

ASH PARISH GARDEN CLUB OFFICERS

| <u>OFFICE</u> | <u>OFFICERS</u> | <u>TEL NO</u> |
|-------------------|--|---------------|
| Chairman | Mr J Poole "MEADCOTT" Badshot Lea Rd | 01252 319621 |
| Secretary | Mrs. B Ames 97 Longacre, Ash | 01252 686303 |
| Treasurer | Mr. Ian Chant 145 Carfax Ave, Tongham | 01252 329767 |
| Show Secretary | Mrs. B Winton 2 Elm Hill, Normandy | 01252 333756 |
| Social Secretary | Mrs. H Chant 145 Carfax Ave, Tongham | 01252 329767 |
| Victoria Hall Rep | Mr. Brian Perry 9 Drake Avenue Mytchett | 01252 542341 |
| Mag Editor | Mr. Brian Perry 9 Drake Avenue Mytchett | 01252 542341 |
| Prog Secretary | Mrs P Slack 16 Firacre Road, Ash Vale | 01252 311210 |

MAGAZINE CONTENTS

| | |
|---|-----------|
| ASH PARISH GARDEN CLUB OFFICERS | 1 |
| MAGAZINE CONTENTS..... | 1 |
| EDITORS NOTES | 1 |
| R.H.S. LONDON AND WISLEY | 2 |
| HOWARDS FIELD, THE PINETUM AND THE MOVING COLLECTION OF HEATHERS | 2 |
| THIS MONTHS RECIPE..... | 3 |
| WORKING WOODLANDS..... | 3 |
| GARDENING CALENDAR OCTOBER | 4 |
| CLUB EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES –..... | 7 |
| SURREY HORTICULTURAL FEDERATION HISTORY | 9 |
| AUTMN SHOW RESULTS..... | 10 |

EDITORS NOTES

Brian –Stories to ernestperry33@gmail.com hard copy to Chris

R.H.S. LONDON AND WISLEY

We are affiliated to the RHS who's benefits include competitive insurance cover, free gardening advice, a free group visit to an RHS garden, (54 members to visit Wisley *club trip in Summer*) access to medals (*Banksian medal*) and show stationery and a free monthly copy of The Garden magazine (*see Brenda Winton if you wish to view*). Our membership number is 10564709.

HOWARDS FIELD, THE PINETUM AND THE MOVING COLLECTION OF HEATHERS

RHS Garden Wisley has been in existence since 1903, with the Pinetum planted in 1903 and the Pinetum held— created as an orchard for the conduct of experiments on pollination a few years later in 1911. Wisley has had a good collection of heathers since the 1920s, when Frank Chittenden, the Director at the time, planted the Heath Garden on Seven Acres, having spotted ling (*Calluna*) growing in the area.

The Great Storm of 1987 devastated the Pinetum and allowed the area's redevelopment, and in 1988/9, the heather collection was relocated to Howard's Field, in its current planting layout.

This collection now exceeds 1,000 accessions, representing 25 species and subspecific taxa, and more than 1,000 cultivars. As well as *Erica* and *Calluna*, there are representative specimens of *Daboecia*.

Favourable growing conditions have helped the collection to flourish, and the entire collection is catalogued in the RHS Horticultural Database. It was given National Plant Collection status in 1987.

However, the plants are now starting to show signs of old age, and despite annual clipping, are becoming woody and rather tired. To that end, the entire collection is being re-propagated, with RHS staff working with a local heather nursery, to create healthy new plants for a new layout of this once highly fashionable garden stalwart.

Our new plants will be replanted with the addition of the ornamental grass collection that moved from Seven Acres in readiness for our new entrance (see story, overleaf), with some other interesting, more adventurous companion plants, different from the current dwarf conifers. We will change the layout from the flat island beds, and sculpt some of the soil into mound-like formations to show off the heathers to greater effect.

Finally, the crowning glory will be a delightful teashop at the far end of the Heather Garden, in what used to be the old director's house in times gone by, a reward for those venturing down to this area.

You will be able to enjoy the magnificent stone pine (Pinus pined) for the first time, which stands proudly in this location, one of the best specimens in the British Isles, which is currently inaccessible.

