



CHS NEWS

Canterbury Horticultural Society
 Newsletter No 219 November 2015
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 CHS Centre: office hours 9am – 4pm
 www.chsgardens.co.nz
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Peter Van Der Zee's Clipper Place
 Gold Award Winning Garden



Spring Garden Awards

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Over the last 4 days I have been in both Auckland and Whangarei. The Auckland University grounds provided a wonderful collection of plants many well labelled and very well managed and maintained. Other public gardens and plots were also looking very nice. Here in Whangarei we visited the Quarry Gardens where a great variety of plants are grown.

Christchurch has a problem! In a very short period of time we may not be able to call ourselves the Garden City. In both public and private gardens we appear to be losing ground to other cities.

- The volume of green space is less than other cities
- The variety of trees and plants is limited
- The maintenance of public gardens is not as good as other cities

The question now is what can we, the CHS, do about this?

I believe the CHS is in a position to influence this, our Garden City future.

- We can promote all forms of gardens to our current and future members
- We can work with other groups to promote higher standards of horticulture across the city
- We can advocate to various public bodies for improvement in management and maintenance of our public gardens, parks and reserves

Alan Jolliffe CHS President

HOME GARDENS

Medium Residential

Gold Award
 P Van Der Zee
 9 Clipper Pl

Silver Award
 B & J Lovelock
 32 Applefield Crt
 C & R Skinner
 26 Applefield Crt

Merit Award
 M Revis
 11 Greta Pl

Small Residential

Gold Award
 A Offwood
 18 Watermill Blvd

New Home & Garden

Silver Award
 D Madgin
 132 Port Hills Rd

Pocket Garden

Merit Award
 R Meikle
 387A Selwyn St
 B Wolever
 95 Grants Rd

BUSINESS & INSTITUTIONS

Gold Award
 The Chateau on the Park
 The Vineyard at
 Rossendale
 Bronze Award
 Hornby Wkg Men's Club
 Woolston Club

RETIREMENT HOMES

Gold Award
 Fitzroy of Merivale
 Silver Award
 Merivale Ret. Village
 St. Albans Ret. Village
 Bronze Award
 The Oaks Ret. Village
 Ngaio Marsh Ret. Village

SCHOOLS & LEARNING

Silver Award
 Sockburn School

COMMUNITY SPACE

Bronze Award
 Brackenridge
 Community Choices
 Merit Award
 Shirley Tennis Club

Special congratulations go to Fitzroy of Merivale who received the **Premier Garden Award** for their beautiful and well kept grounds.

ALL ABOUT GARDENING November 2015

Located at the Canterbury Horticultural Centre

Tuesday 3 November 7pm & Wednesday 4 November 9.45am

An Apple a Day the Organic Way – Bruce Campbell thought his Applefields lifestyle block would be the perfect retirement hobby. He and wife Jillian decided to treat their apple tree jungle 'the organic way' and now have a fully certified organic orchard, exporting up to a million organic apples per year. Bruce shares their story and offers tips on how to produce perfect chemical free apples. He is also offering juice and apple tastings!

Making the most of apples – an interactive session with the CHS events committee

Members: \$5.00 non-members: \$10.00 tea, coffee and refreshments included

Interactive Horticultural Workshop

Great enthusiasm for hypertufa!

It was a mild sunny morning on Saturday 10 October when 12 willing participants arrived at Magic Moss in Truro Street, Sumner carrying rubber gloves, gumboots and boxes of varying shapes and sizes.

They were warmly welcomed by Allan who introduced Tim, his partner at Magic Moss, and Doug who was to be his hypertufa manufacturing assistant. Once Allan had explained the process the practical session began with full cooperation and much enthusiasm as boxes were lined, filled with the blend from the concrete mixers operated by Allan and Doug and then set aside to cure - Allan provided everyone with copies of detailed recipes and instructions.

