



AFFILIATED TO
ROYAL HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY

CHILTERN EDGE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



Chairman: Nigel Crush
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From the Chair - May 2021

As we come to the end of this season of talks, I would like to thank John Windass for coordinating this interesting and successful Zoom series. We do however all hope to be back in Peppard Memorial Hall in October.

Thanks also to Maureen Stevens and her team for organising the Front Garden Competition, more on this below.

A final thanks to Colin Mather for organising the Spring photo competition and putting the photos onto the website, well worth looking at.

CEHS OPEN GARDEN DAY 25th JULY 2021



A big thank you to those members who have already signed up to be part of the first CEHS Open Garden Day to be held on Sunday 25th July 2021 from 2.00 - 4.30 pm.

We would still love more members to take part in the event. If you would be willing to open your garden, please email cehs561@gmail.com with your contact details by 15th June 2021.

Members who are opening their gardens will take part in a special preview event so they don't miss out. We look forward to hearing from you.....

Talk Report: Tuesday 13th March 2021 via Zoom. "Gardening In Small Spaces" by Camilla Phelps

Our '20/'21 winter talks season closed with another well attended Zoom presentation by London based garden designer and writer Camilla Phelps.

Always a city gardener Camilla began by reminding us that even some of our most renowned big gardens like Sissinghurst include small garden "rooms" as key elements. Small well-designed spaces can provide havens of tranquility and interest throughout the year.

Camilla's tips for making the most of small spaces included:-

- Create illusions of space by, for example, including window like mirrors.
- Exploit every inch of space, including verticals by using shelves or hanging pots, well behaved climbers like the "chocolate" vine, star jasmine or runner beans chosen

for their flowers as much as eating qualities!

- Use pots to enable you to "ring the changes" and provide year-round interest.
- Don't be afraid of trees though do ensure they will not damage buildings!
- Exploit shade loving plants to add light and colour.
- Have fun, perhaps by planting in unusual containers!
- Give yourself somewhere comfortable to sit & enjoy what you have created!

I hope this and our other winter talks have given members both interest and ideas for the coming summer! For my part, fingers crossed, I have now finalised our talks for 2022, watch this space!

John Windass

Spring Front Garden Competition

Springtime 2021 has been welcomed so much this year after a long, dark and, for many, very distressing winter. With the Covid vaccinations for most there is "light at the end of the tunnel".

The early flowers have been at their best and the snowdrops seemed to arrive early and stay late, then the anemones and wild primroses which have multiplied in our garden and still look fresh after these cooler days. Anita bought me a selection of tulips and narcissi for some containers by our North facing front door. They have been blooming at intervals - first single apricot coloured tulips and now larger multi petalled orange/red ones with multi-headed white narcissi - such a greeting each morning when you open the front door and this week the wind rushes in.

Judging the front gardens this year was by a team of five - Janet, Sue, Barbara, Jessica and Elaine - and was completed

just after Easter so unfortunately, they missed out on the warm March days.



First prize was awarded to Bill and Angie Cordell of Baytree Rise. Knowing that their plot was a field just four years ago the transformation to such a colourful and established garden is a huge credit to them.

Second came Joyce Brewer in Woodlands Road with a lovely established garden with early plants and colourful troughs of bulbs by the house.

Third prize went to Alan and Janice Davies of Sedgefield Close whose spring garden was a mass of small flowering plants and bulbs with an amazing magnolia (probably the only one that survived the early frost) and also a lovely flowering cherry tree.

Fourth were Mike and Betty Farina of Inglewood close- a larger, neat and tidy garden with a mass of spring flowering plants & bulbs, magnolia and forsythia.

It was good to get a write up in the local paper and Gee Harland, the new reporter for our area, is keen to follow up on any activities we are doing this year

Maureen Stevens

Results of the Spring Show Photo Competition

New Life

- 1st Peter Crush
- 2nd Colin Mather
- 3rd Jessica Philbrick



1st Place "New Life" Peter Crush

Cold

- 1st Masako Hamaguchi
- 2nd Peter Crush
- 3rd Cathy Notaras
- Highly Commended Jill Hendra



1st Place "Cold" Masako Hamaguchi

Pets

- 1st Peter Crush
- 2nd Jill Hendra
- 3rd Jessica Philbrick



1st Place "Pets" Peter Crush

Open

- 1st Masako Hamaguchi
- 2nd Cathy Notaras
- 3rd Colin Mather



1st Place "Open" Masako Hamaguchi

Full details and winning photographs are on the website.

Diary from the RHS

May: Summer is on its way!

As bulbs fade and herbaceous borders grow in leaps and bounds, it is now clear that summer is approaching. Sowing and planting out bedding can begin, depending on regional weather variations, and you can take softwood cuttings. It is also time to get back into the lawn mowing regime, as the lawn will be loving the warmer temperatures this month brings.

Top 10 jobs this month

1. Watch out for late frosts. Protect tender plants
2. Earth up potatoes, and promptly plant any still remaining
3. Plant out summer bedding at the end of the month (except in cold areas)
4. Water early and late to get the most out of your water, recycle water when possible
5. Regularly hoe off weeds
6. Open greenhouse vents and doors on warm days
7. Mow lawns weekly

8. Check for nesting birds before clipping hedges

9. Lift and divide overcrowded clumps of daffodils and other spring-flowering bulbs

10. Watch out for viburnum beetle and lily beetle grubs

Don't Miss Virtual Chelsea

Although RHS Chelsea Flower Show is taking place from 21-26th September 2021 this year, there will be an RHS Virtual Chelsea event on the RHS website from 17-21st May.

rhs.org.uk/virtualchelsea