

Last call for membership subscription renewals for 2016

Thank you to everyone who has renewed their membership subscriptions for 2016. We truly value your support and hope you enjoy the benefits of your membership to the full. To those of you who haven't yet renewed your subscriptions for 2016, please contact the Membership Secretary, Jilly Easterby as a matter of urgency if you wish to receive future communications from us. Jilly can be contacted via membership@cornwallgardensociety.org.uk or 07743 164434 during office hours. If you have any queries about your membership of the Society, or if you know of anyone who either hasn't been receiving the Society's newsletters, or who would like to join us, Jilly's details are in the CGS Contacts box

Please note that the CGS Christmas lunch will now be at Carlyon Bay Hotel on 17th December 2016

Forthcoming Events:

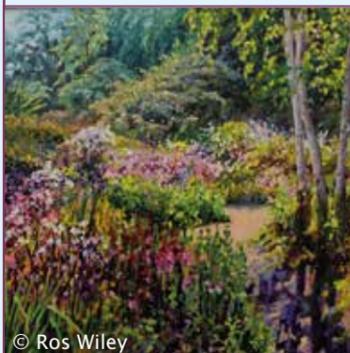
The West Cornwall Horticultural Society Spring Flower Show
Fri 4th & Sat 5th March at Marazion Community Centre



© Lynn Batten

Wildside Nursery

Garden Opening Times - 2016
The naturalistic garden of Keith and Ross Wiley will only be open on the last seven days of the months of June (24th-30th) & July (25th-31st) from 10am - 5pm daily. Admission £6.00
Green La. Buckland Monachorum near Yelverton, PL20 7NP



© Ros Wiley

The garden at Higher Truscott

Launceston PL15 8LA

An eclectic collection of plants in an elevated position. The original half acre attached to the longhouse and farmyard, was started in 1962, it was based on a long vista of trees and shrubs visible from the house. A sunken rose garden and rock bank were incorporated. The rock bank has since been renovated but the rose garden has become a gravel garden. A further half acre paddock was added in 1982 with island beds and the swimming pool, later converted into a rill garden with a rock terrace. Woodland plants are a notable feature especially Epimedium and Helleborus. The latter since first introduced in the 1970s have produced a large number of seedlings, drifts of which, along with Fritillaries make an early show. All trees and shrubs reach maturity, losses from the weather and Honey Fungus are inevitable and create new opportunities for fresh planting. A plantaholic's appetite for new and exciting varieties has also to be accommodated.

Two ageing gardeners are finding that the time is approaching when coping with all the chores is becoming more difficult. We feel that by employing help, the garden will not be entirely ours, so this opening may well be the final one.

Sat 19th & Sun 20th March
2.00pm - 5.00pm Entry £4.00
Regret, NO dogs



© John Mann

C.G.S. Contacts

Please be sure to update your records when changes are made.

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Gardens & Nurseries Discount Scheme

This popular discount scheme was instigated in 2013 when a card showing participating gardens and nurseries was issued to CGS members. Since then there have been various changes to the list with some attractions wishing to continue but others choosing not to do so. The list is currently being updated and, in future, it will be available on the CGS website where it can be revised in a more timely fashion. Therefore, if you are planning to visit one of the listed gardens or nurseries it would be worthwhile checking in advance if the scheme still applies to them if that is an important aspect of your trip. Also, don't forget to take your membership card with you!

The following Booking Forms will be Included with your March Newsletter.

27th April	Coach trip to Sidbury Manor & Killerton
12th May	Self drive visit to Bolts Quarry, St Breward and Bodwannick Manor Farm, Nanstallon Garden Trust
24th May	Coach trip to Elworthy Cottage and Nursery and Hartwood House, Crowcombe.
7th June	Self drive visit to St Michaels Mount
7th July	Coach trip to Venn Cross Railway Gardens and Hestercombe.
5-9th Sept	CGS Holiday to the gardens of North Wales

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Next issue - June 2016. If you wish to include any items in this issue, please contact Charles Francis by May 1st. Copyright applies to this Newsletter.



THE CORNWALL GARDEN SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER 66 MARCH 2016

www.cornwallgardensociety.org.uk

AFFILIATED TO THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
PATRON: HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1094859
REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 4504080

Chairman's Corner

What an extraordinary winter! More rain than almost ever, and hardly a frost. The result, primroses camellias, and magnolias out, and that was all before we were in double figures in February!

Preparations for our Show on the 2nd and 3rd of April continue apace, with the theme this year emphasizing the talent and brilliance of Cornish gardens and gardening. There is already a waiting list for Trade Stands, which is a wonderful position to be in. Now all we need is some improvement in the weather!

