

Please remember that many nurseries are now offering a discount on plant sales for CGS members.

A full list will be found on our website page <http://www.cornwallgardensociety.org.uk/membership/membership-discounts>

Unless otherwise stated the discount offered is 10% and the nurseries reserve the right not to offer discount on sale items, special offers and sales at shows, markets etc.

Specially reduced garden entry rates for CGS members

A number of gardens offer entry at reduced rates to CGS members upon production of their membership card and their details can also be found in the membership section of our website

We have pleasure in welcoming the following as new members:

Mrs Manning from Bodmin
Mr and Mrs Gardner from Tregony
Mr N Foster from Clevedon
Miss Cole from Truro
Mrs Coleman from Ponsanooth
Mrs Pengelly from Cusgarne
Mr Smith from Camborne
Mrs Sowden from Truro

Gardening Clubs:
St Teath Gardening Club



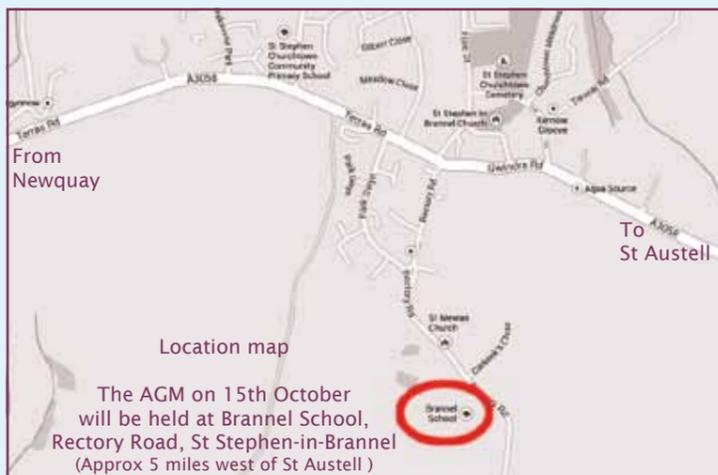
THE CORNWALL GARDEN SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER 56 SEPTEMBER 2013

www.cornwallgardensociety.org.uk

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

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1094859
REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 4504080



CGS medal winners

Kea Garden Society Annual Show

The Show was held on 13th July and, although the vegetable and cookery entries were down, it was a very colourful and successful Show. The winner of the Gold medal awarded by the CGS was won by Mrs Frances Hood with her dish of mixed berry fruit and the Silver medal was awarded to Mrs Sue Toft-Hunt for her three dahlia blooms.

The 84th St Erme Show

This Show was held on 10th August and opened by Mrs Mavis Morcom. The winner of the Cornwall Garden Society Silver Gilt Medal was their Chairman, Mr N Bottrill, for his entry of best non-flowering plant over 6".

Stoke Climsland Flower Show

Mrs Sandy Palmer was the winner of the CGS Gold Medal at Stoke Climsland's Flower Show held on 3rd August. Her entry was a beautiful bright red/orange begonia.

Many congratulations to all these winners

Chairman's Corner

At last a decent summer, and what a joy it has been. I hope that everyone was able to enjoy it.

During the spring and summer we have had volunteers at many of the gardens that open for the NGS with the aim of spreading the news of what the CGS does, as well as encouraging new members. I would like to thank the NGS for their support and also the garden owners for allowing us to be present.

We have an excellent list of Lecturers coming in the Autumn, which I hope many members will be able to attend. The Lectures form an excellent venue for members, who do not see each other that often, to meet and socialise. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible during the forthcoming season.

Enjoy what is left of the summer. Hard to believe that it is September already!

Andrew Leslie Chairman



C.G.S CONTACTS

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

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Courses for Adults - Pat Eaton

Horticulture for Hardy Perennials

This WEA course is for keen gardeners who want to extend their horticultural knowledge and skill.

