



www.purbrookhorticulturalsociety.org.uk

GARDENER'S GAZETTE

Summer 2009

Founded 1940

Affiliated to:

The Royal Horticultural Society

Royal National Rose Society

National Dahlia Society

National Chrysanthemum Society

National Vegetable Society

The Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies

SUMMER SHOW

Sunday 23rd August 2009

**Crookhorn College of Technology,
Stake Hill Road, Waterlooville**

Doors Open To The Public at 1.45pm

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2009

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Life Vice-President: Peter Brooks JP: Maureen Kemp

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Show Committee: Richard Knight, Lynda Piddington, Brian Andrews, Betty Clark, Cliff Jones, Maureen Kemp, Charles Mobsby, Nick Carter

Catering Committee: Betty Clark, Ann Richardson, Xanthia Sang

Allotment Representative: Nick Carter
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Auditor: Mrs H Piper

CHAIRMAN'S MEANDERINGS

I do believe spring has sprung! Some warmer weather than of late has arrived and no doubt we'll all be moaning about the lack of rain; or maybe not (that's probably asking too much)!

Nevertheless, it's nice to get seeds and plants started and I notice that council allotments in the Havant area now have over 120 on the waiting list – surely a good sign for the environment. More people growing their own lessens the number of food miles clocked up by the HGV's delivering from all parts of the country and indeed with out-of-season produce; the world.

You might have noticed the hive of activity that has been going on at the Store over the last couple of months. Most of it is to make the place tidier and clear the parking areas for more potential customers. Thank you to the small band that turned up 'out of hours' to undertake the chores. The same people are also there most Saturdays so all deserve thanks for the hard work they put in over the months.

It is also nice to see more people at the monthly meetings at Deverell Hall. We, as a Society, have always had a good following from Members but recently this has climbed, and at the last meeting there were 90 in the audience. This, of course, pleases the Speakers, and they have definitely been of a very high quality. Thanks must go to Frances for selecting said speakers – sometimes there is a recommendation from other members, so if you have seen a good speaker that might be suitable for our talks, please contact Frances or one of the Committee who will pass it on. Speakers are booked a year or more in advance so patience is needed!

Please remember that if you are growing plants from seed, a few more put in at the time and brought on for your Society would be much appreciated. Funds are kept healthy by generous members giving of their time and produce. As you are probably aware the Plant Stall, etc. contribute in no small part to the cost of the Spring and Summer Shows which get costlier each year.

Thank you for your help and good gardening

Richard

PLASTIC BAGS

The Store would be grateful to Members if they could carefully open the sacks that compost, etc. comes in and bring them to the Store so that they can be reused for wood chips/mulch and the smaller ones for grit. If you have any that have been filled with chips, etc. we would be grateful if they are returned for reuse if still in serviceable condition.

Also if you have bought seed potatoes in our new string bags, it would be a great help if you could let us have the bags back.

Thank you in anticipation

Richard

SUMMER SHOW SCHEDULES

I know we have only just had our Spring Show – but time seems to be galloping on! Get those plants and produce going and enter them in our competition. Schedules are available at the Store or by post – call our Show Secretary for any help.

There will also be a list at the Store asking for volunteers before/after and during the Summer Show. All help is welcome and even if you can only spare a couple of hours it all helps. It takes a lot of time and effort to organise and it is understandably our ‘flagship’ event of the year when our Members (**you!**) can show off your efforts.

Please get involved!
Richard

EDITOR’S REPORT

Now the new website is up and running I am receiving more contributions towards the gazette so am very grateful to all you who have contacted me. If you haven’t had time to look at the website please do, it’s actually very user friendly!

Patricia

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP 2009

This will be the last Gazette that you will receive if you have not renewed your membership for 2009 and received your new red membership card by Saturday 25th April 2009. You may renew at the Store on Saturday mornings, at the Thursday evening meetings, or by post, please enclose a cheque for £5 payable to ‘Purbrook Horticultural Society’ and an s.a.e. if you would like the new card sent out as soon as possible. If no s.a.e. is enclosed your card will be enclosed with the next Gazette.

