



CHS NEWS

Canterbury Horticultural Society
 Newsletter No 223 April 2016
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WONDERFUL CREATIVITY AT ODERINGS SCHOOL GARDENS SHOW

Special congratulations to Ōpāwa School who received the People's Choice Award for their exhibit, Ōpāwaho Voyage



ALL ABOUT GARDENING May 2016

what's on
Next Month

Tuesday 3rd 7pm & Wednesday 4th 9.45am

From your Gardens - This month's featured produce: Chrysanthemums, potatoes and pumpkins. Success and problem plants equally welcome!

Overwintering Alpines - Tips for caring for your precious alpine treasures from Hamish Brown, who grew up on a high country station in Central Otago among alpine plants. Hamish is fanatical about getting to remote and obscure areas in the Southern Alps to discover and photograph our awesome native alpines.

Mother's Day Posies - Get creative with chrysanthemums.

Members: \$5.00 non-members: \$10.00
 Morning tea/supper included
 CHS Centre, South Hagley Park

Volunteers - Garage Sale

The CHS wishes to thank all Volunteers for their past efforts in the running and organising of our annual Garage Sale.

At this stage there is no Garage Sale planned for 2016.

KID'S GARDENS DELIGHT VISITORS

There were some marvellous displays of creativity at the Oderings School Gardens Show presented last month by the Canterbury Horticultural Society and also sponsored by StarMedia, Daltons and Magic Moss.

The show featured gardens created under the theme of "Our World" by 10 schools.

Mahinga Kai
 School's Choice Award



Each exhibit was judged by a panel of experts according to several criteria – the wow factor, design and theme, educational elements and construction, presentation and finishing – which determined its bronze, silver or gold award. The children of the participating schools voted for their favourite exhibit and though Northcote School received

a bronze award for "Mahinga Kai" (below opposite) it was clearly a winner with children.

Presenting this Schools' Choice Award, Julian Odering noted that the themes of sustainability, climate change and healthy eating of locally grown produce came through strongly. "I think the future of the planet is in good hands despite the state we have bequeathed to them" he said.

Thank you to all participating students,

Ōpāwaho Voyage
 People's Choice Award



teachers and their support crews. What a fabulous event and what wonderful displays. The judges were delighted with the quality of the exhibits and felt the overall standard had gone up another notch!

Visit our flickr album to see all the photos: <https://flic.kr/s/aHskvCVvCh>

Oderings School Gardens Show

A night of achievement for Canterbury kids



Lazing at the beach with Summer School



Halswell's love & lunch by toadstool



Oaklands School win Gold



West Melton's Silver



Ōpāwa School's Heathcote river of CDs



Casebrook students happy with Silver



Halswell School wins Silver



Judge Dan Rutherford with Summer School students



Proud Northcote students



Parkview students celebrate Gold

ALL ABOUT GARDENING APRIL STOP PRESS!

what's on This Month

Celebrated gardener, journalist, and author **Lynda Hallinan** will be joining us at All About Gardening on **Tuesday 5 April** to promote her new book. There will be book sales, signings and a chance to chat with Lynda at supper time.

All About Potatoes - the storage and uses of potatoes and potato products.

CHS CIRCLES

Chrysanthemum Circle
Monday 18 April 7.30pm
General cultural notes, preparing for late shows. Staging. Update on National Show. Allocation of Duties.

Floral Art Circle
Thursday 21 April 1.30pm
Workshop - ANZAC commemoration. Red, white and blue design.

CHS CIRCLES

Fruit & Vegetable Circle
Wednesday 27 April 7pm
Jean Osborne will talk about and show some pictures of roof-top vegetable gardens in Thailand - 8th floor!

All CHS Circle meetings take place in the Watling Lounge at the CHS Centre

PLANT OF THE MONTH *Michelia Fairy White*



Magnificent fragrant pure white flowers open from brown velvet buds in Winter. Left untrimmed fairy white can eventually grow to 4m, retaining a lovely bushy shape. Great addition for the garden backdrop or as an evergreen hedge which looks lovely trimmed to frame a driveway. You can also let it grow naturally and show it off as a beautiful specimen tree.

Don't forget about **Odering's annual sale** which runs from now until the 10th of April. All plants are 25-50% off.

