



AFFILIATED TO
ROYAL HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY

CHILTERN EDGE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



Chairman: Nigel Crush 0118 9722167
Membership Secretary: Janet Evans 0118 3277709
Society email cehs561@gmail.com
Society website cehs.co.uk

From the Chair - March 2023

Although still cold, thankfully signs of Spring are appearing everywhere. Could you all please look at your Spring show schedule and enter some classes. The show is the Society's showcase and we need lots of entries please especially from members who have not entered before. Enjoy baking? Look at the classes below and consider entering one. If you have any plants you can donate for the plant stall they would be most welcome. It was lovely to see so many members and guests (50+) at the afternoon talk on "Gertrude Jekyll" by Richard Bisgrove.

Show Schedule Numbering Error

Please note that since the Spring Show schedule was printed that we have discovered a problem with the Domestic Class numbering. These should be as follows:-

30. One jar of any breakfast marmalade.
31. One jar of chutney.
32. A Victoria sponge decorated with an Easter theme using butter icing – own recipe.
33. 6 Scottish Oatcakes made using the recipe provide in the schedule
34. 3 Hot Cross Buns – own recipe.

Please can you ensure you use the correct class numbers when making your entries? Many apologies.

TALKS

Tuesday 14th March at 19.30 "For the Love of Roses" by Gillian Taylor

Hampshire based Gillian will explain how she became a rose fan, progressing from having only 2 rose bushes a few years ago to now having over 200 varieties in her collection. She will discuss the diverse types of rose available, where to buy them, how to use them in various garden settings, their care & propagation and suggestions for plants to accompany them in your borders.

Please note that Gillian supports the horticultural charity Perennial through her talks.

Tuesday 11th April at 19.30 "Heavenley Hostas" by June Colley & John Baker

A return visit by both members of this husband and wife Hampshire based plant loving and expert partnership - John gave us a beautifully illustrated talk on "Delightful Dahlias" in November 2021.

Both June and John are also both passionate about Hostas and hold the National Collection of European and Asiatic Hostas - comprising some 1500 cultivars! They are also senior officers of the British Hosta and Hemerocallis Society whose patron is none other than King Charles, another Hosta devotee and himself holder of the Large & Giant leaved part of the National Hosta Collection!

Come and see why these diverse plants excite such exalted interest and perhaps how deter the interest of slugs and snails!

Talk Report: Tuesday 14th February.
"Gertrude Jekyll" by Richard Bisgrove

Our now annual afternoon meeting brought a large audience out to learn about this incredibly influential late Victorian/early 20th century garden designer and plantswoman from Richard Bisgrove who is both honorary life-member of CEHS and acknowledged international expert on Jekyll.

A fascinating and unusual Victorian spinster, Gertrude Jekyll was a skilled artist and embroiderer, being strongly influenced by JMW Turner, yet had very poor eyesight throughout her life! She also had a very unusual and close, though almost certainly purely professional and platonic, relationship with the architect Edwin Lutyens.

A real workaholic Jekyll continued to design gardens well into the twentieth century. These frequently include her trademark swathes of Turner-like colour. She also wrote almost a book a year and was a frequent contributor to "The Garden" - the most influential and academic horticultural journal of it's time. All with dreadful eyesight!

An informative and interesting afternoon!

John Windass

Urgent message to Doggy Walkers
Joggers and Cyclists

Now the spring is on its way gardeners will be out in their gardens tidying and planting for everyone to enjoy, so please stop and admire and tell me the addresses of gardens we can judge the best spring front

garden competition in Sonning common
Maureen Stevens 9724779

Wisley, our first trip this year!!!!

On Saturday 20th May we are arranging a trip to Wisley RHS gardens, Woking , Surrey.

Wisley has redesigned the top garden by the orchards and a new trial field has been opened and the old trial field is being re developed and should be open by our visit. The rhododendrons and Azaleas will be out and the wisterias and camassias should be at their best. The orchards will hopefully be in full flower

There are plenty of refreshment places and picnic area.

We have spaces for a minimum of 30 members and guests.

The tickets are £18.00 each.

Deadline for tickets is 12th May 2023

Why not bring the form to the talk on 14th March.

