



**Purbrook**  
Horticultural  
Society  
Founded 1940

# **GARDENER'S GAZETTE**

**Summer 2019**

## **SUMMER SHOW**

**Sunday 18th August**

**Crookhorn College,  
Stakes Hill Road, Waterlooville P07 5UD**

**Doors Open: 2pm**

**Affiliated to:**

**The Royal Horticultural Society**

**National Dahlia Society**

**National Chrysanthemum Society**

**The Daffodil Society**

**The Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies**

# Officers and Committee Members 2019

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Life Vice-Presidents: Maureen Kemp, Phyllis Brooks

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**General Committee:** Lynda Piddington, Brian Andrews, Phil Stock, Jan Baxter, Ron Brumhill, Chris Middleton, Frances Leppard, Charles Mobsby, Betty Clark, Richard Knight, Carole Rowland, Wendy Wright, Ann Richardson

**Show Committee:** Brian Andrews, Ron Brumhill, Charles Mobsby, Mark Ward, Lynda Piddington, Ann Richardson

**Auditor:** Vacant

# The Chair Chats!

OK, who's done what, to the weather? Last year the Spring Show endured the 'Beast from the East' with snow causing chaos and concern as to if we would have anything to show that was not frost/snow damaged or even if we could get there.

This year the balmy conditions brought plants on so early I was half expecting to see summer bedding plants on show!

The monthly meetings have got off to a tremendous start with rave reviews for Mike Read, the nature photographer, on the subject of 'Hampshire - Nature in Trust' and then Anthony Powell on seed collecting in 'Beautiful Kashmir' with further exciting titles to come.

The first outing of the year proved a success, despite the wind and rain at Kew Gardens. (*What went wrong Ann, you normally order great weather for the outings?*) For those who did not bravely queue for nearly an hour to view the Orchids, they enjoyed other great attractions, but for me who did queue, wow! what a spectacular display, and not just of orchids, but cacti and succulents and full-size animals crafted out of vegetation, and all in the warm.

The Trading Store is ticking over nicely despite the constant battle of finding alternatives to the growing list of banned substances that actually worked - latest rumour being slug pellets, which are about to be added to the naughty list. Phil and Frances continue to work like crazy in the plant section, sowing, planting and potting on, to provide the many and varied plants for you to buy. If you have any surplus - please think of donating them to the plant department, where they will be gratefully received.

Trevor, guardian of the woodchip pile, also works extremely hard bagging up, so if you are able to lend a hand on occasions, even if it is only for your own use, it means he can enjoy his well-earned cup of tea and slice of cake.

So, with the sun shining and a successful Spring Show behind us, it is now time to start planning for the Summer Show, which will be held again at Crookhorn College, Stakes Hill Road, Waterlooville on Sunday 18th August. Please make a note in your diary of the date. Schedules are now available, so it's time to get started!

Lynda

# PHS Meetings 2019

All meeting at Deverell Hall – start 7.30pm

## Thursday 2nd May

### **A Cruise up the River Thames from Maunsell Forts to London Bridge**

Dave Allport was in the Royal Navy for 34 years and now works on the Queen's Harbour Master's staff. He was awarded the MBE in 2004 for his Royal Naval service and his charity work. His particular charity is Guide Dogs for the Blind. He has been an amateur actor since his teens and has also been involved with writing and directing, therefore his public speaking skills have been well honed. We look forward to an informative and entertaining evening.

## 6<sup>th</sup> June

### **A talk by the Hants and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance**

This charity, I am sure you will agree, is a vital service to the community. A helicopter can be at the scene of an accident or critical incident within 15 minutes anywhere in Hampshire and can bypass heavy traffic on the roads. Available day and night it will send out doctors and paramedics, piloted by highly skilled crew. An average of six missions a day are made. The cost is currently £15,000 a day. This talk promises to be very interesting.

Before the talk and in the interval and second half, while you are enjoying your tea and a natter please take time to look at our Schools Gardening Competition entries and vote for your favourite. We know it is not 'Strictly' but it is important not only for all the work that Lynda puts into it but also the need to encourage gardeners of the future.