THIS MONTHS RECIPE**MARMALADE CAKE only got a second, I was robbed B****You will need**

225g S/R flour
Pinch salt
115g Soft butter or margarine
85g Caster sugar
2 Beaten eggs
2 Large tablespoons marmalade
2 Tablespoons milk
1 Teaspoon finely grated orange peel zest

To do

Preheat oven gas 3 or 170c electric
Grease & line a loaf or 6in cake tin
Mix all together well add sieved flour last
Well mix again
Put into tin & place in the centre oven
Cook for 50 to 55 mins
Decorate with warm marmalade & orange zest

WORKING WOODLANDS

Since the dawn of literature woodlands have captured our imaginations.

Most of our favourite fairy-tales take place in woodland settings, and even now we associate these stretches of assorted trees with adventure and escape. There is something intrinsically wild and wilful about woodlands, shrouded as they are in mystery and folklore.

Here in Hampshire we are lucky enough to live among acres of wonderful woodland habitats, and we at Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust are working hard to preserve their unique characters. One essential part of this is ensuring that they are not suffocated by invasive, non-native species.

There are a great many invasive plants that threaten our native woodland flora and fauna. Cherry laurel and turkey oak are among the worst, but the main culprit is rhododendron. Rhododendron nectar is toxic to European honeybees, and harbours diseases which impact our native oak and beech trees. Not only that, it out-competes other species and forms dense stands that shade out our native plants, stopping them from growing.

To remedy this, we are working in partnership with the New Forest Land Advice Service as part of the Our Past, Our Future project, led by the National Park Authority. The aim of the project is to remove non-native species from our woodlands to encourage the growth of native flora and fauna. The project is called Working Woodlands, and with the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund we are doing all we can to prevent invasive species from destroying invaluable woodland habitats. However this is an enormous undertaking and we need all the help we can get.

If you would like to help, you can volunteer with one of the work parties to help clear these non-natives from the project sites, and also take a closer look at your own ' garden. Whilst rhododendron and cherry laurel are popular choices as evergreen plants, they are not the best choice for wildlife.

Consider mixed native planting in hedges, comprising both evergreen and deciduous species such as holly, hazel, blackthorn, ' hawthorn, beech, yew and field maple. This will provide more habitat for wildlife, giving shelter and food sources throughout the year. If you are interested in getting involved and volunteering, please email Richard Austin, Volunteer, Training & Mentoring Co-ordinator at Richard.Austin@newforestnpa.gov.uk

The Working Woodlands project is also looking for owners of small, private woodlands in the New Forest looking to bring their land back into active management. To express your interest, please contact Working Woodlands Project Co-ordinator, Gemma Stride at Gemma.Stride@nflandadvice.org.uk

By Alice Ashcroft, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

GARDENING CALENDAR OCTOBER

The autumn chill sets in

Although we had some warmer days over September, the autumn is now definitely here for real, and it feels colder. It's a beautiful time of year, with the trees changing colour. Sometimes it may seem pointless raking, when the wind blows even more leaves onto the lawn, but just think of all the lovely leafmould you can make! It's also time to start preparing for early frosts

Top 10 jobs this month

- 1 Divide established rhubarb crowns to create new plants
- 2 Cut back perennials that have died down
- 3 Divide herbaceous perennials
- 4 Move tender plants, including aquatic ones, into a greenhouse or conservatory
- 5 Plant out spring cabbages
- 6 Harvest apples, pears, grapes and nuts
- 7 Prune climbing roses
- 8 Finish collecting seeds from the garden to sow next year
- 9 Last chance to mow lawns and trim hedges in mild areas
- 10 Renovate old lawns or create new grass areas by laying turf

Flowers

Sowing and planting

Plant wallflowers, forget-me-not, *Bellis*, *Primula*, *Viola* (including winter pansies) and other spring bedding plants in prepared ground or pots.

In mild areas, it is still possible to sow hardy annuals outside, to overwinter for a display next year.

Continue to plant spring-flowering bulbs.

Now is also good time to plant new herbaceous perennials, as the soil is still warm, but has more moisture than in the summer.