While the pots were being made Tim was busy demonstrating how to assemble delightful terrariums using a variety of containers into which he planted various mosses, lichens and even a stunning little orchid on a small branch. Allan took the group through the different stages of harvesting sphagnum moss



and preparing it for the market. Hanging baskets are one of the ways people use the product so Allan showed the very slick successful method he has perfected.

Finally Doug reconstructed his large hypertufa container. He explained how to arrange rocks and plant alpines into hypertufa so everyone went away with clear understandings of the whole story of hypertufa pots.

In conclusion everyone showed their gratitude to Allan, Tim and Doug for a superb practical workshop greatly enjoyed by all.

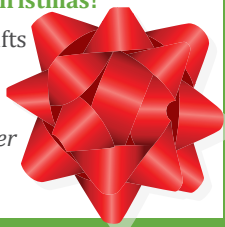
ALL ABOUT GARDENING December

Tuesday 1 December 7pm
& **Wednesday 2 December 9.45am**

We wish you a Merry Christmas!

Some clever Christmas gifts to make and festive celebrations.

Visit the CHS website closer to the time for details.



CHS CIRCLES

Daffodil Circle
Mon 9 November 7.30pm Watling Room

Floral Art Circle
Thu 19 November 1.30pm Watling Room

Chrysanthemum Circle
Mon 16 November 7.30pm Watling Room

Fruit & Vegetable Circle
Wed 25 November 6.30pm Watling Room
End of year **Pot Luck Dinner**

CHS AFFILIATES

Garden Club Reps Meeting
Tue 3 November 10am
PC Browne Room

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thu 19 November 3:45 - 5pm
Watling Room



PLANT OF THE MONTH *Double Trouble Frosted Ripple Petunia*

Odering's new Petunia, the 'Double Trouble Frosted Ripple' is one of their recent European imports, with double the performance and colour of most petunias.

This perennial cascading petunia has ongoing double flowers in a two-toned mixture of rosy-red with white frosted edges. It is a great garden performer - and simply beautiful.
Available from **Oderings Garden Centres**

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA CHS Membership for as little as \$22.50!

Need an inspired gift idea? Complete the form below and return before 7 December and we'll send you a personalised gift voucher. Vouchers are available for single membership: **\$22.50** or double: **\$27.50** and valid until 31 Dec 2016.

50%
discount!

Membership Recipient Details

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ Postcode: _____
Email: _____

Your Payment Details

Pay by credit card for the sum of \$ _____

visa mastercard

Cardholders Name: _____

Card Number: _____

expiry date: ____ / ____

Online banking for the sum of \$ _____

Pay by cheque for the sum of \$ _____

Your Details (for receipt of gift voucher)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postcode: _____

**Post this completed form to: PO Box 369,
Chch 8140 or pay via eftpos at the office.
Canterbury Horticultural Society Inc.
ANZ 06 0831 0006913 00 Ref [7200]**

News from the Board

A generous benefactor & lover of gardening

In March this year we were advised by Perpetual Guardian that the CHS was one of a number of beneficiaries of the estate of Audrey Valmai Batchelor. Other charities to benefit were Salvation Army, World Vision, Orana Wildlife Trust, Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society et al, a total of 12 charities in all. The grant administration process has taken some time including the granting of probate and the liquidation of Ms Batchelor's assets which were considerable as the final payout to the CHS was \$120,000!

The Board is keen to provide some lasting tribute to this very generous benefactor and would welcome any ideas from members. We have checked our records but can find no evidence of Ms Batchelor ever being a member of the CHS.

When we asked Perpetual Guardian to provide some background on her they

responded thus:

"She left no family and her whole estate, as you know, passes to charities. All we can tell you is that she was a legal secretary for her working life and lived in the house at 3 Ashcroft Place in Burnside owned now by the estate from when it was built in the 1960's by her father who was a builder. She never married nor had children. Her only brother predeceased her. She clearly had an interest in gardens and gardening as she subscribed to NZ Gardener and had a quite a few gardening books. To be frank, her own garden was relatively modest although she was undoubtedly a keen gardener."