## 4<sup>th</sup> July

### **Shrubs; the backbone of your garden**

Geoff Hawkins will give an illustrated talk giving you some ideas of which shrubs you could have in your garden to add structure, shape and texture, as well as colour through flowers, stems and foliage. Geoff has visited us before and is a very good speaker.

## 1<sup>st</sup> August

### **Garden Plants (growing and use in design)**

Paul Templeton has over 30 years experience in horticulture. He has qualifications not only in growing but also in landscape and design. This talk will tell us how to arrange plants for colour and form, how to use space and the seasonal nature of beds and borders. Also, how to combine flowers with landscaping and that bold displays can still be created in small areas.

## **5<sup>th</sup> September**

### **Herbaceous Perennials**

Now recognised as one of the UK's leading plantsman's nurseries, Hardy's Cottage Garden Plants was founded by Rosy Hardy in 1988. They supply a wide range of home-produced herbaceous perennials including many rare species all grown in peat-free compost. The nursery has won 22 gold medals at Chelsea and we are very lucky to have Rosy as our speaker as she is in great demand.

## **3<sup>rd</sup> October**

### **Pumpkin Evening and Quiz**

This is a chance for you to contribute to an entertaining evening by coming along for a chat, some good food, a quiz and showing us what you are capable of growing or crafting. It doesn't have to be Gold Medal standard, nobody is going to criticise. The schedule will be on a separate page and we will have plants for you to grow on yourself. There are new categories so please check them.

## **7<sup>th</sup> November**

### **Coastal Ways - Portsmouth Harbour**

This evening will be in the format of a talk and also a film. Stuart Judd will tell us about the making of documentary films for television. He helped to produce the *Country Way* series that was broadcast on Southern ITV for 25 years showing local people and their work in more rural areas. I have chosen the above as a local interest hopefully to see a bygone era and how times have changed for the good or bad.

## **5<sup>th</sup> December**

AGM

Frances

# Trips 2019

## **Sunday 12th May**

### **Leonardslee Lakes and Gardens – 9am – £22**

Leonardslee is world famous for its display of azaleas and rhododendrons set alongside seven lakes. It was developed over 200 years. In 1889 it was being maintained by the Loder family.

It was closed a few years ago and now has a new owner and reopened in January. It has all facilities and the doll's house, shop and café serving hot and cold meals will be open, and the wallabies will be there.

## **Sunday 4th July**

### **Mapperton House and Gardens – 9am – £24**

'The nation's finest house' *Countryfile* 2006. Jacobean manor overlooking an Italianate upper garden with orangery, topiary and formal borders descending to fishponds and shrub gardens. All Saints' Church forms the South wing opening on to courtyard and stables. There are fine views of nearby Dorset hills and woodlands. There will be a guided tour of the Manor which is still lived in by the Earl and Countess of Sandwich.

The café and shop are on the ground floor.

## **Sunday 8th September**

### **Wisley and the Flower Show – 9am – £15**

The new visitor centre should be open by then.

## **Sunday November TBA**

### **Christmas at Hever Castle**

As usual a deposit of £15 will secure your seat and the balance must be paid before the trip.

Payments can be made at the Trading Store on Saturdays (9.30am -11,30am) or at the monthly meetings. A cheque can be posted to Ann Richardson, 16 Fir Copse Road, Waterlooville PO7 5JA.

Cheques to be made payable to PHS Trips.

My telephone no: 023 9225 4986.

# Floral Art Programme 2019

All meeting at Deverell Hall — start 7.30pm

## Thursday 9th May

Demonstration by Graham King entitled 'Absolutely Bonkers'.

## Thursday 13th June

A creative workshop suitable for beginners as well as the more experienced.

## Thursday 11th July

Garden Party/Social. Tickets will be available from the April meeting - venue to be confirmed.

## Thursday 8th August

Demonstration by Carole Gunter relating to the PHS Summer Show Schedule rules and ideas.