Dates:

Monday 21st October 2013 - (Autumn 8 Sessions - Stage 1) 15 places

Continues

Monday 6th January 2014 - (Spring 8 Sessions - Stage 2) 15 places

Time: 09.30 - 12.30 (some visits continue into the afternoon)

Venue:

Woolwell Community Centre, Darklake Lane Woolwell PL6 7TR

Tutor: Pat Eaton DIP. HORT. (RHS)

Further details from Yvonne Lamerton on 01752 666265 or

ylamerton@wea.org.uk

Learner enquiries 0845 458 2758 or www.wea.org.uk/yh

Fee £74.00 (fee waiver available for certain benefits)

Walks & Talks become Self Drive Visits

Next year we will be renamed to prevent confusion with the lectures!

We thought it might be interesting to our members to explain a bit about the way we choose gardens to visit. Mainly, we concentrate on private gardens, which are not usually or often, open to the public. Sometimes we will go to a more publicly available garden because we have something extra to offer.

We now try to provide two gardens in a convenient location in order to maximise the number of people who can come, without overwhelming the owners. Most gardens certainly don't have parking for more than 20 cars, so two gardens gives double the opportunity. Plainly it would be much easier for us if we just produced one. Sometimes it is quite tricky to produce two, which are prepared to open at the same time because they may specialise in different things. Another problem we are encountering is that quite a lot of properties are on the market, although this may not be overt. This has resulted in a number of good 'possibles' being withdrawn because owners are unsure whether they will still be there! As we have to plan a long way ahead this has led to a few headaches.

We try to provide a contrast and also to present gardens within their local context by sometimes suggesting to our visitors they look at the local churches or an area of relevance or interest with which the garden may be associated. We do not necessarily always visit 'picture perfect' gardens, since some of our members are also interested in work in progress projects and sometimes, a garden might appear to be rather 'ordinary'. In that case they will have been selected because they struggle with adverse conditions, (winds, extreme weather, rabbits, poor soil etc.) and yet still manage to produce a good garden. That elevates them from ordinary to heroic.

Finally we struggle to keep these events affordable for all. We are indebted to the garden owners, who, whilst giving the entrance money to a charity of their choice, often finance the refreshments themselves. Above all they welcome us as friends.

We are always glad to receive suggestions about places to consider. Private gardens are of course, just that and without tips from friends, we wouldn't know about them either! **Please keep them coming.**

The Two Carolines

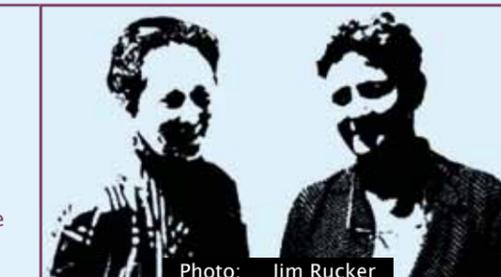


Photo: Jim Rucker



Enclosed with this Newsletter is the Spring Flower Show supplement as a reminder of the pleasures of this year's Show and as a taster for 2014

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please contact Charles Francis by November 1st.
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Stoke Climsland Flower Show 2013

As the crowds gathered expectantly for the opening of the Stoke Climsland Flower Show 2013, so did the rain clouds, looming from the west. Amazingly, however, the sun did shine and the little rain there was certainly didn't dampen the spirits of those who arrived to view the exhibits, sample the delicious cream teas or browse the stalls.

The Show was opened by this year's President, Mrs Jean Scholar, who then presented Cups and rosettes to the proud winners. The standard of entries was high, but there were some exceptional winners.

Edah Joll won Cups in the Local and Open Cookery Classes, for her Novelty cake, her biscuits and with her family, The William Joll Cup for the family with the most entries and another for the family with the most points in the Show. Sandy Palmer won both the Local and Open Flower Classes, the Best entry in Local and Open Vegetable and Flower Classes and the Cornwall Certificate of Merit Gold for the Best entry!

In the Marquee, there was an impressive display and huge diversity of exhibits from papier mâché tractors to flowers made from horse shoes, a recycled bird feeder, beautiful begonias, perfect peas and sweet peas, a fairy tale princess castle and a tiny breakfast.

