



# **GARDENER'S GAZETTE**

## **Summer 2023**

**SUMMER SHOW**  
**Sunday 20th August**  
**2023**

**Affiliated to:**  
**The Royal Horticultural Society**  
**National Dahlia Society**  
**National Chrysanthemum Society**  
**The Daffodil Society**  
**The National Vegetable Society**  
**The Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies**

**[www.purbrookhorticulturalsociety.org.uk](http://www.purbrookhorticulturalsociety.org.uk)**

## **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 2022, should be with the Editor by 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023, for distribution at the start of August 2023.

## **The Chair Chats!**

Well, what a busy first quarter! The Trading Store has been so busy with you all stocking up on the extremely competitive priced composts, I think our wholesaler must be rubbing his hands with glee. A special thank you to the small band of volunteers that help unload and store the deliveries during the week to keep you all in supplies. Also, a huge thank you to the 'mountain men' who manage and bag up the wood chips, which despite being depleted on a Saturday (the wood chip mountain not the men!) seem to have grown again by the following week.

We held the Spring Show, which was a time to reflect on the passing of Ron Brumhill, our Chief steward, and friend. It was so close to celebrating his life at the Oaks with his family.

The generosity displayed by all in providing plants and an abundance of cakes to sell certainly helped to fund the Show and what a good job gardening keeps us fit with the amount that was consumed. I think from the chatter in the Deverell Hall everyone had a splendid time and so lovely to see the newer members participating - a good omen for the Summer Show (booked for 20th August at Crookhorn College, Stakes Hill Road, Waterloooville) giving everyone the opportunity to showcase even more of their diverse talents.

The next quarter looks as if it is going to be fun, with diverse topics at monthly meetings and the start of the Trips - Ann has already summoned the Weather Gods to ensure sunhats and parasols and not rain hats and brollies.

A last important reminder regarding your membership card - if it still states an expiry date of 31st August 2023, please amend to expiry date 31st December 2023 to reflect the extra months free this year.

**Lynda**

## Talks for 2023

All talks begin at 7.30pm, at the Deverell Hall, and doors will be open at 7.00pm.

### **Thursday 4th May**

Mark Ainsworth is a member of our Society but he is also a multiple Chelsea Gold Medallist. He specialises in British Palms and we look forward to finding out about these exotic looking plants.

### **Thursday June 1<sup>st</sup>**

Karla Bell, who is well known to our Floral Art club, will give us a demonstration in flower arranging using blooms and greenery which are easily grown in our gardens. This will be an introduction to this art form and hopefully those of you who thought it was not for you may find inspiration. If you can grow plants why not bring them into the house in a pleasing arrangement.

Karla is a very experienced florist running her own business so we look forward to this evening.

### **Thursday July 6<sup>th</sup>**

Pip Bensley is a floral art judge and also has 3 Gold medals under her belt for gardens displayed at Chelsea. She is a radio and TV presenter and an author. One of her books is about climbers and this is the subject of her talk to us. We will hear about Clematis, Roses, Wisteria and many more so if you have any queries she will be the one to ask.

### **Thursday August 3rd**

David Tite has been growing carnivorous plants for 50 years. He has built prize winning displays for Gardener's World at NEC Birmingham, also providing the plants. He assists Matt Soper of Hampshire Carnivorous Plants in RHS Shows around the country, but is also based at a nursery in Lower Upham. We have had a talk on this subject before; they are fascinating plants and we are able to grow a lot of them in this country.

**Frances**

## TRIPS FOR 2023

**SUNDAY 30th April 9.15am £28**

**EXBURY GARDEN AND STEAM TRAIN**

Picturesque Garden filled with Camellias; Rhododendrons and Azaleas.

Large restaurant on site.

**SUNDAY 11th June 9.15am £30**

**MOTOR MUSEUM BEAULIEU INCLUDING HOUSE AND GARDEN**

A day out for everyone as the Motor Museum has new displays; a Monorail; Palace and Gardens.

Restaurant on site.

**SUNDAY 23rd July 9am £30**

**PARHAM HOUSE WITH GARDEN** as well as **THE SOUTH DOWNS CENTRE** before onward travel to Parham House, which opens at midday.

Restaurants at both sites.

**SUNDAY 17th September 9am £30**

**LULLINGSTONE CASTLE AND THE WORLD GARDEN**

At Lullingstone Castle they will be celebrating Mexico weekend entitled 'Cactus At The Castle', therefore there will be a wide range of Cacti and Succulents, as well as related plants on display and to purchase. Guided tours of the World Garden with Tom Hart Dyke. The Nursery will be fully stocked with Botanical delights alongside the House and Church which are also open. A Gift Shop is also on site.

There is no restaurant but there will be a large Marquee Tea Room serving sandwiches and cakes, etc. Picnics are welcome.

A £15 deposit is required in order to book a seat

Pick up is from Ladybridge Road. You may park your vehicle in the car park which is situated behind the Purbrook Pharmacy and accessed via Ladybridge Road.

Enquiries to Ann Richardson on 023 9225 4986

Now to book the good weather for those dates!

**Ann**

## Floral Art

Are you a flower lover who likes to see them beautifully arranged?

You may already be a talented floral artist, or perhaps you have never tried it before and would like to learn more. Or even if you just enjoy watching a demonstrator creating those beautiful designs, then why not join us at the PHS Floral Art Club?

Our friendly club is always happy to welcome new members (you can join us as a visitor for the afternoon if you'd just like to give us a try).

We meet on the third Thursday of the month in the Deverell Hall at 1.30pm for refreshments, with time to buy raffle tickets, have a look at the sales table or just have a chat with the other members.

The main event, a very talented and entertaining demonstrator starts at 2pm. The designs are raffled at the end of the meeting, so you could win a beautiful flower arrangement to take home.

