



AFFILIATED TO
ROYAL HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY

CHILTERN EDGE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



Chairman: Nigel Crush

Membership Secretary: Janet Evans

Society email cehs561@gmail.com

Society website cehs.co.uk

From the Chair - April 2023

Luckily the rain stopped for the Spring show which was a big success. Thanks to everyone who contributed to make it a success

We had a great deal of help setting up/down, transporting show stuff, with administration, teas, raffle and plant stall. Thanks to John Windass the show administrator, administrating for the last time.

Thanks to those who donated raffle prizes, cakes and plants and to everyone who entered, some for the first time.

More on the show in next month's newsletter

2nd Trip for the year:

Saturday June 17th.

Visit to The Manor House Garden and market town of Olney, North Buckinghamshire.

The Manor House Garden is a private garden owned by Kathy and Simon Brown who have agreed to open their garden to us only and provide home made tea and cake and a 45 minute tour of the garden by Kathy and Simon showing the highlights . The rest of the visit we can explore the garden at our own pace. We arrive at the garden at 2pm. The garden is 4.5 acres containing formal garden, herbaceous borders, art garden, containers, cottage garden and wild flower meadow. All

designed and cared for by Kathy. Kathy also has a small shop on site. Website is www.kathybrownsgarden.com

In the morning we are stopping at the nearby Georgian market town of Olney (north Buckinghamshire) which has plenty of tea shops and cafes and shops as well as a museum called Cowper and Newton. The museum has a historic garden and celebrates Olney and the two historical figures of Mr Cowper a historical poet and the Slave abolitionist Mr Newton who penned the hymn Amazing Grace. You will have the morning to explore the towns facilities and visit the museum (there is an entry charge which is not included)if you wish.

The cost per person is £37.00 each to include coach, drivers tip, entry to The Manor House Garden , **tea and cake** and the tour.

Please advise of any dietary requirements for the tea and home made cakes.

Mark Richards

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!

John Windass

Report on talk "For the Love of Roses"
..... or "Roses grow on you"
a talk by Gillian Taylor

Peppard Memorial Hall, containing 50+ CEHS interested listeners on a chilly, dank, early March evening was brightened up and we were enthralled by the infectious enthusiasm and obvious total devotion to the beautiful blooms that we were treated to on screen.

Gillian Taylor is fully immersed in the world of the Rose. Her pre-retirement career was as a Veterinary Surgeon. She is now not only an expert grower, but also an experience and knowledgeable judge. Gillian 'grows' in the gardens of her homes in both Hampshire and France and judges all over the place, when sent by the Rose Society; she is particularly interested in growing more pollinators. She is a great supporter of the Perennial charity, which helps gardeners and people involved with horticulture, who have fallen upon hard times or need support with their health and wellbeing.

Gillian began her talk by showing us the tools that she gardens with and describes their various attributes. They were circulated around the hall for us to get a real 'hands on' feel. It was especially

interesting to hear about the useful Darlac Asparagus Knife, which she put to work as a small saw, when pruning something too thick for the secateurs; and the self sharpening Jakoti hand shears are a great favourite and so very useful.



It was extremely interesting to hear of the breeders abbreviations. Something to look out for on labels or in catalogues. [A fact-sheet with all those details, plus the gardens mentioned during her talk and shown on screen, as well as a list of the beautiful blooms I regret I was unable to keep up and record all the data in real time, such was the speed of delivery!]

It was indeed a real master-class. To have the varieties described to us, with their particular attributes, their 'plus points' and advice on choice of prime location for planting etc was amazing. We were also treated to suggestions of what to put around as companion planting; such as salvia, hardy chrysanthemum, dahlia, flocks, cornflower and geum to name but a few. Her favoured fertilizer is homemade liquid Comfrey. The hints for pruning was

with 'Old' roses cut and prune to shape; for 'New' varieties, cut and prune hard.

At the end of the evening there was opportunity for questions from the floor. One had the impression that most of the listeners were already packed full of information and had gleaned a huge amount from a very interesting talk. Penny Noble gave a vote of thanks; it is possible we may be having another visit from her sometime in the future.

Sue J.

Wisley, our first trip this year

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

The tickets are £18.00 each.
Deadline for tickets is 12th May 2023
Mark Richards

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.

The Avern Trophy

We seem to be missing this.
Any ideas of its whereabouts would be welcome

RHS Gardening in 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...

Top gardening jobs this month

1 Sow hardy annuals, herbs and wild flower seed outdoors

Sowing seeds outdoors is an easy, inexpensive and fun way to grow new plants. It's ideal for a wide range of hardy flowers and vegetables.

2 Protect fruit blossom from late frosts
Most top fruit and soft fruit are very hardy but once they start into growth in spring, flowers and buds are especially vulnerable to frost and may need protection to crop well.

3 Tie in climbing and rambling roses
Rose pruning ensures that plants grow vigorously and flower well each year. Although often considered complicated, rose pruning is not difficult if you follow this guide.

4. Keep weeds under control
5. Start to feed citrus plants
6. Increase the water given to houseplants
7. Feed hungry shrubs and roses
8. Sow new lawns or repair bare patches
9. Prune fig trees
10. Divide bamboos and waterlilies

Membership cards

Due to an administrative error some newsletters were not delivered earlier, they now have been, Apologies for this.

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

COACH OUTING The Manor House Garden and market town of Olney, North Buckinghamshire.

Saturday June 17th.

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 £37.00 Deadline 6th June 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

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

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