



## ENCHANTED WINTER

Art & the garden met at the Autumn Garden Show last month in Terra Viva's magical installation



WHAT'S ON  
NEXT  
MONTH

## JULY AAG

Monday 3rd 7pm & Tuesday 4th 9.45am

Arrival Cuppa - self serve tea and coffee available for members from 30 minutes prior to the meeting.

Our main speaker for July AAG is David Barwick, a team member of the Botanic Gardens Collection Curators. He will talk on the theme of "year round colour for your garden".

The mini speaker is Catherine Parkes from Wairakei School. She will tell us all about their incredible edible and sensory gardens.

Also in the programme, From Your Gardens and this month's Tips and Tasks with Michael, Dave and Alan.

Christchurch Bridge Club, 21 Nova Place  
Plenty of Parking available

Free to CHS Members, \$5 Non-members  
Includes tea, coffee and refreshments

Please note, there will be no sales table until further notice.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### Events and activities for members

Our programme of activities is well underway for 2017.

The Bulb workshop was a great success and the next one, "Petals & Prickles" is on Roses at Terra Viva in the first weekend of June.

Last month we had our first speaker in the Winter Speaker Series held at Harcourts Grenadier on Moorehouse Ave. A great venue and an even greater speaker.

These evenings provide us with very knowledgeable speakers who really know their subject and offer a wealth of ideas for our gardens and to improve our own understanding of all things gardening.

Don't miss the next one coming up on Thursday 8 June. The glass of wine, cheese, crackers and cake make it an enjoyable evening - and there is no charge for CHS members either!

Do keep up with all our activities which are listed in our newsletter, on our website and on Facebook. Bring a friend as well.

I look forward to meeting you all at these activities.

**Alan Jolliffe, CHS President**

see all the 2017 Autumn Garden Show photos online at:  
[flic.kr/s/aHskTZZUZ1](http://flic.kr/s/aHskTZZUZ1)



## NEW CHS OFFICES

The CHS office has now moved to unit 2/153 Lichfield St. Our telephone number remains the same at 366 6937. Parking is available outside in the forecourt anywhere apart from directly outside Desktop Technology Services.



# MID WINTER LUNCH

## SATURDAY 17 JUNE

Koru Care provides special experiences for New Zealand children with serious and often ongoing medical conditions.

These children, aged between 8 years and 15 years old, are provided with an 'opportunity of a life time' which is educational, fun, personally empowering and a means of further developing their social and life skills set.

Koru Care consists of a group of Air New Zealand staff who fundraise and give up their holidays to take disadvantaged children on holiday, with Disneyland being one of their frequent destinations.

### Guest Speaker - Janetta Skiba

Because many of the children have complicated medical conditions, trained medical people have to travel with them. Janetta Skiba is the medical co-ordinator who arranges these specialised requirements.



"You only need to see the smiles on the children's faces to appreciate what a difference this experience can make to their outlook and well being!"

### Saturday 17 June at 12 noon

Show Gate Lounge, Riccarton Raceway

Tickets: \$45 includes 3 course buffet lunch and cash bar  
Available now from the office or online [www.chsgardens.co.nz](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz)  
ticket sales available up to and including 14 June.

WHAT'S ON  
THIS  
MONTH

## AAG JUNE

Monday 5th 7pm & Tuesday 6th 9.45am

Our main event in June is a presentation from schools involved in the **Oderings School Gardens Show**. The mini speaker is **Richard Smith on Preparing your Tools for the Pruning Season**.

A tool sharpening service will be available. Bring cash for this! Also in the programme **From Your Gardens** and this month's **Tips and Tasks**.

Chch Bridge Club, 21 Nova Place  
Free to Members, \$5 Non-members

## CHRYSANTHEMUM CIRCLE

No Meeting in June

## FRUIT & VEGETABLE CIRCLE

No Meetings June & July

Next Meeting  
Wednesday 30 August 7.30pm  
St Martins Community Centre  
122 Wilsons Road

## FLORAL DESIGN GROUP

Wednesday 21 June 3pm  
CHS Office: 2/153 Lichfield Street

Tutor Helen is away, so it's Ray King's surprise!!