## Thursday 12th September

Demonstration by Lin Mackenzie entitled 'Tales of Wonder'.

## Thursday 10th October

Demonstration by Lucinda Knapman entitled 'Autumn Glory'.

## Thursday 14th November

Demonstration by Jennifer Allen Thompson entitled 'Christmas Treats'

## Thursday 12th December

Christmas Party/Social Evening - venue to be confirmed.

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## Pumpkin Evening and Quiz

Plants for this year's Pumpkin Evening will, all being well, be available to purchase from the Trading Store and at monthly meetings in April or May. Please buy and bring on, so that you too can produce an exhibit.

The Classes this year are:

Class 1 - A Culinary Pumpkin or Squash

Class 2 - A Collection of Decorative Gourds (maximum of 5)

Class 3 - A Decorated Pumpkin or Squash

Class 4 - A Floral Exhibit depicting Autumn or Halloween (not necessarily including a Pumpkin or Squash)

Class 5 - A Painting, Photograph, Embroidery or other Craftwork depicting Autumn

**Date for you diary - Pumpkin Evening and Quiz -  
Thursday 3rd October at Deverell Hall - 7pm for 7.30pm start.**

# The Spring Show

Well, once again, I felt so grateful to the Committee and volunteers for all their hard work in setting up: manning stalls, catering and packing away. This year we were delighted with the generosity of you all who made and donated cakes and preserves for us to sell, and also those of you who donated plants to not only brighten up the Deverell Hall, but provide extra revenue to offset the cost of staging the Show.

Although we go home tired at the end, it is with a sense of pride in achieving the kind of Show that members, judges and visitors alike, expressed their joy in seeing so many exhibits of quality in a friendly setting.

Special thanks must go to the exhibitors, as without you there would not be a Show. It was wonderful to see new and younger faces 'having a go' - let's hope it has encouraged both you and others to try to provide something for the Summer Show. In particular, if you grow roses, begonias, chrysanthemums or dahlias, please try to provide an exhibit as these Classes have waned in popularity in the last few year. This should give you a winning advantage!

Lynda

## Spring Show Results

Stan Wood Cup - Best pot of 'Binkie' Daffodils awarded to Charles Mobsby.

Peter Harden Trophy - Best bowl of 'Sir Winston Churchill' in pebbles and water awarded to Charles Mobsby.

PHS Novice Spring Cup - Highest Points in Novice Classes awarded to Brigitte Hoare.

Trophy for Floral Art - Best Floral Art Exhibit awarded to Maureen Simpson.

PHS Spring Cup - Highest Points for Classes 1-6 awarded to Mark Ward.

Beryl and Cyril Payne Bowl - Highest Points Overall awarded to Mark Ward.

Eric Martin Cup - Best Vase of Daffodils awarded to Mark Ward.

Daffodil Society Bronze Medal - Best Exhibit in Show awarded to Mark Ward with a bloom of 'Badbury Rings'.

Well done to everyone taking part.



# Honey!

March, in like a lion, out like a lamb. I have had a little peek at my bees and as far as I can tell all is well. It is still not quite warm enough to look down into the lower brood box, but by watching the entrance, I can guess what is going on inside; there is lots of pollen being taken in and also some nectar - that tells me that the Queen is now laying eggs and the amount of bees flying around the front of the hive suggest there are baby bees getting to know where home is. Come the end of April will be the start of the swarming season, so if you do find a large cluster of bees in your garden don't be too alarmed - just keep clear. It is unlikely they will sting as they are full of honey that will keep them alive for a while until new forage can be found. That is the way nature works, however, they do sting if disturbed. Should you need my assistance my phone number is 01329 230679 and I will do my best to alleviate the problem.

The rape is now just coming into bloom and by the time you are reading this it will be well out. Today is Brexit Day and over this weekend I shall be moving hives up to the farm and hopefully we shall have a good harvest - rape honey is very coarse and granulates very quickly, but it is very sweet and I love it. I whack a good spoonful on my Wheaties every day!