If you have any knowledge of Ms Batchelor please share this with us as we would very much like to publish an obituary in a future edition of CHS News.

Tony Kunowski, Manager

Horticultural Centre Update

The Board determined to re-open bookings for the next few months so I am able to confirm that November and December All About Gardening sessions will be held in the Horticultural Centre.

It is envisaged that the long-standing insurance claim dating from the original earthquake in 2010 will be settled with our insurers NZI and that the larger repairs such as the re-levelling of the floors in the Templin Hall and Watling Room will be undertaken at some stage in the new year.

Meanwhile the search for a buyer of the Centre will continue.

CHS RAMBLERS

Tuesday 10 November 9.45am

St Martins

Park in Bunyan St by Waltham Park

Tuesday 24 November 9.45am

Travis Wetlands

Meet carpark on Mairehau Rd near Putaki Dr

Walks take place every second and fourth

Tuesday each month.

No walk if very wet. FREE

OHOKA GARDEN TOUR

Sunday 22 November

Seven amazing Ohoka gardens and the Ohoka School fête. Raising money for the Ohoka School

Tickets from \$25

visit: www.ohokagardentour.co.nz

PREBBLETON GARDEN TOUR

Saturday 28 November

Eight wonderful private gardens to view. Raising money for the Prebbleton School.

Tickets from \$20

visit: www.eventfinda.co.nz

MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS *With Michael Coulter*

November is one of the really busy times in the garden as it is the end of Spring and the start of Summer. With the warmer and longer days plants and weeds grow at a very rapid rate as do many of the pests and diseases that will attack them. The weather has a very big influence on how we will need to attend to our plants. We are experiencing a very dry and windy El Nino weather pattern at the moment which is predicted to continue through to the end of the year so we will need to take notice of our watering and where we plant our plants to ensure that they will be able to cope with these growing conditions.

The use of mulches and good watering methods will help the plants to cope with these extreme growing conditions, pests such as thrips and spider mites like these kind of conditions and are some of the main pests to be on the look out for. As we are likely to be watering more often liquid feeds may be needed more often throughout the season especially with container grown plants and plants that require high feeding such as tomatoes.

Lawns

Do not use treated grass clippings in the compost or as a mulch as they may harm other plants.

To keep lawns green water regularly and do not cut too low.

Treat for weeds before the weather gets too hot.

Give regular feeds a little often watered in gives the best results.

Christmas Twilight Workshop

Celebrate Christmas creatively this December with our twilight workshop.

Create a traditional Christmas Garland for door, mantle or table with UK florist Ursula Wright.

A beautiful creation for your Christmas day celebrations!

Cost: \$20 - Limited numbers

Includes materials and light refreshments

Venue: PC Browne Room, CHS Centre

Date: Wed 9 December 5.30-7.30pm

Bookings: tel: 366 6937

Email: office@chsgardens.co.nz

Online: www.chsgardens.co.nz

Ursula Wright

On leaving school Ursula attended Floristry College and gained a 3 year London City & Guilds Qualification. For 10 years she managed a retail florist business before returning to study for another 3 years

to complete the National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) attaining Grade 5. She launched "Garlands" flower shop with an Interflora membership and flower school called "Fun with Flowers". Those ventures led to an exciting career in floristry with highlights including competing at Chelsea, arranging flowers for the Silver Jubilee in Westminster Abbey and creating posies for many other Royal presentations.

Her work has enabled her to create friendships all over the world and to hone her technique and design skills.

Now in New Zealand she has offered to share her love and knowledge of floristry - from specific techniques to the important mechanics required before arranging your flowers!



The CHS is delighted to welcome Ursula as a member and to this wonderful workshop!

Please remember to bring with you on the day: Scissors, wire cutters, secateurs, upright candles (optional) and fresh flowers from your garden (roses etc..).

All other materials (including ribbon, wire etc..) will be provided.