Mark Richards

Spring Show Photo Competition Topics

1. Celebrations.
2. Reflections in water.
3. Still life.
4. Open

Spring arrives

Spring usually arrives by mid-March and the frequent sunny days provide the opportunity for an increasing range of gardening tasks. It's time to get busy preparing seed beds, sowing seed, cutting back winter shrubs and generally tidying up around the garden.

1. Prune bush and climbing roses

These general tips for rose pruning will help you improve the health and lifespan of any rose.

2. Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes

3. Plant summer-flowering bulbs

Bulbs make a fine display planted in containers or borders, especially daffodils, snowdrops and tulips in spring. They are one of the easiest and most rewarding garden plants to grow.

4. Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials

5. Top dress containers with fresh compost

6. Mow the lawn on dry days (if needed)

7. Cut back Cornus (dogwood) and Salix (willow) grown for colourful winter stems

8. Hoe and mulch weeds to keep them under control early

9. Start feeding fish and using the pond fountain; remove pond heaters

10. Protect new spring shoots from slugs

RHS Entry Discount Card



The Society now has a discount card which offers two adults a 50% discount off entry to any RHS Garden (Bridgewater, Harlow Carr, Hyde Hall, Rosemoor and Wisley).

The card is currently held at 18 Kennylands.

Contact the Chairman if you want to borrow it. It can be posted to you if you do not live locally.

Letters/emails/articles

We welcome your comments/articles/letters these can be sent to CEHS at cehs561@gmail.com for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Dates for your diary

14th March (Tues) TALK "For the Love of Roses" A talk by Gillian Taylor

1st April (Sat) SPRING SHOW 2-4pm in Sonning Common Village Hall

11th April (Tues) TALK "Heavenly Hostas" A talk by June Colley and John Baker

20th May (Sat) COACH OUTING – RHS, Wisley

17th June (Sat) COACH OUTING - Private garden visit in the afternoon to The Manor House, Stevington, Bedfordshire and a visit to the nearby historic market town of Olney in the morning.

15th July (Sat) Summer activity Venue T.B.C.

2nd September (Sat) AUTUMN SHOW 2-4pm in Sonning Common Village Hall

16th September (Sat) COACH OUTING - Swiss Gardens and attached Shuttleworth vintage aircraft and motor car museum in Bedfordshire.

10th October (Tues) Talk by Ray Broughton Topic TBC

14th November (Tues) TALK Talk "Tenerife: A Botanical Honey-pot" by Timothy Walker

12th December (Tues) AGM–7.15pm in Peppard Memorial Hall* Followed by Cheese and Wine

Sonning Common Summer Front Garden competition 2023

I Nominate the front garden at

Signed

Please print your name

Please return completed form to
to Maureen Stevens 4 Inglewood Close Sonning Common, RG4 9SY.
Telephone : 0118 972 4779

COACH OUTING TO RHS WISLEY, SURREY ON Saturday 20th May 2023

Pick up points are Kidmore End turn (9.00am), Sonning Common Post Office (9.05 am), and Peppard Stores (9.10am) returning at approximately 5.45pm

Name	Phone number	Pickup Point

Members/Non-members £18.00 Deadline 12th May 2023

I enclose cheque/cash in the sum of £ _____ Please make cheques payable to C.E.H.S

Signature: Tel No: _____

Please return completed form to Mark Richards c/o, 18 Kennylands Road, Sonning Common, RG4 9JT

Any queries contact Mark Richards Telephone 07789553838 or email markr3939@gmail.com

CHILTERN EDGE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SPRING SHOW 2023 – ENTRY FORM

Surname: First Name: Title:

Address:

Please enter class numbers in the grid:-

Total number of classes entered: _____

PLEASE SEND ENTRIES TO:-

Nigel Crush 18 Kennylands Road, Sonning Common

Colin Mather 4 Rowan Close, Sonning Common

Jessica Philbrick 3 Baskerville Road, Sonning Common

Sue Hedges Yew Trees, Hazelmoor Lane, Gallowstree Common

John Windass Hunton Cottage, Gallowstree Road, Peppard Common

A copy of the schedule can be found at CEHS.co.uk 25p/entry or email class numbers to cehs561@gmail.com