The British weather had again challenged gardeners, but they still produced an incredible array of fruit, flowers and vegetables with entry numbers up this year. Alan Parker won three Cups with his impressive vegetables and potatoes and the Floyd family winning the Children's and Open Vegetable classes. Jenny Llewellyn won Cups in the Fruit and Wine classes.

Both Local and Open Cookery classes were well supported with some delicious looking entries and a new class for chocolate "naughty" cake was hotly contested.

The Floral art theme was "The Cornish Coast" which inspired some stunning arrangements. Jean Philp won the Best exhibit in Open Needlework and most points in Handicraft.

Children from Stoke Climsland School worked hard on their Handwriting and Art exhibits with some receiving very favourable comments from the judges. Children of all ages proudly entered things which they had made or grown at home. Budding young horticulturalists, observant photographers, creative chefs and meticulous artists were keen to display their creations with numbers in these classes rising this year. Holly Nevill won two Cups for her Art and Handicraft.

The committee wish to sincerely thank all those who have supported and generously contributed to the Show this year and helped to make it such a success.

A full list of Cup winners is available from Ruth Nevill 01579 370262 or Jenny Llewellyn 01579 370675.

Lerryn and District Produce Association

The 63rd Annual Produce Show - Saturday, August 3rd

The doors of Lerryn Memorial Hall opened early to get this year's show under way - and soon a steady stream of entrants with their exhibits were filling the hall with the wonderful smell of freshly cut vegetables and home baking.

Despite the variable weather conditions this year, with early flowering in some cases, and late harvesting still to come, the display tables filled up with a variety of produce from the garden and kitchen. The village hall had come to life with the vibrant colours of the blooms and the imagination of the children's scary vegetable monsters.

So, the stage was set for the 63rd Lerryn Produce Show and the arrival of the judges started the challenging task of choosing the best in class and the most eye-catching craft skills in the creative and decorative classes. The show was opened by Canon John Hawkes and the afternoon was enjoyed by a packed hall - all to the sounds of our resident musicians, Anything Goes, who provided the atmosphere to accompany cream teas and complete this relaxed and enjoyable afternoon.

The day ended with Canon John Hawkes presenting cups and awards.

The Prizewinners included: Marie Farey (Most points in Show) Brian Philp (Cornish Garden Society Award - Gold) Pat Bucknell (Cornish Garden Society Award - Silver) John Philp (Best Bloom in Show)

In the class of Best Young Gardener, the George Keast Memorial Shield was awarded to Perran Lutey, for the growing of strawberry plants that were given to Lerryn School by the Produce Association earlier in the year.

Once again, thank you to everyone who made this year's Show a success; to the entrants, who grow and bake and shape, and the dedicated hard work of the committee and to everyone who came along to support the day and celebrate another successful Show.

Carwinion Garden Auction Sale - October 19th

On the edge of the Helford river in the beautiful surroundings of Carwinion at Mawnan Smith, the auctioneers David Lay FRICS will be holding a garden auction, selling large camellias, rare bamboo and tree ferns from this important horticultural collection. An impressive sundial, granite troughs, garden furniture and tools will be among the some 300 lots. There will be a period after the auction for the plants etc. to be removed.

Prior to the garden sale, David Lay's October 10 & 11th Antiques Sale will feature much of the fine furnishings from the Manor House including the Anthony Rogers fountain pen collection. This will take place at The Penzance Auction House.

Further details and catalogues will be available from the offices of David Lay.
Tel:01736 361414 e-mail:enquiries@davidlay.co.uk. www.davidlay.co.uk



This year's prizewinners. From left: Brian Philp, John Philp, Pat Bucknell, John Hawkes, Marie Farey © Lerryn & District



© David Lay

R.H.S Hampton Court Palace Flower Show 2014 - Alison Davy

A tour has been organised from 7th - 11th July next year when we will spend a day at the Hampton Court Flower Show. A full day will be spent at RHS Wisley which is the flagship garden of the RHS. It captures the imagination with richly planted borders, luscious rose gardens and the famous glasshouse which showcases a world class plant collection in three climatic zones.