Lily bulbs can be planted up in pots this month.

Cutting back, pruning and dividing

Cut back faded herbaceous perennials and add to compost heap.

Lift and divide poor flowering or overcrowded herbaceous plants.

Maintenance

Wait for the first frosts to hit dahlias and cannas before lifting the tubers or rhizomes. They may overwinter in the ground in warmer regions if covered with a protective layer of straw or bracken, but flowering may be late and/or poor next year.

Lift tender bulbs if you live in a cold area; *Galtonia* and *Tigridia* bulbs, for example, need lifting and storing over the winter.

Any remaining summer bedding plants struggling on in milder areas are best cleared and replaced, for a fresher display.

Don't neglect hanging basket maintenance - a little deadheading, watering and feeding can keep them going until mid-autumn. Once they are past their best, re-plant with spring-flowering bulbs, winter heathers, trailing ivies and spring bedding plants.

General maintenance

Raise patio containers on to bricks or purpose-made pot feet to avoid them sitting in water during the winter.

Move alpine troughs to a covered porch or lean-to to protect them from the rain - ask for help with lifting to avoid back injuries! Pick over alpines regularly, removing any autumn debris and covering died-back patches with extra grit to encourage their re-growth.

Make sure you have finished bringing all tender plants into the heated greenhouse or conservatory for the winter.

Wait for the first frosts to hit dahlias and cannas before lifting the tubers or rhizomes. In warmer regions, they may be all right left in the ground, but do cover the crowns with a protective layer of straw or bracken.

Remove stakes and other supports as herbaceous plants die down for the winter.

Check any bulbs being forced in darkness. If they show signs of top growth and have a healthy root system when knocked out of the bowl, bring them into a cool, light room to induce flowering.

Planning ahead

Continue collecting and storing seed from perennials still forming seedheads.

Pest and disease watch

Check chrysanthemums regularly for signs of white rust and treat where necessary.

Discoloured leaves on herbaceous plants such as *Chrysanthemum*, *Anemone* and *Penstemon*, could be leaf and bud eelworm.

Grey mould (*Botrytis*) can be problematic in wet weather. Remove affected leaves and other parts as soon as the symptoms are seen.

Powdery mildew may still be a problem in dryer, warmer regions having a good 'Indian summer'. It is best to control this disease by cultural methods or by cutting back fading growth, rather than by spraying, which is less effective at this time of year.

Avoid feeding plants late in the season, as this will encourage soft, sappy growth that is more vulnerable to damage by frost and by wet, and can encourage fungal diseases to develop

CLUB EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES –

Please contact secretaries direct for further details.

October 2018

1st Ash Parish Plants have feelings too! With Peter Almond
Beverley Ames 01252-686303

2nd Jacobs Well The Seasons, with Geoff Lunn
Pam Lomax 01483-767225

2nd Lightwater Hardy Geraniums, with Jacqueline Aviolet
Lynn Bull 01276-502497

2nd Merrow Growing better Dahlias, with Paul Dalby
Jenn. Bayley 01483-572781

3rd Godstone Exotic Gardening, with Fergus Garrett
Richard Clarke 01883-740004

4th Aldershot Floral Design East to West, by Helen Hare. Princes Hall, Aldershot
Dee Kelly 01252-350944

4th Sunningdale From 30 acres to 30 sq. yds., with Geoff Hawkins
Pat Bond 01344-623891

6th Frensham Plant Sale, Village Shop 9.30-11.00
Caroline Plant 01252-793991

8th Elstead Autumn Aspirations, preparing for Spring, by Paul Patton
Alison Gravett 01252 703318

8th Yateley Shrubs of Distinction, with John Negus
Hazel Goddard 01252-874532

9th Ashford Ashford Hort. Soc. past and present, with Bob Calder
B. Baghapour 01784-247907

9th Banstead Wasps and Bees, with Andrew Halstead. Tbc.
Diana Beck 01737-271243

9th Brooklands Planning and planting a border, with Geoff Hawkins
Barb. Royston 01932-569441

9th Ewell My years as Head Gardener at Little Mynthurst by Mark Dobell
Lynne Mason 0208-393-9257