**please note - date/day change**

## NEW PRODUCT ON THE MARKET

### FROST-EZE Plant Protector Bags

Weather proof your plants from frost, wind, hail, sleet and snow! Temperature control as low as -13 °C, allows moisture, light and air to penetrate for healthy plants.

FROST-EZE bags are perfect for fruit trees, potted patio plants, hanging baskets, shrubs, tall upright trees, birds and insects. Full cover with drawstring closure these clever bags are reusable, recyclable and even washable! Available in 3 sizes.

Introductory Offer - CHS Members will receive 10% off each purchase and for each item purchased \$1 will go back to the CHS as a donation.

Orders over \$45 are freight free!

Orders can be posted or emailed using the form available from:

[www.chsgardens.co.nz/frost-eze](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz/frost-eze), the CHS Office or All About Gardening.

Stock will be available mid June.



## GARLIC KALE

A delicious, garlicky way to cook the underused, antioxidant rich kale!

### Ingredients

1 bunch kale  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
4 cloves garlic, minced

### Method

Tear the kale leaves into bite-size pieces from the thick stems; discard the stems.

Heat the olive oil in a large pot over medium heat. Cook and stir the garlic in the hot oil until softened, about 2 minutes. Add the kale and continue cooking and stirring until the kale is bright green and wilted, about 5 minutes more.

A great side dish.

# WINTER SPEAKER SERIES

## OUR LIVING LANDSCAPE ORIGINS - WHERE DID I COME FROM?

It was great to see the members that came along to last month's first Winter Speaker Event. Our second speaker is Krystina Hill.

Krystina has been studying heritage fruit trees for fifteen years, and has established and now co-ordinates the Heritage Fruit Archive group (based in Canterbury) since 2009. This group consists of seven people who are growing a large number of heritage apple, pear and plum varieties in their Canterbury orchards, with the aim of studying and gathering information about cropping, pollination dates, harvest times, fruit uses, winter storage, drought resistance, frost hardiness and tree vigour.

Krystina is the organiser, co-ordinator and recorder for the group. Her background is in science and information technology and she has worked in the IT industry and secondary and tertiary education. She also has a smallholding in North Canterbury.

Tickets for the Winter Speaker Series can be purchased online, at the CHS Office or over the phone tel 366 6937.

Free to Members, \$10 non-members, \$5 students.

Read more about the speakers online at:

[www.chsgardens.co.nz/living-landscape-speaker-series](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz/living-landscape-speaker-series)

**Thursday 8 June - Krystina Hill**  
Heritage Fruit Trees - history, literature and modern developments

Krystina has been studying heritage fruit trees for fifteen years, and has established and now co-ordinates the Heritage Fruit Archive group.



**Thursday 13 July - David Adams**  
Bulbs - history, literature and modern developments

David Adams is a Life Member and former President of the Canterbury Horticultural Society. He is also a Life Member and former President of the National Daffodil Society.



### JUNIOR GARDENERS

Thursday 15 June 3:45 - 5pm  
CHS Office: 2/153 Lichfield Street

### GARDEN CLUB REPS

Tuesday 6 June 12pm  
Christchurch Bridge Club  
21 Nova Place

### RAMBLERS 2017

Tuesday 13 June 9.45am  
Harewood  
Meet near school end on Harewood Rd

Tuesday 27 June 9.45am  
Christchurch City  
Meet on Hereford Street near  
Transitional Cathedral

No walk if wet. FREE

2017 Programme available online and from the CHS Office  
[www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz/ramblers)

### MID WINTER LUNCH

Saturday 17 June 12 noon  
Show Gate Lounge, Riccarton Raceway

Guest Speaker Janetta Skiba  
Medical Co-ordinator  
Koru Care, Christchurch

Tickets: \$45  
Includes 3 course buffet lunch  
cash bar

Tickets available now from the CHS office, AAG or online:  
[www.chsgardens.co.nz](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz)

### MONTHLY TIPS & TASKS WITH MICHAEL COULTER

The weather has cooled down and we have started to have frosts as the late Autumn, early Winter season arrives. We can now think about those tasks that will need to be done over the next few months, many which we can only do when the fine days allow us to be outside.