Graham

HONORARY LIFE AND LIFE MEMBERS **GAZETTE DISTRIBUTION**

Do you still wish to receive your Gazette? There are over 25 Honorary Life and Life Members of the Society, some of whom are no longer seen at the Store or at the Thursday Meetings and we have no means of knowing if you still wish to receive your Gazette each quarter. If you do want your gazette please let me (membership secretary) or any other committee member know by mid August. If nothing is heard it will be assumed that you no longer require your Gazette and your name will be removed from the distribution list.

Graham

STORE – STOP PRESS

Derris Dust has joined to list of products that are not longer available. We will be stocking **Vitax Py Powder** as an alternative.

FROM THE SPIDER'S LAIR

With over 1,400 visitors recorded in the first 7 weeks the new **website**, launched in February, has got off to a tremendous start. Thank you to the members who have visited the site and special thanks to those who took the time to send appreciative comments by email.

Many of you will have noticed that the Gazette is now available to download from the website. Elsewhere in this issue is a form to complete if you are prepared to use this method to obtain your copy and no longer need one through the post. This will be a further saving on our postage costs to add to the initiatives already undertaken in this respect. Please be assured that for those members unable to visit the Store or come to the meetings and do not have access to the Internet the commitment to provide the Gazette to all members by post will continue for the foreseeable future.

Newly added to the website are some photographs of the recent 2009 Spring Show. At the time of writing I have promises of contributions from two members and these, together with my own, should give a good idea of the standard of entries this year as well as the general scene on the day.

With the Trips organised by the Society starting soon have a look at the section of the website devoted to these. Each individual trip has a link to the website for that particular attraction showing a lot more detail like a map of the garden and the location of refreshments, picnic areas etc. - useful to plan ahead where to go and what to see on the day. These sites are normally updated to show the latest news and any recent changes.

Happy browsing and a final reminder of our address:

www.purbrookhorticulturalsociety.org.uk

David Collinson

THE SPRING SHOW

The Spring Show held at the Deverell Hall on 28th March was both a success and a disappointment. All the visitors enjoyed the show and for most it was a good social occasion as they renewed friendships over a cup of tea and the excellent cakes provided by Betty's team.

The spring Flower judge commented on the high quality of the daffodils on display. Mark Ward won the Eric Martin Cup for the Best Daffodil exhibit, the PHS Spring Cup for the highest total points over the Daffodil Classes 1 to 6 and shared the Society Shield for the highest aggregate points overall with Peter Harden. Peter Rogers did not feature in the prizes this year - but did win the highest prize money. Sue Andrews won the Stan Wood cup for 6 "Barrett Browning" Daffodils in a pot, Maureen Kemp won the Peter Harden Trophy for 12 "Cheerfulness" in a bowl of pebbles and water and Mrs K Lunn won the PHS Novice Spring Cup.

The Floral Art judge praised the very high standard of the entries and as Show Secretary I am particularly grateful to Jenny Withers for drumming up both the large number of Floral Art entries and helpers and for entering her much admired interpretation of "Spring Garden" which won the Trophy for the best Floral Art exhibit.

Thank you to all of you who helped set up, run and dismantle the Show and to all of you who put in the effort to enter an exhibit.

I was disappointed that there were only 20 entrants and 97 entries in the Show. Particularly disappointing was the single entry in the novice classes and the absence of entries in the Children's classes. We will however persevere with these classes and hope that we can persuade more of you to enter next year.

Charles Mobsby – Show Secretary

SPRING SHOW CATERING

The 'early bird' volunteers made a cracking start at 8am both at Deverell Hall and the Store. More volunteers followed later to help with the setting up, cake cutting, sandwich making etc. Every volunteer was very much appreciated and contributed to smooth running of the show.

Thank you again for all the contributions and help in the catering at the Spring Show.

Betty

SUMMER SHOW 2009

This year our Summer Show will be held on Sunday 23rd August at its usual venue - Crookhorn College of Technology, Stakes Hill Road, Waterloooville. The show is open to the public from about 2 – 4 pm, with staging on the Saturday evening and the Sunday morning.

None of the above, apart from the date, will be news to most of you. If you are planning to enter several exhibits and spend an hour or two (or more) helping set up and run the show, then you can stop reading and go to the next article, since the rest of this is aimed at persuading more of you to submit an entry and / or help us run the Show.