9th Wokingham Garden and Plant Photography, by Gill Ferguson
wha-general@outlook.com

9th Worplesdon Overwintering Fuchsias, with Derek Dexter
Sheila Dyke 01483-481841

10th Ascot Nuts from around the world, with Jacqueline Aviolet
Peter Cleare 01344-622086

10th Ashtead Fungi –friend or foe? By Peter Herring
Jennie Pilford 01372-373348

- 10th Grayshott Grasses and late perennials, with Graham Gough
Ros. Henshall 01428-607879
- 10th Virginia Water Plants and wildlife of 2017, with George Hounsome
Linda Gillham 01932-564834
- 10th Witley Preparing vegetables for showing, with Barry Newman
Gina Ellerton 01483-488460
- 11th Egham Growing better Dahlias, with Paul Dalby
Chris. Harberd 01784-452146
- 11th Nat Veg Soc. Land of the Giants! By Ian Clemens. East Horsley V. Hall
Beth Otway 01483-420989
- 11th Peaslake/Shere Container Planting, Steve Bradley. Old School Room, Peaslake
Scilla Roe 0790-155-4415
- 15th Epsom 50 Greys of Shade, with Colin Moat
Sue Anderson 0208-393-0892
- 16th Tilford Woodland crafts in southern England, by Tim Winter (Changed)
Janet Arm 01252-783133
- 17th Chiddingfold Portrait of a Garden, with Mark Saunders
Georgia Lacey 01428-683120
- 17th Onslow Village Autumn flowering perennials, with Rosy Hardy
Anne Bradbeer 01483-563421
- 17th Sandhurst Alstroemerias and the cut flower industry, with Ben Cross.
Chris Dresler 01420-768965
- 18th Bramshott/Liphook Planting for Autumn Colour, with Rosy Hardy
Ann Haussauer 01428-723045
- 18th Churt Winkworth Arboretum, with Peter Herring
Maggie Wright 01428-715304
- 18th Claygate Tulips and Turbans, with Cherrill Sands
Marie Barltrop 01372-467888
- 18th Headley Hants. Through the garden lens. K. Bird and J. Gamble
J.Howard-Duff 01428-714073
- 20th Hardy Plant Soc. For the love of snowdrops, with Lyn Miles.
Sandra Hartley 01372-727715
- 20th Puttenham/Wan. Plants, health and diet, with Lesley Paskell.
Markwick Hall Mag. Forwood 01483-813855
- 22nd Bookham/Fetcham Bugs and Beasties, with Paul Patton
Anita Laycock 01372-750818
- 22nd Ripley The Devil's Garden, talk by Russell Bowes
Liz Cooper 01372-458313
- 23rd Ewhurst Vegetable Growing, ideas and advice. Barry Newman
Anne Dyball 01483-271812
- 23rd Guildford Fuchsia Plants that changed the world, with Peter Almond
Lindsay Farthing 01252-656059
- 23rd Milford Growing Vegetables, with Steve Bradley
S. Miskimmin 01483-421509

25th Hale Demo on making floral Christmas decorations

Louise Thomas 01252-821551

25th North Warnborough Hardy Geraniums, with Tom Stone

Pam Forey 01256-703412

25th Woking Gardening Tips on Fuchsias, with Carol Gubler

Joy Leach 01483-837359

26th Dunsfold/Hascombe AGM then Planting Bulbs in Autumn, by Tim Winter

Sue Simper 01483-200286

31st Godstone Land of the Giants, with Ian Clemens

Richard Clarke 01883-740004

SURREY HORTICULTURAL FEDERATION HISTORY

In 1976 Mr. Peter Stotter from Merrist Wood College, with the close collaboration of Mr. John Brasier (the Principal) had the idea of forming a Federation of Surrey gardening and horticultural clubs to further link the college with the community. By 1978 there were 44 member societies, and they had held five successful lectures and the first Annual Show, which had attracted entries from 15 clubs. In 1981 Mr. Brasier became the first President.