Cleaning up garden beds, pruning fruit trees and roses, planting new trees or shrubs and applying some preventative sprays on plants over this time are the main tasks during Winter.

We can also use this time to plan our planting for the next season. There are many plant catalogues from specialist nurseries and seed suppliers that we can look at to find those plants that we are interested in that are not readily

available from garden centres or other retailers.

Before any tools are to be used for pruning they need to be clean and sharp so that they will make good clean cuts that will heal over quickly. Our other tools that we have used over the Summer should also be cleaned and sharpened (if needed) so that they will be ready for use in the Spring.

The lawn mower should be given the annual maintenance check and sharpen in readiness for the rapid Spring growth.

Compost made with the fallen leaves will need to be turned and have some green matter mixed in to assist with the break down of the dry leaves.

Winter greenhouse tasks that are

needed now include removing any shade products and spent crops, washing down inside and removing any moss. Lastly, disinfect to stop any carry over of pests or diseases

Garlic and broad beans may be planted now as well as lilies some pansy, polyanthus, poppies and other Spring flowering plants.

Any ground that new fruit trees are going to be planted in should be prepared so that it is ready for new season plants.

New strawberry plants can now be planted so that they are well established in time for Spring growth, look for the day neutral cultivars as these give the longest harvest season.

# FROM SEATTLE WITH LOVE

## PETER WELLS



It goes without saying that the best gardens are the result of tremendous planning, care, and skill. Although they are sometimes viewed as purely aesthetic, gardens have for many centuries been foundational to the health, beauty, sustainability, and the very identity of our cities. They are vivid sources of inspiration, coral reefs for community, and may feed entire nations when called upon.

As we look to the future of Christchurch, it is unmistakable that gardens, embodying these attributes, are both a filament that binds this city together and a legacy for its continued success. By gardening, we are actively sculpting this wider civic ecology and contributing to this legacy. In the coming years, many other cities will face similar unprecedented changes, but regardless of climate, politics, and economy it is their gardens which retain the integrity of their place and may chart their course for the future.

My arrival in Christchurch and my work here began while at college in the United States. I diverted from a career in the performing arts to grapple with the big problems: the facts that 1/3 of our world is undernourished while 1/3 in over-nourished, 1/3 of the planet is covered by expanding deserts, and that most of our urban places are not designed for the

wellbeing of their citizens or their environment.

Seeking an accessible solution to these problems, I certified in Permaculture design and began working on food forests: site-specific, edible landscapes which mimic forest ecologies. It was one of these sites which brought me home to Seattle, to help with a project called the Beacon Food Forest.

In 2009, the South-Eastern slope of Jefferson Park was an empty grass lawn. It was owned by the local water utility and a space that was lucky to see the council lawnmower on occasion. However, this listless 7-acre space was of great interest to the local permaculture design class, who were tasked with creating an edible landscape of public land and thereby help to alleviate the city's food insecurity.

Ultimately a group of three people within the class produced an elaborate design for an open-harvest food forest. The city's Parks and Utilities authorities had never seen anything remotely like this public, edible forest and had no patience for the idea. But the group was not deterred and spent the next three years organising the Beacon Hill community around creating a 7-acre garden brimming with fruit trees, berry shrubs, vegetables, nutrient-accumulating plants and

### PRUNING WORKSHOP

Saturday 8 July 10am  
Annette Hill's, Tomnahurich  
20 Longstaffs Road, Halswell

"Have a Go" at pruning roses, hydrangeas and camellias.

Participants to bring own secateurs, meths and rags for hygiene.

Morning tea provided  
Members free, non-members \$10

Register now

### PRUNING FRUIT TREES

Saturday 12 August 10am  
Oaklands School  
37 Cunningham Pl, Halswell

Morning tea provided

Members free, non-members \$10

Register now



### MARGARET WATLING FLORAL DEMONSTRATION

Thursday 9th November 2017  
Main Auditorium, The Piano  
156 Armagh Street

Please make a diary note now for this feature event. We are delighted to confirm floral artists Shirley Russ and Annette Waller.

