

GARDENER'S GAZETTE

Winter 2019



AGM



Thursday 5th December

Deverell Hall, 7.30pm

Affiliated to:

The Royal Horticultural Society

National Dahlia Society

National Chrysanthemum Society

National Vegetable Society

The Daffodil Society

The Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies

www.purbrookhorticulturalsociety.org.uk

Officers and Committee Members 2019

President:	Peter Brooks, JP	
Life Vice-Presidents:	Maureen Kemp, Phyllis Brooks	
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:	Chris Middleton 147 The Dale, Widley PO7 5JH	023 9238 0613
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
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Catering Convenor:	Ann Richardson	023 9225 4986
Outing Organiser:	Ann Richardson	023 9225 4986
Floral Art:	Carole Rowland	023 9225 5134
Gazette Editor:	Richard Knight	rwknight@live.co.uk
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!

Summer is coming to a close with dark nights and mornings ahead but we still have things to look forward to. The outing to Hever Castle which will be decorated for Christmas is one beacon of light on the horizon and of course the Annual General Meeting in December with refreshments is always a pleasant end to a successful year.

The Summer Show with its new look, moving the Handicrafts Section into the main building, proved extremely popular with exhibitors and visitors alike, so the hard work by Charles organising it certainly paid off.

Thanks must also go to the willing band of volunteers who worked so hard to transport, set up and dismantle, cater, man stalls, donate, steward and of course to those providing exhibits. The quality and quantity of exhibits is always a joy to behold; from the stunning Floral Art displays to the intricacy of stitch work, patience to grow and skill to bake scrumptious food; but a stand out exhibit, quite literally, was young Edward's Recycled Monster.

The number of first time and Novice exhibitors increased again this year - boding well for future Shows, as the quality of their exhibits was rewarded by high placings and great comments from the judges.

I am constantly in awe at the variety of talent displayed by members at the Shows, and with this in mind, wondered if anyone would like to write a short piece on their hobby for the *Gazette*? It may be based on a simple 'How I got into' or even hints and tips for beginners, but all articles are gratefully received by our Editor, Richard. Simply email him, or for the non-technical, write and post your article and wait for it to be published!

Now, on a personal note as we come to the end of 2019, I would like to thank the Committee for all their hard work on your behalf, the happy bunch who volunteer on Saturday mornings at the Trading Store in all weathers and those of you who contribute in so many ways to keep our Society relevant after almost 80 years.

Lynda

Trips 2020

Sunday 26th April 9am

Lacock Abbey, Fox Talbot Museum and Village
£26 - N.T. £16

Lacock Abbey is a country house with monastic roots and Britain's birth-place of photography. It has been used for many films - Harry Potter, Wolf Hall and Pride and Prejudice, to name just a few.

The village looks much like it did 200 years ago, with timber-framed cottages and shops, and was the setting for Cranford, Downton Abbey and many more.

There are two eating places - the Courtyard Tearoom and the Stables Café.

Sunday 14th June 9am

Cotswold Wildlife Park and Gardens
£26

Set in over 160 acres of parkland, the park has a diverse collection of species, many of which are endangered in the wild. The beautiful gardens are carefully tended by a creative team of gardeners who have made every corner of the park a joy to visit.

There is a restaurant serving hot meals and snacks.

I am repeating this trip because many of you requested a return visit!

Sunday 26th July 9am

Mapperton House and Gardens
£26

Home to the Earl and Countess of Sandwich, Mapperton is a glorious sandstone manor house among tumbling hills and countryside. The house has guided tours only, which I book in advance.

There is a Coach House Café.

Let's hope we can visit this time, as previously this was cancelled due to filming in 2019.

Sunday 13th September 9am

Waddesdon Manor
£28 - N.T. £16

This has been home to the Rothschilds, the most powerful banking family of the 19th century. During your visit you will get to see amazing architecture, art collections and beautiful gardens.

There are many eating places at Waddesdon and also a large Gift Shop.

Thank you to everyone who came on this year's trips. I think we had some good times and mostly sunny days.

I will be taking bookings at the start of November. If you for some reason are unable to go on a trip you have booked, please let me know as soon as possible and I will try and sell it on if I can.

A deposit of £15 per trip will secure your seat. Balance to be paid four weeks before departure can be made at the Trading Store on Saturday (9.30am-11.30am) or at the monthly meetings. A cheque can be posted to Ann Richardson, 16 Fir Copse Road, Waterloooville PO7 5JA. Cheques to be made payable to PHS Trips.

My telephone no: 023 9225 4986.

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Village Noticeboard

For you all walking along London Road, Purbrook by the Woodman Pub, you may have noticed that last year after a spate of vandalism, the village noticeboard was removed. A group of us that regularly use the noticeboard contributed some funds for a replacement to be made.

It was a community project with contributions from St. John's Church; Purbrook and Widley Area Residents Association (PAWARA) and ourselves with the construction being done by the Men's Shed.