If you grow anything – be it on the balcony of a flat, a cottage garden or an "estate", then the chances are there will be a class for which it qualifies. Several classes spring to mind – the 14" hanging basket class, the planted container class, and the several pot plant classes, so if you are especially pleased with the fruits of your labour, then do please enter them in the Show so that we can all enjoy them. The growing of sweet peppers is becoming more popular and we have introduced a new class that includes both the round and the long sweet peppers. To make things even easier we expect to be selling plants at the store so why not have a go in this class as well.

If you are of fairly sound mind then we can definitely use your help at the show. We need helpers at all stages of the event:

- Setting up the Show on the Saturday morning – this includes moving tables and chairs, erecting and covering tables, and generally setting up the hall and dining area.
- Catering on the Saturday and Sunday morning.
- Stewarding on the Sunday morning and at the Show.
- Setting up stalls on the Sunday morning.
- Assisting with the running of stalls and in the refreshment area – helpers usually get enough time off to go round the Show.
- Dismantling the Show, load and unload the transport at the School and at the store respectively.

If you can help during any of these stages – even if only for an hour or two, then do please contact the Show Secretary or the Catering Convener. Ideally we would like you to specify the time slot to which you will be available and your preferred areas of assistance. There will also be a volunteer list at the store for you to pop your name on.

If you have read this far then I hope I have managed to persuade you to enter exhibits and / or help run the Show. There is one down side – most of our first time exhibitors and helpers enjoy it so much that they are hooked for life.

Charles Mobsby – Show Secretary

SUMMER SHOW CATERING

This is request for donations for the summer show. If anybody could produce a batch of cakes or a few preserves for sale, that will help give more variety for tea and to sell at the show. Thank you

Betty

PLANT AND PRODUCE DONATIONS

This is a plea for donations of plants and produce to sell at the Summer Show. It is an opportunity to share with others the fruits of your labour. The stall always attracts a lot of interest from members of the public, especially the runner beans!

Donations of plants accepted at the store on any Saturday morning.

Donations of produce accepted on Saturday 22nd August at the Store or on Sunday morning at the show.

Thank you in advance for your support.

WANTED - SHOW SPONSORS

A sponsor supports our Shows by providing the prize money for the sponsored class. Sponsorship of most of the classes would only cost £4.20 with a few costing £7 though if you are feeling particularly generous, the floral art classes and a handful of the more demanding classes would cost £15 while the two or three championship classes cost £50.

Many Show participants sponsor the class associated with a favourite flower, fruit, vegetable or craft but sponsorship also provides an opportunity for non participants to demonstrate their support for the Show and the society. Each sponsorship donation is acknowledged by a card with the sponsors name on display alongside the class sponsored.

If you would like to sponsor a class, then enter your name and the class you would like to sponsor on the sponsorship list on display at the store and at the meeting preceding each show and pay the money to our treasurer Brian Andrews. If you are unable to attend the meeting or the store, then send your name, the class sponsored and

a cheque to the Show Secretary. Details of the prize money for each class and the Show Secretary's address can be found in the schedule and the insert.

UPDATE ON THE PUMPKIN EVENING

To reiterate the details published in the last gazette, the October monthly meeting on the 1st will host our pumpkin evening. The three classes are:

Class 1: An open class for the heaviest pumpkin with a first prize of £25.

Class 2: A members only class for the heaviest culinary pumpkin. Since the last Gazette was published it has been decided that the variety to be exhibited in this class is "Becky". First prize £5.

Class 3: A members only class for the best quality Squash. A single squash of any named variety is to be exhibited in this class. First prize £5. We are pleased to announce that Peter Brooks has agreed to judge this class.

We hope even more of you will support this year's pumpkin show and to make things easier Phil Stock will have pumpkin plants suitable for Class 1 and 2 on sale at the store in May. The grapevine points to surplus squash plants also being available.

Charles Mobsby – Show Secretary

JAM JARS

It's that time again. I am running out of jars for the marmalade and jam. Please could you kindly donate your 1lb jam jars. **Please no** coffee or pickle jars. I am at the Store at least once a month. Many thanks.

Betty

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to one of our members, Mark Ward. Not only was he successful at the Hayling Island Spring Show, winning the Premier Bloom award, but he also exhibited successfully at the recent Spring Show at RHS, Wisley. Competition at Wisley is stiff as many entrants are well-known growers and breeders of narcissi.