A close liaison was formed with the Surrey Judges and Lecturers Guild, and this continues to this day, with former Secretary Jack Morris (who sadly died in 2015) being one of the original members of both this group and the SHF. Another council member from the early 1980's was Brian Deaville, who is now our Vice President and Quizmaster.

In 1986 there were 60 affiliated member clubs, three shows a year in which member clubs could compete, the first Inter-Federation Quiz, and a Gardens of Greeting competition at Brighton in which horticultural societies had to design and garden and plant it – in 1987 Surrey Horticultural Federation won second place with a design by the late Ron Watts M.B.E.

By 1989 there were 83 member clubs and John Riddle (then Principal of Merrist Wood) had become the President, and he continued in this position until 1998 when our current President, Mrs. Daphne Foulsham took over. In 2001 with a change of direction at Merrist Wood they were unable to offer the SHF the facilities for holding meetings and shows, and it was suggested this was moved to Fairlands Hall. However, without Merrist Wood's backing it became harder to get shows and council members and by 2003 the SHF was on the point of folding. At the AGM that year a new Chairperson (the late Joan Sones) volunteered, together with three others still on the Council, Janet Arm (who became Secretary in 2004) and Roy and Pam Lomax, and with others they started to regroup.

Since then the Council has organised the following top speakers (often too expensive for individual clubs) and visits:

The Newsletter is now published quarterly, with details of the next events organised by the SHF and other items which may be of interest to the member clubs, together with dates of their own club talks and shows. Since the demise of the inter-club

shows, the cups and trophies are lent out to some member clubs, and bikini vases and black tablecloths can be borrowed from the Secretary.

The Federation attends the Specialist Society meeting annually at RHS Wisley, and has a full list of specialist society contacts which is available to club members on request.

In 2000 there was a first suggestion from Banstead club that the SHF should consider a website, but until now it has been difficult to find a person to run it as unless it is continually updated it loses its ability to communicate well .

Over the past few years the membership has slowly climbed again, and is now up to nearly 100 member clubs across Surrey and bordering counties, and we hope with this new website more clubs will be encouraged to join.

AUTMN SHOW RESULTS

| | | |
|---|------------------------------------|--|
| Most points in Section 1 | Marjorie Cup | |
| 1 st 75pts Brenda Winton | 2nd 51pts Anne Poole | 3 rd 36pts Bev Ames |
| Best in Show in Section 1 | Certificate | Class 169 Brenda Winton |
| Best Dahlia Exhibit | Hospital Cup | Class 139 Brenda Winton |
| Best Pot Plant | Keogh Cup | Class 160 Chris Perry |
| Best Fuchsia Exhibit | Jim Goulter Trophy | Class 158 John Poole |
| Most Points in section 1 Veg. | Veg. Shield | |
| 1 st = 29pts Brenda Winton | 1 st = 29pts Anne Poole | 3 rd 28pts Laura Chant |
| Most Points in section 1 Fruit | Fruit Cup | |
| 1 st 17 pts John Poole | 2nd 8pts Hazel Chant | 3 rd 5pts Brenda Winton |
| Section 1 Squire's Garden Centres | Top Vase Award CLASS 161 | |
| 1 st Anne Poole | 2nd Brenda Winton | 3 rd Barrie Ames |
| Section 1 Squire's Garden Centres | Top Tray Award CLASS 192 | Ann Poole |
| 1 st Anne Poole | 2nd Brenda Winton | |
| Most points Section 3 Cookery | Shield | |
| 1 st 14pts Anne Poole | 2nd 12 pts Laura Chant | 3 rd = 5pts Chris, Mary, Brian |
| Best Exhibit in Section 3 Cookery | Certificate | Class 197 Mary Lamont |
| Most points Section 3 Handicraft | Shield | |
| 1 st 17 pts Hazel Chant | 2nd 11pts Brenda Winton | 3 rd = 9pts Kathy, Laura , Barrie |
| Best Exhibit in Section 3 Handicraft | Certificate | Class 212 Ann Poole |
| Most points in all 3 Sections together | Horticultural Cup | 1 st 86 Brenda Winton |
| 1 st 86pts Brenda Winton | 2nd 72pts Anne Poole | 3 rd 56pts Laura Chant |