On the 13th August the official unveiling was attended by myself, the Vicar of St. John's, Christopher from Broadway Café, Pat who organised the entire project, Gary Hughes, Chair of PAWARA, Councillor Karen Howard, a couple from the Men's Shed volunteers, along with Karen's partner who took photographs, and our own 'official photographer' Frances.

Please do take a look as there is a small plaque noting our contribution and a poster explaining what we do. Yet another example of our Society's work within the community.

Lynda

Talk by Rosy Hardy

5th October 2019

Rosy, who now has 24 Gold Medals from the Chelsea Flower Show for her cottage garden perennials, gave us some ideas for **late summer colour** and textures from grasses.

Sedum or stonecrop has changed its name. The rockery species remain as sedum but the other taller varieties are now **Hylotelephium**. A good short variety is 'Coca Cola' which will tolerate poor soil.

Origanum laevigatum very good to help pollinate your vegetables as the bees love it.

Pennesetum Hameln a non-invasive grass with a purple flower, needs full sun - best split in April/ May.

Molinia Heidi a tall grass with 5ft. flower stalks but with shorter leaves, cut down in the spring for the new flowers in autumn.

Sanguisorba obtusa also known as Japanese burnet, tall, about 2-3ft with pink fluffy flowers. It likes a heavy moist soil.

Helenium Fuego also known as sneezeweed. This needs full sun, is quite tall and has masses of bronze and orange flowers.

Ageratina ligustrina has shiny leaves and white starry perfumed flowers. It needs full sun, is a good plant for pollinating insects and can be pruned to any shape.

The following will tolerate more shady areas:-

Aster now called **Eurybia divaricata** has small white flowers which change colour as they are pollinated so that the bees don't waste time visiting them.

Aster now called **Symphotrichum 'October Skies'** dense heads of pretty blue flowers on a low growing plant.

Coreopsis Moonbeam another ground cover of small yellow daisy flowers which don't need deadheading

Chelone glabra also called white turtlehead, will flower continuously and spread.

Ammi majus an annual with white umbelliferous flowers like cow parsley.

Selinum wallichianum a taller similar plant to above but reaching 2-3ft. Has attractive burgundy stems.

Crocasmia Solfatare a bit different with yellow flowers and dark foliage. Crocasmias need damp soil or they will not flower well. Divide in the spring.

Persicaria 'Pink Elephant' a grassy looking plant that has arching pink bottlebrush-type flowers and grows to about a foot. It is semi-evergreen.

Floral Art Programme 2019

All meeting at Deverell Hall — start 7.30pm

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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Rembrandt? Picasso? Turner?

Which one or all of these do you think painted the exterior of the Trading Store? The answer, not at the bottom of the page, is none as they were not available! We did, however, manage to recruit the wonderful services of Wendy (not Sister Wendy, off the 'telly) but our Wendy who single-handed painted the exterior. The Store is looking good and will look even better as the next task is to tackle the border around the Store area.

Plants have been kindly donated by Peter Brooks, so when you next pay a visit to the Store please do express your opinion on the new look.

Thank you, Wendy and Peter!

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Membership

The membership subscription is now due for the 2019-2020 year so please renew at the monthly meetings or at the Trading Store. Why not buy a subscription for a friend or relative as a thank you - after all, what better present than one that lasts all year, and for only £6 per household which gives enjoyable monthly meetings and hopefully will entertain and inform!

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Store - Christmas

The Trading Store will be closed on 28th December and 4th January but please join us on 21st December for our usual seasonal refreshments.

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N.B. Interesting to hear Rosy Hardy say that they only use Melcourt Peat-free Compost at the nursery as we now stock it at the Store!

R.H.S. Wisley

Wisley is a wonderful place, especially when visiting on a beautiful sunny day as we were.

It was a special day hosting the Plant Fair. We were greeted by an array of white, square, pointy topped tents set out in long aisles, reminiscent of mediaeval paintings depicting tournaments. Each tent contained the nursery's beautifully presented plants selling at very reasonable prices. Additionally, the plantsmen and women had created colourful and imaginative displays outside each tent, tempting us with the promise, 'For Sale at 4.30pm'. Of course we were all eager to see Wisley's new visitor centre; it did not disappoint.

On arrival many of us headed straight there for a cuppa and an inspection of the loos. The building is not spectacular, but it is open and airy and has a large terrace area overlooking a pleasant setting with many well-grown, young trees and a particular feature, somewhat unique perhaps, a concrete concoction of a five- or six-tier of very steep steps, some 20 or so metres long (looked like a Roman Coliseum) the whole softened by summer flowers planted along the length of each tier, so when seated (bring your own cushion), one was surrounded by colour and scent. It obviously worked as many visitors were seated along its height and length watching the world go by and soaking up the sunshine.

As the 4.30pm sale time came and went we headed for the car park, encountering a reminder of the Scottish Play 'When Burnham Forest came to Dunsinane' - but in our case Portsmouth City Coaches and lovely Nigel who piled our plants into the luggage hold!