WELL DONE MARK!

A BETTER REMEDY FOR SLUGS?

My garden is plagued by slugs and I have reluctantly resorted to the blue Metaldehyde based slug pellets. These work – as witnessed by the slimy mess produced by the slugs, but can poison birds and pets. The birds are not usually attracted to the blue pellets and will not eat a dead slug or snail or one in its death throes but they may occasionally feed on a slug or snail that has just eaten a pellet and is not yet showing any ill effects.

I was thus pleased to see a reference in the latest Hilliers Magazine to "Advanced slug killer" which was not poisonous to pets. The active ingredient is iron phosphate (1%). An added benefit is that the slugs stop feeding and move under cover to die without leaving the slimy mess.

The product is more expensive than the metaldehyde based product, but I shall give it a try just in case it helps improve the song thrush population. 'Pet friendly' slug pellets are available at the Store.

GARDENING FOR BEES

To me gardening is not just the plants, flowers and produce. It's being outside with nature. There is nothing more pleasing than watching bees, hover flies, butterflies and other insects visiting the garden that you have tendered. It must be the ultimate compliment to all that hard work!

There has been a lot in the media lately regarding the poor old bee. So I looked on the internet and there is one particular website www.bumblebeeconservationtrust.co.uk that has been most informative and I would thoroughly recommend a look. If you do not have access to the internet, then with the **kind permission of Dr Ben Darvill**, co-founder of the conservation trust based at Stirling University, I have reproduced some of the article as follows:

Wildflowers have become scarce in the countryside because we've lost many traditional habitats like hedgerows, hay meadows and chalk grassland. The extensive use of pesticides in farmland has also drastically reduced wildflower numbers. As a result, wildlife gardens have become a stronghold for some bumblebee species. Wherever you live in the UK, you should be able to attract at least 6 bumblebee species to your garden, and perhaps as many as 10.

Bumblebees need flowers throughout the Spring and Summer (March-Sept), and these need to be the right kinds of flowers. Exotic or highly cultivated garden flowers are largely unsuitable, as they either produce little pollen and nectar, or keep it hidden away from the bees. In particular, most annual bedding plants (e.g. Pelargonium, Begonia, Busy Lizzies) have little nectar to offer bees or other wildlife. Instead, why not try growing traditional cottage garden flowers and native wildflowers. Many of these thrive and look superb in the garden. They are also easy to grow, generally being hardy and much more resistant to slugs and disease. Bumblebee species differ in the length of their tongues, and as a result prefer different flowers, so it's important to grow a range of different things.

Below you'll find a selection of both garden and wild flowers that will bloom throughout the year. They are all types that bumblebees love, and will cater for both long and short-tongued species. If you have room for even one or two of these they will attract many bees. Most of these plants will also attract a range of other interesting insects to the garden, including butterflies and honeybees.

FLOWERS FOR BUMBLEBEES

March – April

Apple	Erica carnea (heather)	Pussy Willow
Bluebell	Flowering Currant	Red dead-nettle
Broom	Lungwort (Pulmonaria)	Rosemary
Bugle	Pear	White dead-nettle
Cherry	Plum	

May – June

<i>Alliums</i>	<i>Everlasting pea</i>	<i>Red Campion</i>
<i>Aquilegia</i>	<i>Everlasting wallflower</i>	<i>Roses (singles)</i>
<i>Birds-foot trefoil</i>	<i>Foxglove</i>	<i>Sage</i>
<i>Bugle</i>	<i>Geranium</i>	<i>Salvia</i>
<i>Bush vetch</i>	<i>Honeysuckle</i>	<i>Thyme</i>
<i>Campanula</i>	<i>Kidney Vetch</i>	<i>Tufted vetch</i>
<i>Ceanothus</i>	<i>Laburnum</i>	<i>Meadow cranesbill</i>
<i>Chives</i>	<i>Lupin</i>	<i>White Clover</i>
<i>Comfrey</i>	<i>Monkshood</i>	<i>Wisteria</i>
<i>Cotoneaster</i>	<i>Poppies</i>	<i>Woundwort</i>
<i>Escallonia</i>	<i>Raspberries</i>	