More details in coming newsletters.

medicinal herbs. All organic and all free for the community.

With hundreds of signatures in hand and construction-grade drawings, the city began to listen. Two departments stepped up to vet the idea and with donated water, compost, and a \$1 lease the team broke ground on the site in 2012. With some initial terracing to moderate the slope, and timber meeting space built by the students from the University of Washington, thick layers of layer mulch were added to first 1.5 acres, and trees were planted.

Within 4 years we saw this landscape explode into a bountiful forest understory overflowing with over 360 species of edible plants, beneficial insects, and visitors from across the country. Through the efforts of a core group of 15 people, the Beacon

Food Forest has grown into a volunteer effort involving over 4,000 people and producing 3,600kg of food for the community.

Unbeknownst to us, this model was replicated at over 50 sites across the United States and roughly 2 years ago, we received an email from Matt Morris and Bailey Peryman in Christchurch asking for advice on building a similar project.

Sometime after this contact I was travelling to visit a friend in Auckland and dropped down to Christchurch to visit the project they called the Ōtākaro Orchard. After spending some time in the city I was struck by the incredible upheaval and opportunity in the Christchurch, a city on the cusp of reinventing itself to be an exemplar for the coming century. Over the next year, we kept in touch, comparing notes on our projects and this October, I found myself back here working on the project.

After 2 years since winning our contract with CERA, we are on track to complete a similar open-harvest food forest and vegetable gardens in addition to a state-of-the-art sustainable building hosting a cafe, meeting spaces, and new headquarters for the CHS.



Jefferson Park 2012



Jefferson Park 2016



# BLOOMING TASMANIA TOUR

## DAY 2, WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER

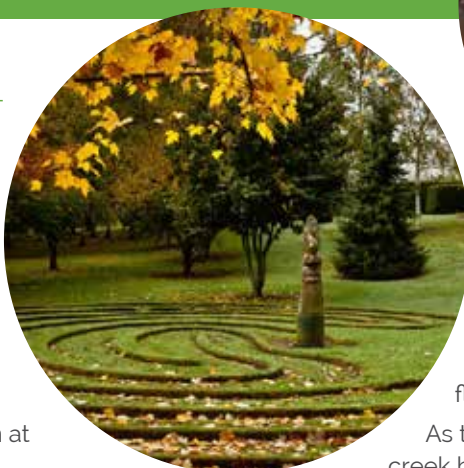
The Blooming Tasmania & Launceston Flower Show Longer Break runs from 19 – 29 September 2017. A fully guided tour with 11 days of amazing garden visits, 4 star accommodation, return airfares and most meals.

Brochure available from our website:  
[www.chsgardens.co.nz](http://www.chsgardens.co.nz)

Day Two of our Tasmanian Tour includes a visit to Wychwood Garden at Mole Creek.



Early in 2016 Melbourne city gardeners David Doukidis and Matt Bendall bought the property from its creators and long-time owners Peter Cooper and Karen Hall. Taking on one of Tasmania's well known favourite gardens is daunting enough but opening it to the Public after a major



flood event is even more daunting, but that is what happened at

Wychwood, Mole Creek.

David and Matt moved to Wychwood in early winter just in time to witness the deluging rain that washed through northern Tasmania in June 2016. The garden's creek flooded engulfing much of the lower garden.

As the water receded they discovered the creek had carved a new course and much of it was blocked with logs.

Much of their time was spent clearing debris and repairing flood damage rather than spent in garden beds and plant propagation as planned. Around a third of the property was inundated by the floodwaters, which also washed away fences and young trees along with some artwork and garden benches.