MARGARET WATLING DEMONSTRATION DVD

Relive this wonderful night of floral creativity, camaraderie and humour with a professionally produced DVD now available on order from the CHS (*please allow is 10 days for production and delivery*). **A great Christmas present for friends or family who share your passion for floral art!**

\$12 order via the CHS office or online:
www.chsgardens.co.nz

EDIBLE GARDEN AWARDS

Join in a celebration of localised food production. Entries don't close until Friday 19 February so there is plenty of time to get growing! An initiative of the Shirley/Papanui Ward - with entries restricted to this ward.

Collect an entry form from our office or download one from:
www.chsgardens.co.nz

FREE

TEST YOUR GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Which country name starts with these letters?

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1. Gh | 4. Jo |
| 2. Ha | 5. Ki |
| 3. Iv | |

answers online:
www.chsgardens.co.nz

Flower Garden

Summer bedding plants can now be planted.

Chrysanthemums and dahlias can be planted now but remember to put in supports at the same time. This helps you see the young plants and they are there when support is needed as they grow.

Roses will need plenty of water and keep a watch for pests and diseases as they can appear suddenly.

After the leaves have dried off on Spring bulbs remove the tops and cover the holes left to stop any pests getting at the bulb.

Mulch around as many of the shrubs as possible, especially the likes of rhododendrons, daphne etc.

Perennial plants will grow very fast so put in the supports before they get too big to keep them in bounds.

Fruit & Vegetable Garden

Sow beans, corn, carrots, onions, leeks, parsnips, beetroot.

Plant main crop potatoes.

Plant out all the warm growing plants.

Keep the hoe busy on the small weeds before they compete with our crops.

After petal fall on the pip fruit trees treat for pests and diseases.

Water regularly but well.

Citrus trees need plenty of water and also like a good mulch around the drip line.

Recent Tour Highlights

WOW - World of Wearable Arts

All of the participants of our October Wearable Arts Short Break returned a little tired after an unforgettable three days full of highlights.

Friday saw our early arrival and start to our trip in Wellington and our first visit of the day was a preferential entry to Te Papa Museum to see the Gallipoli "The Scale of our War" exhibition. This was an emotional experience, viewing, reading and listening to the story of ordinary New Zealanders who were there, their personal triumphs and tragedies of the 8 month campaign.

After lunch in a typical Wellington blustery NW wind we visited Government House for a most interesting tour through this grand home, followed by an informative walk around the grounds and gardens with Morag, the head gardener; however the wind did not deter our interest in the least.

Saturday was a magical Spring day, calm with lots of sunshine. We travelled to Te Horo where we all enjoyed a spontaneous visit to "Lavender Creek Farm" and a little retail therapy before meeting with Ruth Pretty. Ruth spent time showing us her herb garden and giving us many tips on how to grow and use them before we met with chef "Jamie" for a cooking demonstration followed by a scrumptious lunch including whitebait fritters.



Ruth, Bette, Barbara and Margaret enjoying Wellington's fine Botanic Gardens

On our return journey to Wellington our local coach driver Garry was proud to show us the best scenery the Kapiti area had to offer. We finished our day with the focus of our visit, the WOW show, which "wowed" us completely. It was another world class spectacular performance of talent, creativity and colour.

On Sunday morning we met with David Sole, the General Manager of the Wellington Botanic Gardens, who proudly walked us through these beautiful gardens which were at their Spring best, especially the magnificent tulip gardens. David has a team of passionate and innovative people who are always looking ahead to the future, notably the project for an interactive children's garden, the purpose of which is to encourage the next generation to appreciate the gardens and have fun at the same time. The "Friends of the Gardens" is currently raising money to help with the building of this project.

Thank you to all participants for making this another memorable tour, and we look forward to repeating this tour again next year.
Gail Scrivener Tour Manager



Exploring the grounds of Government House



Government House Conservatory



Ruth Pretty's Garden Room



Ruth Pretty



Tulip Gardens



TOUR DIARY



Christmas Tour Reunion

12 noon Friday 4 December

A gathering at the home of Gail Scrivener for Melbourne, WOW Wellington & Taranaki tour participants.