July August

<i>Black horehound</i>	<i>Knapweed</i>	<i>Red clover</i>
<i>Borage</i>	<i>Lavender</i>	<i>Rock-rose</i>
<i>Bramble</i>	<i>Lesser burdock</i>	<i>Sainfoin</i>
<i>Buddleia</i>	<i>Marjoram</i>	<i>Scabious</i>
<i>Cardoon</i>	<i>Mellilot</i>	<i>Sea Holly</i>
<i>Catmint</i>	<i>Mint</i>	<i>Snapdragons</i>
<i>Cornflower</i>	<i>Penstemon</i>	<i>St Johns Wort</i>
<i>Delphinium</i>	<i>Phacelia</i>	<i>Sunflower</i>
<i>Heathers</i>	<i>Polemonium</i>	<i>Teasel</i>
<i>Hollyhock</i>	<i>Purple loosestrife</i>	<i>Thistles</i>
<i>Hyssop</i>	<i>Red bartsia</i>	<i>Viper's bugloss</i>

One of the simplest things you can do to help your bumblebees is to leave an area of your lawn uncut during the summer. If you don't mow between late-June and early-August, your lawn will burst into flower with clovers and birds-foot trefoil. This needn't look untidy - make it an interesting shape, and border it with a mown path so that you can enjoy watching your bumblebees foraging away.

When you do finally cut, in August, remove all of the clippings and put them on the compost heap. Over time, this will allow the soil fertility to drop naturally, which will encourage the wildflowers to flourish - they actually prefer nutrient poor soil.

Many wildflowers have become scarce in farmland. If you make space for them in your garden then you'll be helping conserve both the flowers themselves and the creatures they support. Many of these native wildflowers are extraordinarily beautiful – it's not all about nettles and brambles! We often forget that many conventional garden flowers such as foxgloves are native wildflowers.

I hope you have found the article as interesting as I did and trust that it may inspire you to add a few bumblebee friendly plants to your garden.

Patricia

QUALITY TIME

Growing up in early post war Portsmouth, full of bomb sites and rationing (no sweets!), my grandmothers garden was an oasis of colour, perfume and wonder.

I had my own little plot which seemed huge to me then, but was just a small strip of ground running alongside the old coal-shed. It was in this little plot that I would plant seeds and promptly dig them up a few days later to see if they had grown! That led to my lifelong love affair with gardening.

Like most gardeners I have made mistakes but I can honestly say that my garden has been my haven. A job that was stressful, a class of 3 and 4 year olds has its joys but three daughters, five grandchildren, one husband and three Labradors over the years my garden has been my refuge. Now I am retired and was introduced to the Purbrook Floral Art Club, my goodness a whole new world of flowers. For an hour a month I can forget the bramble, marestail, bindweed and nettle that are a constant battle in the garden and sit back and watch and enjoy somebody else create a wonderful vision of colour shape and texture.

Gardeners are sometimes so busy 'gardening' that they forget to take a step back and just look and enjoy what they have lovingly created.

Well the Floral Art Club does it for you with no rough, dry hands, back ache or having to pull yourself up from a painful kneeling position. If like me you love flowers, a cup of tea and a chat with other likeminded people then why not join us, perhaps like me you will find a new and relaxing way to enjoy the fruits of other labour.

Carole Rowland

PURBROOK FLORAL ART CLUB

All our meetings are held on the second Thursday in the month. We meet at Deverell Hall, Purbrook, 7pm for 7.30pm. There are refreshments, raffle and sales table. Visitors are very welcome at a small charge of £4 per person.

PROGRAMME FOR 2009

14 th May	Workshop Karla Bell	In the Frame <i>Binding Techniques</i>
11 th June	Social Evening	Deverell Hall
9 th July	Demonstration Sue Hooper	A Palette of Colour
13 th August	Demonstration Gretchen White	The Murmuring of the Bees
10 th September	Demonstration David Denyer	Falling Leaves

8 th October	Workshop Pamela Welch	Christmas Theme <i>TBA</i>
12 th November	Demonstration Carole Norman	Christmas
10 th December	Christmas Party	Deverell Hall

All enquiries please call one of the Committee Members:

Jenny Withers – Chairperson – 023 9225 1721
Lorraine Plant – Secretary – 023 9264 3809

FORTHCOMING TRIPS 2009

SUNDAY 24TH MAY

Penshurst Place and Gardens £18 adult, £15 child.