Jack Galsworthy, son of past President Michael and his wife Sarah, has completed the amazing feat of rowing in the Talisker Atlantic Challenge Race, raising substantial sums for Charity, and also creating the record, with Freddie Wright, of being the youngest pair to have completed this epic race. Many congratulations to them both.

Once again we are offering a very competitive price for Show tickets bought in advance. If you wish to avail yourselves of these, please contact our Show Director, Martin Pallett. (Details overleaf)

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Show, where GQT will also be recorded on Saturday.

Andrew Leslie Chairman



CGS Spring Flower Show Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd April

Please see inside
for more details



New President for Cornwall Garden Society

Elisabeth Prideaux-Brune, from Prideaux Place in Padstow, is the new President of Cornwall Garden Society. As such, her first major role will be to oversee the Society's Cornwall Spring Flower Show - the highlight of the county's horticultural calendar.

Elisabeth has been a CGS member for many years, but this is the first time she has been officially involved with the annual flower Show. Since taking up the position of President - a post she will hold for three years - Elisabeth has been to as many meetings of the Show organising committee as possible.

She explained: "As the new girl I've been taking a back seat and mainly listening so far. All the committee members are so knowledgeable and put so much effort into ensuring every detail of the Show has been considered and organised. It's been a brilliant learning curve and I'm really looking forward to watching the event being set up, meeting the exhibitors and seeing how it all comes together."

Moving forward, Elisabeth is keen to encourage younger people to get involved with the Spring Flower Show, CGS and gardening in general. She has no formal horticultural training herself but her passion for gardening was honed at an early age by her mother, a keen and accomplished gardener, from whom she learnt a great deal. Those skills have helped Elisabeth restore the magnificent historic gardens at her home, Prideaux Place, home to the Prideaux family for fourteen generations.

Elisabeth said: "It's so important to get the young involved and I'd like to see more activities to attract the younger generation. I encourage my eldest granddaughter to help in the garden, as my mother did with me. I believe if you can inspire an interest in gardening early it will grow and continue throughout life."



© Mel Price



Planting workshops designed to get kids growing

Special planting workshops have been organised to inspire Cornwall's future gardeners and help them prepare entries for the 2016 Cornwall Spring Flower Show. All that's needed is an old wellington boot or a recycled box and anyone can recreate a favourite nursery rhyme or fairy story using plants, enthusiasm and a sprinkling of imagination. The event is being organised by the Perennial Harvest Gardening Club, which ran similar workshops last year with great success. This year's workshops will run from 10.00am until 3.00pm at Pengelly Garden Centre, Hewas Water, St Austell, on Saturday, March 26th. Running the workshops will be Chair of the gardening club, Tamasin Pemberton, who is also the founding owner of Perennial Harvest, a social enterprise encouraging people to grow their own vegetables, fruit and herbs. Tamasin said: "One of the aims

of the Cornwall Spring Flower Show is to inspire and get more young people into gardening by making it easy for them to enter the Show and be part of the growing community. Last year was great fun and 28 people who attended the workshops entered the Show - most winning prizes or commendations." During the workshops Tamasin will advise youngsters about basic planting, keeping their Show entry in top condition until the event and completing entry forms. Cornwall Spring Flower Show Director, Martin Pallet, said: "Inspiring the next generation of gardeners is an important part of the spring Show. Tamasin's workshops were a great success last year yielding excellent results in the children's classes and this year's efforts look set to be equally fruitful and fun." Everyone is welcome to attend the workshops, although the Show's class for children is aimed at the under 11s. Cost for the sessions will be £5. For more information, call Tamasin on 07565 529331. Little Winnick Touring Park, Mevagissey are kindly sponsoring the provision of flowers for the Children's Competition Workshop.

Spring Flower Show essential details:

Saturday 2nd April 10.00am - 5.00pm to be opened by Darren Hawkes (Chelsea Gold Winner)
Sunday 3rd April 10.00am - 4.00pm

This year's theme is a Celebration of Cornish Horticultural Excellence with Competitive Classes for camellias, rhodos, herbaceous, daffodils, ornamental shrubs and trees, floral art and photography. Plantsman's Award. Over 100 trade stands. Catering tent. Musical performances. Raffle. Bring-a-Bloom Competition on Saturday (see opposite). Children's activities both days. Perennial Harvest Gardening Club Kids' Workshop on Sunday. Master Classes with the Head-gardeners' Forum on Saturday and Sunday. BBC GQT on Saturday.

