the Oakley garden rooms and you are sure to glean some great ideas from the choice of plants and placement. I was particularly taken with her potted Xeronema, racemes of red brush-like flowers, a specie from the Poor Knights Islands made a "right plant, right place" statement.

Jenny is well known for her amazing hanging baskets which



are grouped near the house and also hang from a large tree.

The tour will conclude with morning tea and a demonstration of how to be successful with hanging baskets; covering things like potting mix, plant selection, feeding and watering. This is an inspirational garden created by a passionate gardener.

*The Taranaki Spectacular tour takes place 7-12 November and includes return airfares CHC-NPL with Air NZ and four star accommodation at the Devon Hotel.*

**Book now: \$2,199 \$425 single supplement**

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

## TOUR DIARY



**Growing Roses** Look & Learn 1.30pm Wed 13 May

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.

**Book now: \$20 (\$2 car-pool)**



**WOW Wellington** Short Break 2-4 Oct 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 \$199 single supplement**

**Gunyah & Darfield** Look & Learn Wed 23 Sep  
*Details available June*



**Taranaki Spectacular** Longer Break 7-12 Nov

A showcase of outstanding gardens

**Book now: \$2,199 \$425 single supplement**

**Chiang Mai Flower Festival** - Thailand

Longer Break 29 Jan - 10 Feb 2016

Includes 5 nights in peaceful Chiang Mai.

Handicraft Tour, Maesa Elephant Camp and reserved seating at the Chiang Mai Flower Festival.

**Norfolk Island** Longer Break March 2016

*A repeat of this popular tour*

## MELBOURNE REVISITED

*Gail Scrivener chats about the latest CHS tour to flower-filled Melbourne*

The Melbourne Flower Show was a wonderful and most enjoyable experience for all 28 tour participants.

Set in the magnificent Royal Exhibition Building in Carlton Gardens, we were treated to a feast of colourful exhibits and landscape design that did not dissappoint. These displays showed the great imagination and originality of the best floral talent that Australia has to offer and delighted us all.

Along with all shows of this nature there was an extensive array of high quality garden retail product for the shoppers amongst us!

Unfortunately the weather was not so kind for our day trips to

Mt Macedon and the Dandenongs, however this did not prevent us from viewing the gardens, meeting and talking with our hosts and in general enjoying the hospitality bestowed on us.

For those who were unable to join us on this last trip another tour for 2017 is proposed (depending on your interest).

Have a look at some of the wonderful gardens we visited online:

[www.duneira.com.au](http://www.duneira.com.au)

[www.gardensoftvietara.com](http://www.gardensoftvietara.com)

[www.forestglade.com.au](http://www.forestglade.com.au)

[www.cloudehill.com.au](http://www.cloudehill.com.au)



# Member of the Month

Lesley Clouston



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

I was born in Wellington but spent all my school days in Hastings. I lived in Auckland at various times, did the big OE and came to Christchurch 40 odd years ago.

## Where do you live now and with whom?

I live in Hoon Hay with my husband Graeme.

## What aroused your interest in gardening or horticulture?

My parents had a vegetable garden and I always liked watching things grow there.

## What gardening or horticultural interests do you have now?

My primary interests are my food gardens, the pleasure of picking and eating within hours is wonderful. Things taste so much better. I also like growing food you can't readily buy in the shops – tomatillos, fennel, spicy radishes and the like. I also have a small area of flowers I can cut for the house, I'm planting some seasonal pleasures like daphne in pots to keep beside the front door and the rest is perennials and shrubs.

## What's your favourite plant and why?

There are too many to pick from. Maybe beefsteak tomatoes?

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

Creating a food forest around a few, well-established fruit trees. The concept of a food forest did not originate in temperate climates and I find it difficult to identify suitable plants. It's a work in progress, this winter some of my first plantings will be

replaced and some others re-located.

## When did you join the CHS and why?

About 5 years ago, after I retired. I had always wanted to attend the meetings but it was difficult with a full time job.

## What is your passion for the future of the CHS?

Many young people are interested in gardening because they want to grow their own healthy food, they want to save threatened species, they want to retain natural habitats for wildlife and so on. They have busy lives and technology has changed the way they communicate, exchange information and socialise. Somehow the CHS needs to attract these people, I don't know how – many other organisations are struggling with the same issues.