Tai Tapu



Chiang Mai Flower Festival - Thailand

13 Day Longer Break 28 Jan - 10 Feb 2016

Includes 3 nights Bangkok, 2 nights River Kwai, 2 nights Chiang Rai and 5 nights in peaceful Chiang Mai.

Book now: \$5,999 \$550 single supplement
6 seats remaining



Norfolk Island Longer Break 24 April - 1 May 2016

Includes return airfares, 3½ star hotel accommodation, return transfers, 6 dinners, 7 breakfasts and a selection of hand-picked Norfolk Island excursions. Great value tour!

Book now: \$2,999 \$175 single supplement



Summer Gardens Day Tour - Wednesday 27 January 2016

Garden View, Cedar Park Gardens and more
Includes morning tea, BYO lunch. Car pool

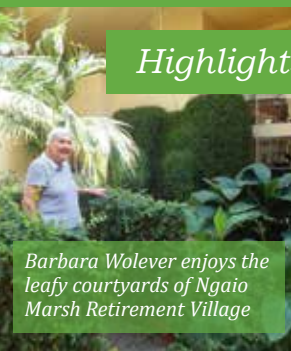
Book now: \$30 brochure available



WOW World of Wearable Arts Tour - Wellington

October 2016, a repeat of this popular Wellington short break
Brochure & costs available 2016

Highlights from the CHS Spring Garden Awards



Barbara Wolever enjoys the leafy courtyards of Ngaio Marsh Retirement Village



Ngaio Marsh Retirement Village



The floral delights of Peter Van Der Zee's Gold Award Winning Garden



Member of the Month

Michael Coulter



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

I was born and raised in Christchurch, the middle child of five.

Where do you live now and with whom?

I live in Saint Albans, an older area of Christchurch which I really love. My wife Susan and I have been married for 45 years we have two married daughters and six grandchildren.

What aroused your interest in gardening or horticulture?

I believe I was born to horticulture as a young child I was fascinated with plants and how they grew from seeds or cuttings. Every plant or seed that I planted grew and nothing succeeds like success so I was hooked.

What gardening or horticultural interests do you have now?

I love all aspects of horticulture and I like to read anything about plants so that I can learn more.

What's your favourite plant and why?

Chrysanthemums are my first love because there is no other flower that has the wide range of colour, flower form or length of flowering season that they do. As a show flower they are very rewarding, as a flower they are long lasting, as a pot plant they give colour inside and in the garden they give wonderful mass colour displays especially in the Autumn.

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

At this time as I get older I have made five raised beds for growing my vegetables. This has made me think about what is needed for the different crops, how much water is needed, when to plant and has been something of a learning curve for me. The results have been better than I thought at the start.

When did you join the CHS and why?

1969 so that I could join the chrysanthemum circle and get into the five shows held per year at that time.

What is your passion for the future of the CHS?

I would like to see the Society have a higher profile so that it will be seen as the foremost organisation for the education, information, plant assessment, and problem solving for all aspects of gardening, floral art/design, specialist plant groups and horticultural/garden displays in Christchurch.



Chrysanthemums, like these from the 2015 CHS Autumn show, are Michael's passion.

NEWS FROM HORT TALK *Our first Facebook discussion has begun!*

The CHS Hort Talk has officially kicked off and the first problem has been addressed.

Thank-you Liz & Karl for sharing your query about your portuguese laurel, hopefully our advice sees it return to a healthy state.

Remember, you don't need to be a CHS Member to ask (or answer) a question so do invite your friends, children and/or grandchildren to our group! All you need to do is sign up to Facebook then visit: www.facebook.com/groups/CHSHortTalk



Portuguese Laurel - healthy and diseased (probably infected with fireblight)



kiwigardener



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*