

Dorset Group

Newsletter

April 2023

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www.dorsethps.org.uk



HPS

HARDY PLANT SOCIETY

Gardening with hardy perennials

Hello...

Well Spring is springing - it's trying so hard – but it's still cold!

We're pleased to say we are now offering tickets for our Kew Gardens Day Trip to members guests, more information is below, and the Booking form with full instructions is attached to the same email with this newsletter.

We're also announcing a self-drive garden visit to Edmondsham Gardens in July, and something else is in the pipeline for September.

Looking forward to seeing you all next Saturday Ed.

Saturday 22nd April – 2.30pm - talk

'Parham Walled Garden' with Andrew Humphris, Head Gardener at Parham House.

Andrew spent his early career as Head Gardener at the National Trust at The Courts and then at the remarkable garden of Biddulph Grange, before becoming Head Gardener at Wollerton Old Hall in Shropshire where he worked closely with the owners to replant and remodel the garden they have created there.

Timings:

1.45pm gate opens – refreshments, raffle, plant sales

2.30pm Start of talk, followed by Q&A and DHPS Notices

4.15pm approx. end of meeting

Plant Sales Table at this meeting

Your donations of any surplus plants to the plant sales table are very welcome, including those you'd like to sell by the double ticketing system.

Our Plant Fair – Saturday 13th May – 2.30 to 4.30pm

We're looking forward to our Plant Fair next month – keep your fingers crossed for sunshine.

We still have a few tables available if you'd like to sell your own plants (or share a table with a friend), the fee for the table is just £10, so the money you sell your plants for is all for you. You can sell anything you like – not just perennials. May is an ideal time for vegetables, annuals and all sorts. Please just ensure they are well rooted in their pots ie not potted within days.

The Plant Fair will be open to the public as well as our members. Last year's layout will be repeated with plant sale tables in the car park, and refreshments will be on sale in the hall.

If you don't want to book a table you can simply donate your spare plants to our 'Donations Table' where funds raised go into DHPS funds towards events and speakers.

To book a 6ft table (or space if you have your own table) email the Group Secretary on dorsethps@gmail.com giving us your telephone

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 22nd April – talk

Andrew Humphris talking about 'Parham Walled Garden'

Saturday 13th May – 2.30 – 4.30

Our own Plant Fair

(see notes overleaf to book a table to sell your own plants)

Tuesday 13th June – Day Trip

Kew Gardens – booking form is attached with the April Newsletter email.

Now open to members' guests

Tuesday 11th July – self drive garden visit to

Edmondsham Gardens – more info soon

Saturday 23rd September

'Coping with Climate Change in the Garden' with Sally Morgan

Saturday 28th October

Terry Baker and 'Terry and Mary's Favourites: Peonies, Hollyhocks and Foxgloves'.

Saturday 25th November

Celebrity Speaker Event

Ticket Only (details later)

with Tom Hart Dyke talking about 'Developing the World Garden' in his walled garden in Lullingstone, and also about his time in captivity in Colombia.

number so we can contact you. You can also sign up for a table/space using the Plant Fair form on the Information Table at the meeting next week, or speak to a committee member.

Day Trip to Kew – Tuesday 13th June

We're pleased to say we're now opening this up to our members' non-member partners and friends.

Members £30 – Non-members £35

An updated booking form for this event is attached, the new booking system where you **first** obtain a unique Booking Reference has been working well, you can obtain this via email or phone. Full instructions on page 1 of the booking form.

Once you have obtained your booking reference, the method of payment, and getting the booking form to us, is very similar to our membership subscriptions procedure you all used recently. This will really do away with queuing at the Events Table at meetings.

The updated booking form is attached to the same email as this Newsletter. Please read the instructions carefully. As usual, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask.

Other Events in the Planning Stage

Tuesday 11th July - Self Drive Garden Visit to Edmondsham Gardens. This will be an afternoon visit just for our group – more information soon. And, 'watch this space' for something else in September 😊

Information Board at Meetings

At the meeting next week, we will have the new 'Information Board' on a table on the right as you enter the hall itself. Here you'll find the latest information about events, and also signup sheets for the Plant Fair tables, and volunteering for baking cakes and helping at meetings.

Seeds Available

We have received a complimentary selection of seeds from the HPS Seed Distribution Scheme, one per member, help yourself. Be warned there are a lot of native wild seeds there!

Local Events Page on the DHPS website

We are often sent details of local garden related events, so we've created an extra page on the website – 'Other Local Events' from the 'Events Programme' drop down menu.

Hardy Times – Articles for Summer Edition please

We'll be pleased to receive your articles for this edition by the end of May – plants, gardens, tips – all very welcome.

Combined Membership & Programme Card

If you haven't yet collected your Membership and Programme Card you can collect it at the meeting next week, on the Reception Table.

Propagating Snowdrops via Twin-Scaling Workshop

There are a couple of places still available for this workshop. Will be June/July – date to be confirmed. Propagating using the 'twin-scaling' method is good for bulk propagating and ensures you get an exact replica of your bulb. Jane Norris will run this at her home in Ferndown. Please email the Group Secretary to register your interest and for more details. (This method can also be used for other bulbs.)

What Happens at our Meetings

The **Membership Year** runs from January to December

Speaker Meetings are normally January to April, and September to November. This leaves the summer clear for our gardening ventures, trips etc

Doors open at 1.45pm with the talk starting promptly at 2.30pm. Giving time to look at the Plant Sales table, the Information Table and buy your raffle tickets. (**NB:** the AGM and Celebrity Speaker meetings may be slightly different so please check)

Committee Members can be identified easily with their red lanyards.

Refreshments £1 for tea/coffee & £1 for a piece of home-made cake. To help us use less electricity, bring your own mug or travel mug.

Raffle Tickets... £1 for a strip of five tickets

Plant Sales Table is at most speaker meetings (except the Celebrity meeting). You can donate your surplus plants or you can sell them for your chosen price, and pay us a little commission. Check our website for how this 'double-ticketing' system works and guidance on plant presentation

Volunteers... The more volunteers we have the less often we ask for your help. If you'd like to help on the day of a meeting, and/or enjoy baking a cake, just check the Information Board table for the sign-up sheet, or email us. To show our appreciation for your help you get a strip of raffle tickets. 😊