## GARAGE SALE - Fundraising Success!

The CHS annual Garage Sale was held on Saturday 11 April with approximately \$5,000 raised for the Society. Thank-you to all our wonderful volunteers who tirelessly helped unpack, arrange, sell and tidy up. Your help is much appreciated.



**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](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz/sponsorship)



# CHS NEWS

Canterbury Horticultural Society  
Newsletter No 213 May 2015

e: office@chsgardens.co.nz

t: (03) 366 6937

CHS Centre: office hours 9am – 4pm

www.chsgardens.co.nz

facebook.com/CanterburyHorticulturalSociety

## Grow, Pick, Eat & Enjoy The third Edible Garden Awards



The selection of entrants in the 2015 Sustainable Edible Garden Awards were once again of an excellent standard and the judges were impressed by everyone's bountiful gardens. Reg Williams garden, awarded Best in Category - Residential House is featured in the background. In the foreground is Marjolein Chow with daughters and Mike Davidson with representatives from the Marralameda Charitable Trust.

### ALL ABOUT GARDENING June 2015

Located at the Canterbury Horticultural Centre

Tuesday 2 June 7pm - 9pm

Wednesday 3 June 9.45am - 11.45am

**Producing high quality employees to power a vibrant horticulture industry.**

Mike Styles of New Zealand's largest industry training organisation, Primary ITO, discusses issues facing the horticulture industry and proposes some solutions.

**How have the birds of the Estuary and their habitat fared following the quakes?**

The Christchurch City Council's Park Ranger for Wildlife Management, ornithologist Andrew Crossland.

### MID-WINTER LUNCH

The annual CHS Mid-Winter Lunch takes place on **Saturday 13 June** at CPIT's restaurant, Visions on Campus.

Once again Visions have created a delicious Winter menu for us, accompanied by a full pay bar.

Tickets are \$30 per person and will be available from the CHS office and website mid May. We look forward to celebrating Winter with all our members.

## Sustainable Edible Garden Awards 2015

These awards started in 2013 as an initiative of the Shirley-Papanui Community Board (SPCB) supported by the CHS. The SPCB repeated the awards in 2014 with great success and 32 awards were made. The Lyttelton – Mt Herbert Community Board (LMHCB) also participated in 2014. The CHS assisted in the promotion, judging and hosting of the 2015 awards.

The following entrants were awarded Best in Category: **Reg Williams** (Residential House) **James Cumming and William Cochrane** (Residential Unit) **St Albans Uniting Parish** (Community Garden) **Paparoa Street School** (School or Early Learning Centre).



### FROM THE PRESIDENT

To have a Society we need members of all ages. To make it function we need Volunteers. Volunteering is the surest way to make friends. The annual garage sale is a prime example for all of this. Started 17 years ago and developed to its current state of efficiency we need to especially thank Ruth Bird and Freda Hunter for the years of co-ordinating and organisation they

have given. The Garage Sale is our biggest volunteer fund raiser for the Society and has provided many things to improve the facilities we have for everyone. Many of our wonderful volunteers have worked tirelessly every year to provide such great results regardless of age or health. Deep friendships have developed which is such a contribution to the fun, happy atmosphere that is so much part of the set-up days leading up to the actual sale and to why so many people come back to buy.

The whole CHS gives a hearty vote of thanks to all of you who helped.  
*Elizabeth*

# Aaron Russ

## Sub-Antarctic Mega Herbs vs Arctic Flora

## WINTER SPEAKER SERIES.

Four highly qualified and experienced speakers present this series of stimulating talks culminating in the MJ Barnett Memorial Lecture.

Aaron Russ launches the programme with the intriguing topic of *Sub-Antarctic Mega Herbs vs Arctic Flora*.

Aaron Russ has grown up surrounded by wildlife and wilderness, especially that of the world's oceans. From the Deep South to the High Arctic he has travelled as a way of life and a hobby to many of the world's most remote and biologically diverse regions. Starting his ocean exploring in the Sub Antarctic and Antarctic waters south of New Zealand Aaron continued to explore and expand his horizons.

Aaron has led small ship expeditions for over a decade with a number of international cruise companies to places such as the Canadian Arctic, Greenland, Svalbard, Russian Far East, Antarctica, tropical Pacific and the Galapagos. He is a keen photographer,



a hobby which combines well with traveling to some of the world's premier natural history destinations.

The Winter Speaker Series talks start at 7pm in the PC Browne Room at the CHS Centre, 57 Riccarton Ave, South Hagley Park and light refreshments will be served.