We will also visit Sissinghurst Castle, one of the finest gardens in England, which will be a riot of colour in July. Divided into small garden rooms, each is very distinct from the others, including the famous White Garden & Vita Sackville-West's beloved Rose Garden. In the afternoon we go on to Merriments a beautiful four acre garden full of sweeping borders which include golden, hot and tropical borders, ponds and a blue gravel garden. You will find a depth of colour here and planting schemes that are rarely encountered. There will be a break for lunch on the way up and back, with more gardens to see. Accommodation has been booked at the 4 star Barnett Hill Hotel near Guildford, a beautiful Queen Anne-style mansion set in 26 acres of picturesque gardens and woodland.

You can 'express an interest' in joining the tour now by contacting the Booking Secretary, Mary Hutt, on 01872-863735 or by e-mailing patward@btinternet.com. If you 'express an interest' a place will be held for you up to two weeks from the dispatch of the booking forms. If subsequent to 'expressing an interest' you realise that you cannot go on the Tour, then please let Mary know as soon as possible.

Autumn Lecture Season - Frances Banham

Just a reminder that the lectures begin again in the autumn, starting with the **A.G.M on Tuesday 15th October** at Brannel School, Rectory Road, St. Stephen, St. Austell, PL26 7RN. The A.G.M will begin at 7.00pm to be followed by the lecture, when our speaker, Nigel Colborn will talk about "Creating a Life-rich garden".(please note this is a change of venue, see map on reverse for directions).

On **Wednesday 16th October** another lecture by Nigel Colborn at Coombeshead, Lewannick, Nr. Launceston at 2.30pm "The Forgotten Season"

On **Wednesday November 6th** at 7.30pm at The Queens Hotel, Penzance there will be a lecture by Derry Watkins "Summer Flowers from Seed" to be followed on November 7th Thursday at 2.30pm at Ladock Village Hall, Ladock Nr Truro the topic is "Gravel Gardening" also by Derry Watkins

On **Tuesday December 3rd**, a lecture by Christine Walkden at the Falmouth Hotel at 7.30pm "Diversity of Alpines"

On **Wednesday December 4th** at 2.30pm at the Shire House, Bodmin "How to grow 2000 plants in a 20 x 30 foot garden" also by Christine Walkden.

Don't forget to visit our website regularly for updates: www.cornwallgardensociety.org.uk

Head Gardener's Seasonal Report from Cotehele

Christmas starts early at Cotehele, the National Trust property in South-East Cornwall where the cut flower garden is now blooming.

Every November 30,000 dried flowers need to be ready for the gardening team to assemble the 60 foot-long flower garland, which will decorate the house during the Christmas season. The gardeners start planting the flowers in early spring and by summer the picking begins. Last year's wet summer was problematic because the flowers started growing very late, but this year the gardeners are much happier.

'We've had a good start,' says Dave Bouch, Head Gardener at Cotehele. 'We've picked 3,000-5,000 flowers already and the blossoms just keep coming.' So far the garland's flowers include hare's tails, pink pokers, pink and white African daisies and straw flowers. 'Queen Anne's lace is a flower we used for the first time last year,' says Dave. 'It flowered really well in the bad weather, in fact it was a life saver, so we planted it again this year and it's looking gorgeous.' Now that the flowers are blooming, the gardeners make sure to pick frequently. Being annuals, picking regularly ensures they will keep producing more flowers as they have yet to seed.

Once cut, the gardeners hang them in the eaves of the potting shed to dry. Drying can take one to three weeks, depending on the weather - if it's wet, it can take longer. Dave says: 'Hopefully all this sun will bring lots more flowers; and the current heat wave will be very beneficial to drying them, provided it's not too humid.'

Visitors are always welcome to wander through the cut flower garden to view the flowers' progress and watch the gardeners at work.

Cotehele's garden is open every day from dawn until dusk.

National Trust Cotehele is located on the Cornish bank of the river Tamar. Normal admission charges apply.



Flower Garden © John Hartland



Cotehele House © Charles Francis



Dave Bouch adding to the dried flower store. © Charles Francis