THURSDAY 4TH JUNE – DEPARTS 6PM (LADYBRIDGE ROAD)

Liss Forest Nursery – Evening Trip £8.

SUNDAY 12TH JULY

Parham House and Gardens includes Annual Garden Show £17.

SUNDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER – DEPARTS 9AM

Batemans – Rudyard Kipling’s House and Garden (National Trust) £19 adult, £12.50 child.

SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER – DEPARTS 10.30AM

Kingston Maurward Gardens and Abbotsbury Sub Tropical Floodlit Garden £21 or £13 RHS

Please note: When booking a trip we will require a £10 non-returnable deposit. This is because the cost of hiring a coach has increased so much.

SUNDAY 24TH MAY

PENSHURST PLACE & GARDENS

Ancestral home of the Sidney family since 1552, with a history going back six centuries. Penshurst Place has been described as the grandest and most perfectly preserved example of a fortified manor house in all England. See the awe-inspiring Barons Hall with its 60ft high steep angled roof and the State Rooms filled with fine tapestries, furniture, portraits and armour. The 11 acres of gardens are as old as the original house. The walls and terraces were added in the Elizabethan era and are divided into a series of self contained garden rooms, each offering an abundance of variety in form, foliage and bloom from spring to autumn. There is also a park with woodland trail, a garden history exhibition, a toy museum, venture playground, shop and garden tea room. Disabled Access – Garden Yes. House DVD of states rooms in Barons Hall, Wheelchairs on loan.

THURSDAY 4TH JUNE
LISS FOREST NURSERY
DEPARTS 6PM LADYBRIDGE ROAD

An evening trip has been arranged to visit this commercial nursery. Liss Forest Nursery Ltd has, since 1971 been actively working to source and raise a varied range of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants to offer to plant centres and Garden Centres throughout the UK, and latterly into global markets.

Many propagation techniques are utilised to achieve the product mix now offered weekly to retail outlets, including micro-propagation, grafting, cuttings and seed

Liss Forest Nursery Ltd markets approximately 500,000 plants per annum to the trade industry.

SUNDAY 12TH JULY
PARHAM HOUSE, GARDENS & GARDEN SHOW

Parham is one of the finest Elizabethan examples, set in the heart of a 17th century deer park below the South Downs. The house contains a particularly important collection of needlework, paintings and furniture. The spectacular long gallery is the third longest in England. The award winning gardens include a 4 acre walled garden with stunning herbaceous borders, greenhouse, orchard, potager and herbiary. Parham has always been a much loved family home now lived in by Lady Emma Barnard, her husband James and their family. “The 16th Annual Garden Weekend” - quality plants and garden products for sale, woodland craft demos and much more.

Lunches and teas in the 16th century Big Kitchen and picnic area.

Disabled Access – Good access to gardens and partial in house.

SUNDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER
BATEMANS (RUDYARD KIPLINGS HOUSE) AND
SOUTH DOWNS HERITAGE CENTRE
(DEPART 9AM)

Bateman’s embedded in the wooded landscape of the Sussex Weald, owned and loved by Rudyard Kipling it was his idea of a home, a sanctuary, private away from the noise of the village. Built in 1634 the Kiplings made every effort to find furniture in keeping with the period of the house. There are many oriental rugs and artifacts reflecting the authors strong associations with the East. Most of the rooms are much as Kipling left them, including his book lined study.

There is a 10 acre garden with the River Dudwell flowing through it this powers the watermill producing flour for sale in the shop. Kiplings 1928 Rolls Royce, gift shop and a licensed self service tearoom serving lunches and light refreshments.

We will be stopping on the way for a break at the South Downs Heritage centre as Hassock. This is a garden centre and nursery it is a traditional family business and operated by the Tate family and have traded in Sussex

for over 300 years and were renowned as wheelwrights. The Heritage Centre displays a wide range of exhibits including reconstructed workplaces of the time, vintage ploughs and other rural antiquities give an insight into days gone by.

Admission to the Heritage Centre is free, with donations invited to local charities.

SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER

KINGSTON MAURWARD GARDENS & ANIMAL PARK, ABBOTSBURY SUB-TROPICAL FLOODLIT GARDEN (DEPART 10.30AM)

Kingston Maurward House was built in 1720 for George Pitt and the gardens were laid out in the 'Jardin Anglais' style popularised by Capability Brown. Rolling turf, carefully placed groups of trees, a lake and a temple. The formal gardens were created in the Arts and Crafts style of the Edwardian period with a series of garden rooms designed by Sir Cecil and Lady Hanbury, a well known horticultural family who also owned the gardens at La Mortola in Italy and who had endowed Wisley Gardens to the RHS. In 1947 Dorset County Council bought the Estate for £24,000 and created the Dorset Farm Institute, Kingston Maurward College now runs many different courses with the grounds and farm being principal teaching areas.

The visitor Centre has an extensive range of goods, Café and Plant Sales.

Abbotsbury Subtropical Gardens established in 1765 by the first Countess of Ilchester as a kitchen garden for her nearby castle, developed since then into a magnificent 20 acre garden filled with rare and exotic plants from all over the world. Many of these plants were first introductions to this country and discovered by the plant hunting descendants of the Countess. The gardens are floodlit at this time of the year so we will be leaving a bit later than usual. There is a Tea House, Gift Shop and Plant Nursery. 50% of the gardens are accessible to disabled visitors.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF MONTHLY MEETINGS FOR 2009

Thursday 7th May

Kelvin Mason from Sparsholt College, increasing your plants with simple propagation, talk and demonstration.

June 2009

Evening Trip – Liss Forest Nursery – See forthcoming trips for further information and cost.

Thursday 2nd July

Mrs Rosina Brandham – Everyone enjoyed to talk on Joseph Paxton last July so we have booked the next instalment which is entitled 'The Great Exhibition of 1851'

Thursday 6th August

Bryan Madders with a talk and slides on unusual perennials. We are always looking out of something different and this hopefully will not disappoint.

Thursday 3rd September

Bill Chase, a local expert on Cacti, a prickly subject!

Thursday 1st October

Our usual Pumpkin Competition, quiz, refreshments and general get-together. Try to source your pumpkin seed now for the largest types ready for sowing early 2009. Many shops and garden centres sell off seed before the autumn. There will also be plants available in the store.

Thursday 5th November

John Comes, photographer, showing lots of slides of flowers and wildlife. Maybe we can pick his brains about how to take better pictures.

RECIPE

I was given the following recipe in 1963; yes that is the right date. I have made it many times since. It will freeze well and can be cut in half – so half for the freezer and the rest for the cake tin!

All-in-one cake

- 8oz self raising flour
- 4oz castor sugar
- 12oz mixed fruit
- 2 eggs (not beaten)
- 4oz melted margarine
- ¼ teaspoon mixed spice
- ¾ cup of milk
- pinch of salt
- essence of vanilla or almond

Place all the above in a bowl and beat together for 4-5 minutes.
Turn into a 6” cake tin/2lb loaf tin and bake, Gas No 2 / 275f for 2 hours.
This was in the day when I have no gadgets so it was “beat” with a wooden spoon. Enjoy!

Betty

.....tear off here

I/We no longer require a paper copy of the Gardeners Gazette and will access it via the internet.

Signature _____ Membership No _____

Name _____

Please return to Mr Graham Spooner, Membership Secretary, Purbrook Horticultural Society, 14 Deverell Place, Widley PO7 5ED or return it to the Store on Saturday mornings. Thank you

Magazine, Cards and Equipment Loans

There is a selection of Society Magazines, Privilege Cards and garden equipment available for loan to Members, against a signature at the Membership Desk in the Store.

Magazine

The Garden – Journal of the RHS
National Dahlia Society Bulletin
The Rose
Chrysanthemum Society
National Vegetable Society
Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies – Monthly Bulletin

Cards

RHS Reduced Garden Entry (+1 guest) – not Wisley on Sundays
National Vegetable Society
Royal National Rose Society
National Chrysanthemum Society
National Dahlia Society

Equipment

Lawn Spreaders (2) £1 charge towards replacement costs
Leaf Vac/Blower (2)
Lawn Rakes and leads (4) £2 deposit, refundable on return

Anyone borrowing an item is required to return within two weeks, so that other Members may have the opportunity to use it.

Folding Tables may also be borrowed (£1 per table)

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