Also in the programme

**Thursday 11 June 2015**

Doug Logan : *Flora of NZ Southern & Other Alpine Regions*

**Thursday 9 July 2015**

John Thacker: *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly – Pest Plants and their Control*

**Thursday 13 August 2015**

Prof Jenny Webster-Brown : *Managing Water Run-off in an Urban Environment*

### ALL ABOUT GARDENING MAY

At the Canterbury Horticultural Centre

Tue 5 May 7pm & Wed 6 May 9.45am

**Seed Saving** Danielle Johnson talks about Native Seeds/SEARCH, a US based seed conservation organisation.

**Floral Extravaganza** Local florist Angeline Ward whets our appetites for the Margaret Watling Demonstration with some clever and modern floral design ideas.

### CHS CIRCLES

**Daffodil Circle**

Mon 11 May 7.30pm PC Browne Room

**Floral Art Circle**

Thu 21 May 1.30pm Watling Room

**Chrysanthemum Circle**

Mon 18 May 7.30pm Watling Room

**Fruit & Vegetable Circle**

Wed 27 May 6.30pm Pot Luck Dinner before AGM Watling Room

### CHS AFFILIATES

**Orchid Society**

Mon 4 May 7pm Watling Room

**Garden Club Reps Meeting**

Tue 5 May 10am PC Browne Room



### PLANT OF THE MONTH *True Flanders Poppy*

True Flanders Poppy became the symbol of remembrance honouring the soldiers who died in wars. Poppy seeds only regrow and flower in turned over soil, so their seeds can lie on the ground for years. In World War I, the soil of the whole Western Front battlefield was churned up and poppies sprouted, grew and blossomed as never before. Covering the graves of those who had been killed in northern France.

So in remembrance of our fallen, Oderings are donating 4500 seed packets of 'Oderings True Flanders Poppies' worth \$3.69 each, which you can purchase for a gold coin donation (or more if you wish). Oderings will donate 100% of these donations to the Returned Services Association in support of veterans as well as ex-service people and their families in need.

### IMPROVE YOUR GENERAL HORTICULTURE KNOWLEDGE

Expressions of interest are invited from members who would like to undertake some study towards a Level 3 Certificate in General Horticulture presented free of charge by an NZQA Accredited tutor from Agribusiness Training. The course involves a total of around 80 hours at about 3 hours per fortnight with a combination of theory and practical study. Classes will be held in the evening unless we have enough demand – we need a minimum of 8 participants – for daytime classes.

Contact me if interested – [tony.kunowski@chsgardens.co.nz](mailto:tony.kunowski@chsgardens.co.nz)

# Autumnal Celebration



Michael Coulter's winning Chrysanthemum 'Ivor Mace' Champion of Champions

Several organisations joined the CHS to present the 2015 Autumn Show on Anzac weekend. The Chrysanthemum, Orchid and Alpine Plant Societies, Bromley & West Spreydon Schools and the ABC Early Childhood Education Centre joined the CHS's Fruit & Vegetable and Floral Art Circles and other CHS members to create a wonderland of flowers and produce.

Terry Windle ran two well-supported and successful workshops on composting in conjunction with the show. Michael Coulter provided commentary via the roving mike and engendered much

interest in the various displays. The schoolchildren received a certificate each to mark their participation, some chocolates and a mix of plant seeds generously provided by Oderings Garden Centres.

First, second and third prize rosettes were awarded to the pumpkin growers whose pumpkins were judged on the following factors: heaviest, best decorated (prettiest), ugliest, perfect pair (pair of pumpkins or pair of gourds or a pair of a pumpkin and a gourd) and best overall (uniform shape and colour etc.)



## JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thu 21 May 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 12 May 9.45am Papanui Club  
Meet in back carpark on Sawyers Arms Rd

Tue 26 May Abberley Park  
Park on Abberley Cres near Kinlock St

### UPDATED TIME for 2015

Walks start at **9.45am** every second and fourth **Tuesday** each month. FREE  
No walk if very wet.

## STOP PRESS - SGM

Under the CHS Rules the President Elizabeth Peacock has requested that a Special General Meeting be held for the following purposes:

- To change our current 30 June financial year to a calendar year in order to reflect CHS activities
- To receive an update from the Board on the sale of the Horticultural Centre

To be held Wednesday 17 June, 7.30pm  
PC Browne Room. A quorum of 20 members is required.