Here's looking forward to a busy season and don't forget to give me a ring if you need me.

Vic

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**Portsmouth & District Branch of the BCSS invites you to our  
Cactus and Succulent Summer Show  
Saturday 1st June 11am - 4pm**

**Christ Church Hall, London Road, Widley PO6 3NB**

Come and see a large number of prize winning cacti and succulents

£1 entry (children free)

Refreshments and a large number of plants for sale

Experts on hand to talk about your plants

Join the Branch and learn more about your hobby

[www.portsmouth.bcsc.org.uk](http://www.portsmouth.bcsc.org.uk)

# Visit to Kew Gardens with Orchid Exhibition

3rd March 2019

Arrived in good time; a bit of a walk to the entrance owing to no parking spaces. We decided to queue for the Orchid Exhibition first as the weather was reasonable. How very dare other people wanting to go where we were going!

Once in the greenhouse it was quite uncrowded and we were glad we went. There were some excellent displays and also interest for children with the animals made from basket and wire, and huge live fish, big enough for a least ten people with chips. Kew are working with Colombia to save and protect their native plants and flowers.

Walked onto the Palm House for a warm in its rain forest climate. You really have to look up to see the stunning plants. Outside the building there will be a riot of tulips in a couple of weeks.

On to the Temperate House where there are plants from five continents and 16 islands. There were more large orchids and plenty of displays of pelargoniums and house plants. Also a waterfall indoors. They have a plant called a *Leucospermum conocarpodendron* (remember this, it will be in the next quiz!) which was grown from 300 years old seed from the Wakehurst Seed Bank.

We then went on to the galleries and were pleased that we did. Beautiful prints and watercolours of orchids. Also huge graphite (pencil to you and me) drawings of old gnarled trees. Leading on from there is the Marianne North Gallery. She was born in 1830 and travelled a lot with her father. When he died, she decided to go round the world painting tropical plants and flowers. She was 40 when she started to paint and led a very interesting life before she died at the age of 60. Marianne also brought back samples of wood and there are 246 types in the exhibition along with 833 paintings.

Apart from an emergency stop for a tree across the road, we had a good journey home and I now have another orchid to look after!

## Magazines, 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.

### Magazines:

The Garden - Journal of the RHS

National Dahlia Society Bulletin

Chrysanthemum Society

National Vegetable Society

Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies - Monthly Bulletin

### Cards:

RHS Reduced Garden Entry (+ 1 guest) - not Sundays at Wisley

National Vegetable Society

National Chrysanthemum Society

National Dahlia Society

### Equipment:

£2 non-refundable charge per item towards replacement costs

Lawn Spreaders (4)

Leaf Vacuum/Blowers (4)

Lawn Rakes and Leads (4)

Folding Tables (for indoor use only)

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

*Please use RCDs when using electrical equipment outdoors for your own safety.*

## **For our New Members**

For those of you reading this magazine for the first time, you may be interested to know what takes place at our Monthly Meetings.

We meet at the Deverell Hall on the first Thursday of every month excluding January. Doors are open at 7pm and the meeting commences at 7.30pm. Illustrated talks are presented by local personalities; these programmes are mainly of a horticultural nature, although at times other topics of interest are presented.

An interval is usually taken at about 8.30pm when coffee/tea and biscuits are served (at no charge). This is then followed by the drawing of the Raffle and the winner of the Show Table. The speaker then concludes the evening talk and the meeting closes at about 9.30pm.

Do come and join us, you will be made most welcome. In addition to enjoying the talk you can also

- participate in the Show Table
- buy plants from the Plant Stall
- book a seat on one of our outings
- pay your Membership Fees
- catch up with other Members and Officers of the Society

## **Trading Store Opening Hours**

Every Saturday 9.30am - 11.30am

The Trading Store is situated on the London Road, Widley, adjacent to Purbrook East Allotments.

Items for inclusion in the Autumn Gazette, should be with the Editor by 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019, for distribution at the start of August 2019.