Advance Ticket prices: £6 and £3.50 for CGS members (if ordered before 24th March) On the Gate Tickets: £9 and £6.50 for CGS members (Please bring membership card) Groups of 20+ are £6 per person. Free entry for children under 16. Free parking on site. Free admission to the gardens at Boconnoc. Dogs on leads welcome. For further details please visit www.cornwallflowershow.co.uk

Enquiries and Advance Tickets: Show Office T: 01726 817346 or 07734 366504
 E: showdirector@cornwallflowershow.co.uk Online booking: <http://bit.ly/QOEZ4n> or use the QR Code opposite

Burncoose Nurseries Special Discount Weekend 19th/20th March 2016

Burncoose Nurseries will offer a 15% discount on all plant purchases to all Cornwall Garden Society members (upon production of a membership card) on the weekend of 19th/20th March 2016. The offer only applies to visitors to the Nursery itself and is not additional to any other discounts from their website offers or to existing holders of their loyalty cards.

Seasonal Report from Trewithen Garden.

Text & photo by Gary Long Head Gardener

Spring 2016 started early this year, very early! in fact we had our first spring flowering camellia, *C.x williamsii* 'Glen's orbit', in flower on the day that Major Tim Peake launched to go to the International space station. This is interesting in that 'Glen's Orbit', a seedling from 'Donation', first flowered here AFTER Colonel Glenn had finished his orbit of the earth in February 1962. This year it flowered at least 3 months early! And it was flowering for Tim on his epic journey. It's actual flowering date was December 7th!

Other early signs of spring were noted with our Asiatic magnolias. I have recorded the first magnolia flower annually since 2003 with the dates ranging between the 10th of January in 2012, to the 8th March in 2010 (that's 57 days difference). This year the first flower was actually last year on New Year's Eve! *Magnolia campbellii* wanted to join in the festivities. Just to clarify: When is a Magnolia actually in flower? Is it when it sheds its perules (furry jackets), is it when the buds show colour? I wait until I can see stamens in the middle of the flower, binoculars or a paparazzi style long camera lens are useful on some of the trees. You can get a case of "Magnolia Neck" when participating in the sport of "Magnolia watching"!

In the garden we have been busy readying the garden for our March 1st opening. Alongside clearing up after Storm Imogen, several limbs and a mature Beech tree were the main casualties, all the paths have been hand raked and top dressed with granite chippings. We have pruned the Hydrangeas, again early, there is a theme to this spring. This is more than just a "dead heading" exercise. We first carry out the "3 D's" of pruning (Dead, Damaged and Diseased, plus crossing branches which can lead to the 3 D's), after which we cut all stems back to "Two fat buds". We also run a re-generating programme on some of the older plants where we remove a third of the stems completely each year. so in the 4th year we will have a young healthy shrub but have had continuous years of flowers.

We are awaiting the "not wet" weather (I was going to say dry but that could be asking too much) for the first cut of the main lawn. The wet winter and early spring have made it difficult to get on with any grass cutting or work that involves even walking on the lawns. Spring flowers have arrived, now we are waiting for the blue skies and glorious Cornish spring weather.

New Year's Eve: *Magnolia campbellii*



BBC RADIO **4**
GQT

We have recently had confirmation that Gardeners' Question Time will be recording two programmes on Saturday April 2nd. The recordings will take place in Boconnoc House, in front of an audience of approximately 120, who will be admitted on a first come first served basis.

More information to follow as soon as we know the Panel and exact timings, but in the meantime start thinking about your questions!



Spring Flower Show
 Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd April 2016

BRING A BLOOM COMPETITION

This year's Spring Flower Show sees the launch of a brand new "Bring a Bloom" competition. Developed in partnership with the National Trust the competition is designed to encourage interest in the Show and tempt visitors to take part in the Show's competitive Flower Show classes in future years.

It's so easy to take part. On Saturday 2nd April (between 10am and 3pm) you simply need to bring three blooms to the Show of the same type – either three camellia, three daffodil or three rhododendron.

The blooms should be tied together with a rubber band and attached to a label with name, address and telephone number. The three flowers don't have to be exactly the same—just as long as they are all the same type (eg daffodils). The blooms will be judged later on Saturday afternoon and a prize will be presented at the Show Prize Giving on Sunday 3rd.

For more information and to see the competition rules in full, visit www.cornwallgardensociety.org.uk



Volunteers still needed for the Cornwall Spring Flower Show 2016

Many thanks to all those who have already volunteered to help out at the Show this year. However the numbers are down on previous years, which leaves us short of people both for the set up days and during the Show weekend. So if you haven't got round to sending in your form, please get in touch as soon as possible and if you haven't helped out before, please consider whether you could offer a few hours to help with the setting up of the competitive classes, stewarding at the Show, selling raffle tickets or traffic direction.

We also need some extra people to come along on the Monday morning after the Show to help clear it all away. This task generally tends to fall to the same people that have been working all week and they are pretty worn out by then – we need fresh troops to make light work of it!

To find out more about Cornwall Garden Society and all the benefits that being a member has to offer, please visit www.cornwallgardensociety.org.uk



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QR Code for Show Tickets

