

Chairman: Nigel Crush Membership Secretary: Janet Evans Society email <u>cehs561@gmail.com</u> Society website cehs.co.uk

From the Chair - April 2021

We have had some lovely hot weather at the end of March and hopefully your gardens are progressing well and ready to welcome friends and family. Sadly, we had to cancel the Spring Show, however, it looks promising we will be able to hold the Autumn Show. As we are coming out of lockdown, we have put together a provisional program for the rest of the year which can be found below. We have booked the coach for the trip on 18th September to the Cotswold Wildlife Park and Gardens. Thanks to everyone who took part in the photography competition, the photos are with our Show Judge Brian Burden for assessing.

CEHS Open Garden Day 25th July 2021



One positive that has come out of being in lockdown is that many of us had more time than usual to spend in the garden and will, hopefully, reap the rewards of our efforts this summer. With that in mind, we are excited to announce the first CEHS Open Gardens Day to be held on Sunday 25th July 2021 from 2.00 pm - 4.30 pm.

We would like to invite CEHS members in Sonning Common & Shiplake Bottom to open their gardens for other CEHS members to visit and enjoy. If you would like to open your garden please email cehs561@gmail.com with your name and address or call Janet Evans or Jessica Philbrick by 15th June 2021.

A list of the open gardens will be made available to all CEHS members prior to the event so you can plan your route. around the village.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Jessica Philbrick Janet Evans

<u>Talks</u>

<u>Tuesday 13th April 2021 at 7.30pm via</u> <u>Zoom. "Gardening In Small Spaces" by</u> <u>Camilla Phelps</u>

Our final talk of the '20/'21 season will be another Zoom event presented by London-based professional horticultural writer, designer and presenter Camilla Phelps.

A regular contributor to Gardens Illustrated, Amateur Gardening, House & Garden and The English Garden, Camilla should provide us with timely ideas on how to make the best horticultural use of whatever small spaces we have whether they be balconies, patios or awkward little corners of large estates!

Zoom talk details

Topic: Gardening In Small Spaces" by Camilla Phelps

Time: Apr 13, 2021 07:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8572505985 2?pwd=VmhwV0ErZjVEWC8zQ1IseFdKY0 9mQT09

Meeting ID: 857 2505 9852

Passcode: 790631

For laptops or PCs to join a meeting:

You don't need to download the Zoom (client for meeting) app for laptops. Just:

1) Go to https://zoom.us/join

2) Click join meeting and add the meeting ID and then the passcode.

Meeting ID: 857 2505 9852

Passcode: 790631

Or copy the link we will email to you into your browser and press enter.

For phones and tablets

Download the ZOOM Cloud meetings app

Zoom invitation

1) Enter the meeting ID

Meeting ID: 857 2505 9852

- 2) Click Join
- 3) Add the passcode

Passcode: 790631

4) Join the meeting with Video

Or click on the link in the email you will receive and that will take you to the meeting.

<u>Report: Tuesday 9th March 2021 via</u> <u>Zoom. "Wildlife In Everyday Gardens" by</u> <u>Stuart Mabbutt and William Mankelow</u>

Our fourth Zoom meeting of the year demonstrated the versatility of this technology with Stuart leading the talk from "lock down" in Manchester supported with numerous visual aids and other inputs from William in Oxford!

On this occasion the challenges we faced were limited only to those given to us to help improve the wildlife friendliness of our gardening. These include:-

- Is garden tidiness essential or even just an illusion?
- Are we really hearing and looking at what is around us?
- Is it really a pest?
- Are the essentials there: water, dead wood, plant diversity and grasses of varying heights?
- Hedge connections to other gardens and green spaces?
- Are bird boxes the right sort?
 Remember robins only like 3 walls and sparrows don't do social distancing!

Lots of food for thought!

John Windass

<u>Diary from the RHS</u> April Sunshine and showers

Spring is finally in evidence as daffodils and flowering trees start to bloom. Expect the inevitable April showers this month but with sunny days too, when you can turn your attention to the lawn. It's an exciting month, with indoor-sown seeds well into growth, and it's also time to start sowing outdoors. Just watch out for frosts...

- 1 Keep weeds under control
- 2 Protect fruit blossom from late frosts
- 3 Tie in climbing and rambling roses
- 4 Sow hardy annuals, herbs and wild flower seed outdoors
- 5 Start to feed citrus plants
- 6 Increase the water given to houseplants
- 7 Feed hungry shrubs and roses

13th April (Tues) ZOOM TALK "Gardening In Small Spaces" by Camilla Phelps 25th July (Sat) OPEN GARDEN DAY in Sonning Common 4th September (Sat) AUTUMN SHOW 2-4pm in Sonning Common Village Hall August Date TBA Visit to a National Garden Scheme local garden. 18th September (Sat) COACH OUTING – Cotswold Wildlife Park and Gardens 13th October (Tues) TALK "Composting" by Robert Longstaff 9th November (Tues) TALK "The Gilberts Dahlia year" by Nick Gilbert., 13th December (Tues) AGM–7.15pm in Peppard Memorial Hall. Followed by Cheese and Wine