Summer Show

I have to begin by saying a big thank you to all the flower club members who gave so generously of their time and money - (flower arranging is not a cheap hobby)! and then to add such a glorious display of flowers. The designs and colours were a joy. The judge took her time at each niche and I hope the entrants found the comments both useful and valuable. Also there were a lot of comments from the general public throughout the afternoon, and all were very positive!

Another thank you must go to all those who donated bags and prizes for our tombola. I have already been given a few bags and prizes for next time. We managed to raise approximately £120. Special thanks should go to Monica, Lorraine, Sue and Lorraine's daughter Tina, for their extra help in setting it all up. It took quite a bit of skill to match prizes with bags; we had nearly 100. Putting them on display in some sort of numerical order for ease of finding also took some time. Once again, big thanks to all those who helped.

The various craft displays looked good in their new home and possibly had more visitors? The standard of some of the entries was outstanding. A lot of time and thought went into their makeup; knitting, cross-stitch, crochet and patchwork all need a lot of thought before the actual making. As for the flower arranging, colour, shape and texture are all elements to be considered at the start and can take up hours of work using more than one skill; such as colour matching, cutting shapes and putting them together, to make a whole pattern.

Very well done to all those who took part; congratulations to those who won a prize and to those that didn't. We hope that you enjoyed the show and would urge you to enter again. Better luck next time!

It was lovely to see so many entries in the cooking classes. Those of us who made the apple cakes had an issue over the oven temperature recommended but all round we had a good go! It was disappointing to see that no gentlemen had a try! There was no specific classes for men but what was to stop you entering any of the classes, I am sure some of you bake at home?

All in all, it was a very enjoyable show; a lot of hard work, but it seemed that all those members of the public who attended enjoyed it and we shall look forward to the Spring Show.

Carole Rowland

SUMMER SHOW WINNERS 2019

AWARD	WINNER
1. Charles Rose Memorial Cup (Best Vegetable Collection)	Jim Osman
2. Borrow Cup (Best Potato Exhibit)	Phil Stock
3. Cornelius Cup (Best Vegetable Exhibit excl. Collections)	Jim Osman
4. Ted Miles Trophy (Most points for Vegetables)	Phil Stock
5. Juniper Cup (Most points for Novice)	Brigette Hoare
6. Rowena Cup (Most points for Fruit)	Ron Brumhill
7. Dring Cup (Most points for Roses)	Not Awarded
8. Healey Cup (Most points for Flowers)	Barry Moore
9. George Broom Memorial Bowl (Most points for Pot Plants)	Peter Chivers
10. Dring Chrysanthemum Cup (Most points for Chrysanthemums)	Jim Osman
11. Norman Cup (Most points for Dahlias)	Barry Moore
12. Rosemary Trophy (Most points for Floral Art)	Maureen Simpson
13. Ava Trophy (Most points for Jams and Preserves)	Mrs. P. Brooks
14. Charwood Cup (Most points in all Classes, ladies)	Anne Heelan
15. Napier Cup (Most points in all Classes, gentlemen)	Barry Moore
16. Enid Gauntlett Cup (Most points for Handicrafts)	Miss C. Waskett
17. Mary Gauntlett Cup (Best Fuchsia exhibit)	Barry Moore
18. Society Shield (Most points monthly show table)	Adele Mallows
19. Janet Bendell Cup (Best Pot Plant)	Peter Brooks
20. Chairman's Cup (Best Floral Art exhibit)	Maureen Simpson
21. Greta Carter Trophy (Best Novice Floral Art exhibit)	Maggie Mellor
22. Jim Mew Cup (Best Onion exhibit)	Not Awarded
23. G. A. Day Cup (Rose Class 48 - four blooms)	Not Awarded
24. West Cup (3 vases Chrysanthemums)	Not Awarded
25. Gauntlett Cup (Local Dahlia Championship)	Barry Moore
26. Smith Cup (Most points child up to 7 years)	Not Awarded
27. Eileen Jones Cup (Handwriting - child up to 7 years)	Not Awarded
28. Borrow Young Peoples Cup (Most points 7-11 years)	Edward Hoare
29. Mary Grinter Cup (Most points 11-16 years)	Maisie Hoare
30. Havant Borough Council Cup (Most points Cookery classes)	Sue Andrews
31. The National Chrysanthemum Society Silver Medal	Jim Osman
32. The National Chrysanthemum Society Bronze Medal	Not Awarded
33. The National Chrysanthemum Society Certificate	Jim Osman
34. The National Dahlia Society Silver Medal for Best exhibit	Jim Osman
35. The National Dahlia Society Bronze Medal for 2nd Best exhibit	Jim Osman
36. The National Rose Society Bronze Medal	Now Awarded
37. The National Vegetable Society Silver Medal Best Vegetable exhibit	Deborah Lowe
38. National Begonia Society Bronze Medal for Best cut bloom	-
39. The Banksian Medal (Highest prize money)	Phil Stock

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

National Chrysanthemum Society

National Vegetable Society

Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies - On line

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.

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 Spring Gazette 2020, should be with the Editor by 1st January 2020, for distribution at the start of February 2020.