Stage one of the Oderings on Cashmere road is now open with the café due to open in September. Come and have a look.

www.oderings.co.nz

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Volunteers are needed to maintain Alhambra Gardens

Past President Elizabeth Peacock has accepted responsibility for maintaining Alhambra Gardens on the corner of New Regent and Armagh Streets.

She'd like a couple of assistants to help her. It's not heavy work - mainly weeding, dead-heading and rubbish removal.

If you can help please send your contact details to tony.kunowski@chsgardens.co.nz or call Tony at the office on tel: 366 6937.

Thank-you!

From the President

Congratulations

Congratulations to all the school children who helped make the Odering's Schools Garden Show a fabulous success. It was just so cool!

If you missed it do not miss next year's event. The creativity, energy, innovation, inspiration, design and sheer hard work was there for all of us to see.

These children are our future leaders in designing a city which will be great to live in, of course thanks to all the teachers, mums and dads as well, with your support and a bit of know how these children were able to create meaningful spaces telling great stories. I can't wait to see next year's show.

Last week it was my privilege to present awards to Canterbury Horticultural Society Garden Competition winners. Combining with the Christchurch Beautifying Association about 150 people attended this event. One of the loveliest surprises is seeing new people take out top awards and other awards and watching the expression on their faces.

Congratulations to all the winners and we hope all of you will have taken away some new ideas.

All of this would not have been possible without the sponsorship and support of Oderings nurseries and garden centres and all the other sponsors. Thank you so much.

Next up is the CHS Autumn Garden Show at the end of April. This will be in the Christchurch Botanic Gardens near the large glasshouses. With both the Ilex Centre and a large marquee this will be a great show that we hope everyone will come along to and bring their friends, neighbours and family.

Throughout this year we will bring you a continuing range of gardening and horticultural events that will inspire you to be even more creative.



Alan Jolliffe
CHS President

Hungry for Hangi
West Spreydon School



GARDEN CLUB REPS

Garden Club Reps
Tuesday 5 April 10am
PC Browne Room

JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thursday 21 April 3:45 - 5pm
Watling Room

RAMBLERS 2016

Tuesday 12 April 9.45am
Sharnbrook Reserve
Meet on Regents Park Drive near
Sharnbrook lane

Tuesday 26 April 9.45am
North Hagley Park
Meet at the CHS

No walk if very wet. FREE
www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers

SEASONAL GARDENS with CHS Members

Wednesday 20 April 10am

AUTUMN

Winter Preparation & Splitting of
Plants shared by Elizabeth Peacock

Cost to CHS Members: \$10

Includes morning tea. Self-drive

Register now online or via the CHS office
on tel: 366 6937 and you will be contacted
with the address.

MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS With Michael Coulter

April really is the start of Autumn, the leaves are changing colour and the mornings are cooler. I have been busy picking my apples, tomatoes, peppers and sweet corn all of which I have had a very good crop this year. I am also busy getting the last of my Winter vegetable crops planted and have also noticed the large white butterfly population that is around this year (will have to spray if I want any brassicas later).

Another pest around in large numbers this season has been the tomato/potato psyllid which has really decimated many tomato and potato crops around the city this season. To grow these crops successfully next season you will need to treat the plants to prevent the insect attacking the plants.

As I write this we are having some very welcome rainfall which will benefit the garden over the Autumn and gives us some good growth before the onset of Winter. As the ground cools then it is time to get the Spring bulbs planted and also Winter annuals will need to be planted to get some growth on before the on set of the colder Winter weather.

Lawns

1. Look for signs of fungi infection and treat if needed (bravo or thiram are effective).
2. Treat for grass grub, especially if you have a new lawn.



3. Do any repairs and top dressing to areas that have damage.
4. Mow each week but not too low and catch the clippings.
5. Feed the grass just as the Autumn growth starts to build the plants up before Winter.

Autumn Garden Show

Celebrating Autumn

Incorporating the

NATIONAL CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW

Saturday 30 April & Sunday 1 May 2016 10am - 5pm

jointly presented by *Canterbury Horticultural Society* and the *Christchurch City Council Botanic Gardens*

Ilex Room & Marquee
Christchurch Botanic Gardens

The National Chrysanthemum Show will be held at the Ilex Centre and the following organisations will be hosting stands in an adjacent marquee:

Edible Canterbury/Ōtākaro Orchard, Christchurch Beautifying Association, Friends of Botanic Gardens, Christchurch Bonsai Society, NZ Alpine Society, Canterbury Orchid Society, Riccarton Horticultural Society, CHS Fruit & Vegetable and Chrysanthemum Circles, CHS Combined

Garden Clubs and the CHS itself!