We also have a couple of workshops during the year when you can have a go at flower arranging yourself (with the help of our more experienced members should you need it). Even if you don't want to participate, you can still come along and watch. Once you feel confident, you may like to enter the Floral Art competition at one of the PHS Shows.

We have social events as well, including a Cream Tea Garden Party in the summer and a Christmas meal in December, so it shouldn't take long to make new friends.

More details and this year's programme can be found on the notice board at the Deverell Hall or on the Floral Art page of the PHS website.

Hope to meet you soon!

**Lorraine**

## **Floral Art Programme 2023**

**Thursday 18th May:**

Demonstration: Gill Homer: Creative Thinking

**Thursday 15th June:**

Workshop: Carole Edney: Picture This

**Thursday 20th July:**

Garden Party Social: Tickets available from April Meeting

**Thursday 17th August:**

Demonstration: Carole Norman: Hearts & Flowers

**Thursday 21st September:**

Workshop: In House: TBC - Details will be available at August Meeting

**Thursday 19th October:**

Demonstration: Karla Bell-Marsh: Night Skies

**Thursday 16th November:**

Demonstration: Dennis Van Wonderen: Christmas

**Thursday 21st December:**

Christmas Lunch: Venue TBA

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**Dates for your diary:**

**Summer Show: Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

## Spring Show Winners

Stan Wood Cup:

Winner of Class 13 - Pot of Golden Aura - Mrs. K. Lunn

Peter Harden Trophy:

Winner of Class 14 - Bulbs grown in pebbles and water -

Peter Rogers

PHS Novice Spring Cup:

Highest total points for Classes - Monica Bone

PHS Spring Cup:

Highest total points for Classes 1 - 6 - Peter Rogers

Eric Martin Cup:

For best vase of Daffodils - Peter Rogers

Trophy for Floral Art:

For best Floral Art exhibit - Maureen Simpson

Beryl and Cyril Payne Bowl:

For highest total points overall - Peter Rogers

Daffodil Society Bronze Medal:

For best bloom in Show -

Peter Rogers with a bloom of Corby Candle



## **Ronald David Brumhill**

As many of you are aware, we lost a valued friend and member of our team at PHS recently.

Most of us knew Ron as our Chief Steward at the Shows, and on the Committee where he served for many years.

He also had an illustrious career in the Royal Navy, spanning some 44 years.

Ron could always be relied on for advice on horticultural matters, and was a mine of information on Shows and showing.

He was a long serving member of the Hants. Federation.

We at the Society will miss his presence  
and our sincere condolences  
go to his wife, Joan and his son Phil, and daughter, Debbie.

***Don't forget that we now have a  
website where you can read current issues of  
the Gazette and Store information:***

***[www.purbrookhorticulturalsociety.org.uk](http://www.purbrookhorticulturalsociety.org.uk)***

## **Mycorrhizal Fungi**

There has been a lot of talk about this over the last couple of years.

The word itself comes from the Greek for fungus and roots. There has always been a symbiotic relationship between wild plants and this fungi, that is, a beneficial arrangement between them. In the wild the fungi are in association with plant roots and can attach to them either externally or internally. They then send out filaments into the soil allowing plants to survive drought, disease, poor soil and competition from other plants. These filaments (mycelium) can extend over several miles in a small space. They double up as extra roots absorbing water and nutrients by a great amount. In return, the plant supplies root sugars and compounds needed by the fungus.

The nutrients absorbed by the fungi, such as phosphorus, sulphur and iron are dissolved and become more easily available to the host plant. Another benefit is that the filaments bind particles of soil together thus increasing the movement of water and air around the plant roots. Some fungi can produce antibiotics and some can trap and kill root-feeding nematodes.

Although this information has been known since classical Greek times, it has only recently been used in agriculture, forestry, golf courses and horticulture. It is now available to the amateur gardener, so if you are planting a new tree or shrub it might be an idea to sprinkle some directly onto the roots to give them a good start.

**Frances**

## **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 - available online only

### **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  
Leaf Vacuum/Blowers  
Lawn Rakes and Leads  
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.*

## Officers and Committee Members 2023

President:	Wendy Wright	
Vice-President:	Richard Knight	
Life Vice-President:	Maureen Kemp	
Chairman:	Lynda Piddington 40 Westbrook Grove, Purbrook PO7 5HX	023 9226 1149 linda.piddington@sky.com
Treasurer:	Brian Andrews 26 Kings Road, Cowplain PO8 8UR	023 9226 3731
Trading Manager:	Brian Andrews (as above)	
Secretary:	Jan Baxter 29 The Brow, Waterloooville PO7 5BY	023 9238 3007
Show Manager:	Graeme MacFarlane 30 Khandala Gardens, Purbrook PO7 5UA	023 9225 2124
Show Secretary:	Charles Mobsby 17 Padnell Road, Cowplain PO8 8DZ	023 9226 5136
Floral Art Chair:	Carole Rowland	023 9225 5134
Membership Sec:	Tanya Barker 48 The Glade, Waterloooville PO7 7PE	023 9378 2577
Catering Convenor:	Anne Canning	amcanning@btinternet.com
Outing Organiser:	Ann Richardson	023 9225 4986
Gazette Editor:	Richard Knight	rwknight@live.co.uk
<b>General Committee:</b> Lynda Piddington, Brian Andrews, Phil Stock, Jan Baxter, Frances Leppard, Charles Mobsby, Richard Knight, Garry White, Carole Rowland, Wendy Wright, Ann Richardson, Tanya Barker, Anne Canning.		
<b>Show Committee:</b> Brian Andrews, Charles Mobsby, Lynda Piddington, Mark Ward, Anne Canning.		