## TOUR DIARY 2017



**Blooming Tasmania & Launceston Flower Show Longer Break** - 19 - 29 September 2017  
\$4,799 per person. Brochure available now



**Hurunui Spring Garden Tour**  
Day Tour Friday 27 October 2017  
Register your interest now



**Spring Gardens Awards Tour**  
Friday 6 October 2017 1-4pm  
Car pool, no costs. Details to be advised at October All About Gardening



**Members' Spring Garden Visits**  
Wednesday 11 October, Fendalton  
Gardens of Adrienne Moore and Ruth Benson  
\$10 Members, register now and pay on the day



**Central Otago in Spring Time**  
Short Break 30 October - 4 November  
Register your interest now



**Geraldine Garden Tour**  
Day Tour Wednesday 1 November 2017  
Register your interest now



**NZ Flower & Garden Show - Auckland**  
Short Break 29 November - 2 December 2017

**Matt speaks to Jennifer Stackhouse** (previous editor of ABC's "Gardening Australia" magazine and regular contributor for the Saturday magazine in "The Mercury")

"We've literally moved hundreds of wheelbarrow loads of debris and feel like we've had a bonfire burning 24/7 since we arrived," he says, "but we've learnt a lot from the floods and know a lot now about respecting the vagaries of nature in the country.

"We were city folk so things that country folk know about we've had to learn to do like fencing and dealing with logs. Our neighbours and local gardeners have been wonderful and have really helped us to find our way."

The garden covers just over a hectare with rare and heritage apple orchards, roses and perennials and many beautiful cool climate trees. Even without the floods, there's plenty to be done to keep the garden looking good including mowing,



pruning and mulching.

One of the features that attracted David and Matt to Wychwood was its nursery. They have big plans to continue to have the nursery open and stocked with rare cool climate plants that they've propagated from the garden but they'll be starting small and later than planned.

In Spring we should see espalier apples in bloom along with fritillaries, which are a picture with hellebore in the woodland area at the front of the garden.

Wychwood is renowned for its species and old roses including the beautiful *Rosa glauca*.

This beautiful garden is not to be missed and will be another highlight included in our Blooming Tasmania Itinerary Spaces still available.

For more details please contact the office or Gail directly on mob: 0274 892 906.

# MEMBER OF THE MONTH

## VALERIE GWILLIAMS

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

I was born and brought up in Christchurch. I spent my childhood in St Albans and went to Elmwood School which in those days went to Form 2 as Heaton had just opened and was for boys only, and then on to Christchurch Girls' High. I worked at the National Bank in Hereford Street where I met my husband, David.

### Where do you live now?

I have lived in Avonhead for the last thirty-nine years.

### What aroused your interest in gardening or horticulture?

When I was young I went to the Garden Circle at radio station 3ZB late each Saturday afternoon where David Combridge had a spot in the Children's Show. He encouraged us to enter the Children's section at all the Flower Shows and I would ride my bicycle with a box of flowers on the carrier and prepare my exhibit before going off to school. There were several shows each year in those days and it was always a thrill to win a prize.

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

I am now a member of the Avonhead Garden Club and have been President and Committee member. My other hobbies are cake decorating and china painting and I also care for my disabled husband.



### What's your favourite plant and why?

My favourite plants are definitely roses. They are such good value in the garden and I like plants that are able to be picked and enjoyed inside.

My garden is a garden of memories as many plants are from cuttings given by friends who have passed on and I also have peonies from my late mother and several plants from my late sister's garden.

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

I think my most challenging gardening was when we lived on a hill in Wellington and got the full force of the notorious northerly wind. Vegetable gardening up there was not for the faint hearted!

### When did you join the CHS and why?

When we came back to Christchurch I used to take my mother to the Shows at the Horty and decided after a while to join the Society as then I would know in advance when the shows were to be held. Now I have retired I enjoy All About Gardening and I also go on the day trips when I am able to.

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

My wish for the society would be for it to continue to keep members informed of the events planned and to encourage membership from all age groups.



## PLANT OF THE MONTH

### New - Dianthus Rockin' Crimson

With small but vibrant, eye-catching crimson-red flowers that come in clusters on single stems, we believe this new perennial dianthus rocks! It grows to 40-50cm tall providing a nice midrange height and the flowering stems vary in height, giving layers of colour.

Available at all Oderings stores or online: [www.oderings.co.nz](http://www.oderings.co.nz)

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