## Michael Coulter's Top Tasks

May is the start of many tasks around the garden to prepare for the coming Winter. With shorter days gardening time is reduced but do remember to keep your Winter garden safe. Treat paths and decks for moss and keep leaves off drives and paths where they may become a hazard, especially when wet. Cut back the branches of overhanging trees and shrubs; these will become lower when wet and may inhibit people walking underneath them. Especially important along public footpaths (plants should be 2m clear above the street boundary to be safe).

### FRUIT & VEGETABLE GARDEN

- Harvest the last of the apple and pears before they get over-ripe.
- Remove the diseased leaves of stone fruit trees infected with leaf curl from around the trees - do not compost them.
- Clean up strawberries and dead leaves and replant new plants from any healthy runners.
- Sow green crops on unused ground.
- Look out for caterpillars on the

brassicas and treat as needed.

- Sow the first broad beans.
- Keep on top of the weeds as they are harder to control during cooler wetter conditions.

### FLOWER GARDEN

- Clean up flower beds, remove Summer annuals, cut back perennials as they finish flowering and keep weed free.
- Plant Spring bulbs as soon as possible.
- Plant Spring annuals like pansies, stocks, polyanthus etc.

- Mulch shrub borders with pea straw or like to keep weeds down.
- Prepare ground for any new plantings digging over and get rid of any perennial weeds.

### LAWNS

- Do any repairs and top dressing.
- Mow weekly until growth stops.
- Treat for weeds.
- Apply fertilisers.
- Treat for moss.

# Margaret Watling Memorial Demonstration

Gislinde Folkerts and Annette Waller, two vastly experienced and creative floral designers have combined their talents to present the 2015 Margaret Watling Memorial Demonstration. A passionate Cantabrian floral designer, Margaret Watling gifted a legacy of enthusiasm for flowers to the Canterbury Horticultural Society. Her ever cheerful personality, floral skills and leadership led her on a floral journey from membership at the Halswell Garden Club in 1964 to President of the Floral Art Society of New Zealand in 1976.

Gislinde trained as a MasterFlorist in Germany and worked there for many years before moving to NZ. In 2006 she opened 'The Flower Gallery, Studio & Shop' in Geraldine which she ran until 2009. Gislinde has competed successfully both nationally and internationally gaining placements at Flora Australis, Boston and Ellerslie International Flower Shows. Her articles have been published in Der Florist, Expressions, Floral Design in New Zealand Floral Focus and FASNZ Diary. She also holds a National Teachers and National Judges Certificate. Gislinde currently works as a freelance florist, concentrating on special events, weddings, tutorials and demonstrations.



Annette lives on a farm near Geraldine and joined the Geraldine Floral art Group in 1990 where she acted as Secretary and President and was President of the South Canterbury Area. She has competed with success at floral art shows around the globe including, Flora Australis, Boston, Canada Blooms, Ellerslie and Ireland. Currently she is a member of the Geraldine, Area Education and National Education committees. Annette's designs and step by step page feature in issues of FASNZ Floral Focus.

**Floral Extravaganza has a theme of 'Floral Designs for that Special Occasion' and takes place 7.30pm on Wednesday 20 May.** Tickets are \$25 and include light refreshments and prizes for the best-dressed. *Purchase online [www.chsgardens.co.nz](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz) or from the CHS Office tel: 366 6937*

*Canterbury Horticultural Society gratefully acknowledges the provision of plants for this event by Texture Plants*



## INTERACTIVE HORTICULTURE WORKSHOPS

Planning your Garden  
with Michael Coulter

**Saturday 16 May 10am -12pm**

PC Browne Room, CHS Centre

**Members: FREE Non-members: \$10**

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

## WINTER SPEAKER SERIES - MAY

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

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

**Thursday 14 May 7.00pm**

PC Browne Room, CHS Centre

## WINTER SPEAKER SERIES - JUNE

Doug Logan fronts the second instalment  
of the Winter Speaker Series with: **Flora  
of NZ Southern & Other Alpine Regions**

**Thursday 11 June 7.00pm**

PC Browne Room, CHS Centre

**Members FREE Non-members \$10**

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

## Floral Extravaganza Fantastic Prizes for Best Dressed!

### Get your glad rags on!

A 2-night stay in the unique self-contained Lake Hawea Bellbird cottage is on offer to both the Best Dressed Man & Best Dressed Woman at the Margaret Watling Memorial Demonstration.

A wonderful prize valued at over \$600! *conditions apply*