One of the latter's stands will be HortTalk where folk can discuss their horticultural or gardening issues, and it will be shared with NZ Alpine Society.

Many of the exhibits will have plants and produce for sale.

Entry is **free** and we hope to have many visitors and indeed some new members!



SHARE YOUR GARDEN

Are you a gardener with a favourite season? Would you be happy to show off your seasonal style to a small group of CHS members?

If you have something special to share - from perfect peonies to handsome hostas - we would love to hear from you.

Register your interest online, at All About Gardening or via the CHS Office on tel: 366 6937

FUN WITH SUCCULENTS

Saturday 21 May 10am
CHS Centre, South Hagley Park

Get creative with succulents in this fun workshop run by CHS member Zoe West.

Bring a container or containers of your choice. All other materials provided.

\$10 Members & Students
\$20 Non-Members

Book via the CHS office tel 366 6937 or online:
www.chsgardens.co.nz/fun-with-succulents

WINTER SPEAKER SERIES

Our Living Landscape

Thursday 12 May 7pm
CHS Centre, South Hagley Park

Sustainable Management of East Coast Forests speaker Charles Etherington

Members FREE
\$5 Students, \$10 Non-Members

Book via the CHS office tel 366 6937 or online at www.chsgardens.co.nz

Flower Garden

1. Remove Summer annuals as they finish their flowering.
2. Plant Spring bulbs
3. Cut back Summer flowering perennials by about two thirds.
4. Take cuttings of pelargoniums to get plants for next season.



5. Fuchsia cuttings may be taken now.
6. Sweet peas sown now will give early

flowers next season. Plant poppies, pansies, violas, polyanthus, forget me nots and primulas for Winter and Spring flowers.

Fruit & Vegetable Garden

1. Remove any diseased or insect damaged fruit from trees or ground beneath trees. This will help to avoid problems over Winter and infection next season.
2. Plant the last of the Winter brassicas and treat for white butterfly.
3. Compost crop waste with Autumn leaves to use next season.
4. Sow green crops on spare ground to improve the soil.
5. Remove the old fruiting canes of

- raspberries and give a copper spray for fungi diseases.
6. The first sowing of broad beans can be



- made at the end of the month.
7. Keep leeks well feed and weed free to get the best results.

Michael's Monthly Tips & Tasks are available online at: www.chsgardens.co.nz/category/all-about-gardening/tips-tasks

WOW® Wellington!

7 - 9 October 2016

After a hugely successful tour to the World of WearableArt Awards Show (WOW®) last year we are delighted to offer a return short break to WOW® 2016.

Along with the extraordinary 2 plus hour spectacle that is WOW® we have a fabulous fully escorted itinerary taking in much of what the capital has to offer and more!

Our first highlight is a lovely day travelling approximately one hour north of Wellington to Te Horo on the Kapiti Coast. Here we visit Lavender Creek Farm, a beautiful five acre property owned by Susi and Vaughan White and home to over 7,000 lavender plants as well as numerous grape vines and olive trees. The diverse range of lavender grown on the farm has helped make lavender oils that stand out on the market. Susi will demonstrate the basics of lavender oil extraction, afterwards we enjoy a cuppa and biscuit before moving onto Ruth Pretty's for lunch.

Ruth Pretty is one of New Zealand's best-known food personalities. Her interests extend beyond the highly successful catering company she runs in partnership with her husband Paul, into a diverse range of culinary activities including a popular cooking school, kitchen shop, branded range of preserves,

cookbooks and a weekly column in Wellington's Dominion Post.

The base for Ruth Pretty Catering operations is the beautiful 27 acre rural property Springfield in Te Horo. This is a market gardening area specialising in fresh fruit and vegetables, supplying most of the produce for Ruth's catering while supporting her passion for "local seasonal fresh" foods. The home of Ruth and Paul Pretty, Springfield is also used as a venue for special events, parties and (especially) relaxed Summer weddings. Here we will enjoy a tour of the herb garden and a cooking demonstration followed by a delicious three course lunch before returning to Wellington to ready ourselves for the evening's spectacular show.

Other weekend highlights include a visit to Te Papa, Government House, Botanical Gardens, and other options of your own interest.

Register now as seats are limited. Brochure available



TOUR DIARY



Autumn Look & Learn Workshop
Wednesday 20 April 10am
Winter Preparation & Splitting of Plants at the home of Elizabeth Peacock
Register now \$10 Members



WOW® World of WearableArt - Wellington
Friday 7 - Sunday 9 October
Premium show tickets, 4½ star accommodation, Ruth Pretty catering, return airfares with Air NZ.
Book now: \$1199 \$235 single supplement



Amuri Gardens & Culverden Fête
Thursday 27 October - Overnight
Enjoy delicious local fare and handicrafts at the Culverden fête before exploring a private garden in the unique alpine destination of Hanmer Springs and surrounds. **Brochure & costs available soon**



Auckland Flower Show & Waiheke Island
Short Break - 23 - 26 November
Register your interest now for a chance to explore Auckland's first flower show post Ellerslie.

WHERE IN THE WORLD *Would you like to go with the CHS?*

- Blooming Tasmania**
Spring Garden Tour - 22 September 2016
- West Coast South Island**
February 2017
- Norfolk Island**
March 2017
- UK/Chelsea Flower Show & Keukenhof Gardens**
Amsterdam May 2017
- Alexandra Blossom Festival**
27 September 2017

Your Details

Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Please send me a brochure on the tours I have selected.

Some other places I would like to visit are:

Please tear off and return to the CHS or send an email to gail@chsgardens.co.nz



Member of the Month

David Purcell



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

I was born in Christchurch and spent my childhood growing up in the seaside suburb of Sumner. The family moved to Beckenham in 1974, the year I started my working life.

Where do you live now and with whom?

I have lived in the Hornby area since 1982 with my wife Robyn and have been in our present house for the last 27 years.

What aroused your interest in gardening or horticulture?

I inherited an interest in gardening from my parents as we always had a large vegetable and flower garden when I was growing up. I also had two uncles who were keen gardeners, one with a very large vegetable garden and the other uncle, among other things showed Gladioli.

What gardening or horticultural interests do you have now?

I enjoy gardening and like to keep the garden and lawns tidy. For the last 36 years I have been a nurseryman at Landcare Research at Lincoln where I have grown some very rare and interesting plants for various research projects. As well as being a member of the CHS I am also the current President of the Riccarton Horticultural Society and Chairman of the CHS Chrysanthemum Circle.

What's your favourite plant and why?

I like lots of colour in the garden so grow many different

plants, but my passion would be the Chrysanthemum flowers. I've grown these for around 40 years and have been showing them for the last 20 years. Chrysanthemums are a great flower for the vase as they last such a long time. There are a wide variety of different types from very small to large flowers. Also it is great seeing the pleasure other people get when they see them on the show bench.

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

Several years ago I helped a friend who sold off half her section then we created a new garden which included paved areas. We swapped her double garage for a neighbour's single one and moved a pergola to a new area in the garden. It was very rewarding to finish the hard work and see her vision become a reality.

When did you join the CHS and why?

Not sure, joined many years ago to learn more about the growing of Chrysanthemums and since have gained a lot of horticultural knowledge from various speakers and events.

What is your passion for the future of the CHS?

I think the Society is heading in the right direction, but a big challenge is attracting younger members, not sure of the answer to this. Continue working with like-minded groups to improve the Garden City image.



GROWING UNDERCOVER at Christchurch Botanic Gardens

Expert curator Louise Young and Freelance sustainability educator Rhys Taylor introduce you to the world of undercover growing and the benefits of year-long crops.

You'll enjoy a hands-on demonstration of creating a cloche (French for bell) followed by a special tour of the Curator's House garden, with a taster of seasonal tapas from renowned restaurateur Javier Garcia.

Sessions - Saturday 16 April
10am-1pm and 1pm-3.30pm

To Book email :
christchurchbotanicgardens@ccc.govt.nz or tel: 941 7590.

Cash payments at Botanic Gardens Visitor Centre.
Credit card bookings over the telephone.
Limited numbers
(bookings are non-refundable).



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*