

# LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

[www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk](http://www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk)

## Spring Newsletter 2016

### **Editorial**

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2016, this as is usual for the spring edition is our biggest one of the year. Amongst the things you will find in it are reminders about forthcoming events, an opportunity to have a vegetable garden and details of all the trips which Rose has got lined up for us this year. The trip to the Salvia Spectacular at Great Comp particularly interests me as I have been trying for many years, without success, to get William Dyson to come and talk to the LHS. The problem has been that when salvias are at their best, he is at his busiest, so this opportunity is the next best thing.

It almost seems strange now that spring is officially with us, for we seem to have had a combination of spring and summer weather throughout the winter. Many of you will have had instances of plants duped by the unseasonal weather; it will be interesting to see how they get on during the rest of the year. My “most out of synch” occurrence was the perennial geranium *Sandrine*, which for me usually starts flowering from the last week in May, putting on a fine display from mid January to mid February. It then woke up to the fact that Jack Frost had started to pay it some visits.

### **Outings 2016**

We have three coach outings and two local visits planned for this year. Because of the popularity of the outings, only members of the Society may purchase tickets in the first instance. If spaces are available at a later date these will be open to guests and non-members. Application Forms and procedure are available at the end of the newsletter. Do please contact me if you have any queries and I will be happy to help, Rose Mortenson 483229.

### ***Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2.00pm - Ham Cottage, High Brook, Ardingly***

#### ***Self – drive / shared lifts***

Yes this is a re-visit! We went to see Peter and Andrea’s wonderful garden in August last year and had a lovely time, so luckily we have been invited back to see the garden in its spring colours. The garden is rightly called an eight acre ‘mini Wakehurst’, so there is a lot to see.

Near the house, there is a mass of colour and lots of plants chosen specifically for their scent. A small lake created from an overgrown bog lies in a sylvan setting, surrounded by azaleas, rhododendrons and camellias which on its sloping sides should be looking wonderful in May. A stream flows through a large bog garden, then after passing the winter garden it falls over waterfalls into a bluebell

carpeted wood. On the garden boundary they have transformed an old sandstone quarry into a natural amphitheatre which is used for private parties and Shakespeare plays performed by a local school. They are very self-sufficient and have fully embraced green technology with an air source heat pump, PV panels, solar water and grey water recycling. So if you didn't get a chance to come in August do come this year, it is too good to miss.

The entry fee of £5 includes tea and very good cake, and is split between St Peters and St James and the NSPCC.

### **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June – Mottisfont and West Dean Gardens**

Mottisfont is a National Trust property near Romsey, Hampshire, famous for its wonderful walled Rose Garden containing the National Collection of Old Fashioned Roses and they should be at their best for our visit. However there is also a lovely riverside garden to explore, a beautiful house, an Art Gallery and the Font, an ancient spring from which it takes its name. There is an optional short "Welcome to Mottisfont Tour (not including the Rose Garden) at £2 per head which goes toward the restoration of the walls of the Walled Garden.

We will then move on to West Dean Garden near Chichester. These beautiful restored gardens include a collection of 13 working Victorian glass houses, a 300ft Pergola, a fantastic walled kitchen garden and fruit collection, a sunken garden and an Arboretum with a 2.5 mile circular walk.

Both venues have tea rooms though you are welcome to bring your own picnic. They both also have shops, plant sales, good disabled access and wheelchairs available. Mottisfont has a staff driven mobility buggy to take disabled visitors around the site. Due to the popularity of the roses in June, we have a timed slot for our visit here and will need to leave Lindfield at 8.15am and we should be back by 6.00pm. As usual the following fees include coach travel, driver's tip and entrance fees (where applicable) to both sites.

NT members £21

Non-members £32

Plus £2 for any person wishing to take the introductory tour at Mottisfont

### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July – The Savill Garden and Wisley**

The Savill Garden sits in the heart of Windsor Great Park. It was created in the 1930's with the support of King George V and Queen Mary and has continued to develop under Royal Patronage. At the time we are going the newly planted Golden Jubilee garden will be in full bloom; there will be abundance of blue and purple Agapanthus and wonderful displays in the Queen Elizabeth Temperate House. There are plenty of other areas to explore including the Bog garden, Rose garden and the Hidden Gardens. We will have coffee and cake on arrival.

Leaving at 1.00 we will then move on to RHS Wisley, which I'm sure requires no introduction. One of the greatest gardens in the UK with 200 acres to explore it should keep us occupied for the afternoon. Both venues have a shop, cafes and

plant sales and are largely accessible to wheelchairs. At Wisley there is a free staff driven electric mobility buggy which runs continuously around the garden and you can get on and off where you want to.

The fee is £25.25 and includes coach travel; driver's tip; entrance fees (where applicable) and coffee and cake in the morning.

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> August – Sarah Raven's Garden and Groombridge Place**

Sarah Raven is probably best known as a champion of wild flowers. She has written many gardening and cookery books, has a column in the Daily Telegraph, is a TV gardening presenter and has a respected range of wild flower and bee friendly seeds. Her own 2 acre garden includes different garden rooms full of edible and ornamental annuals, biennials, perennials and roses for picking for the house and cookery school. There is a large dedicated cut flower garden, plus two large areas of vegetables, salads, herbs and fruit. There are also purely ornamental gardens – the bold and brilliant garden and the calmer nectar garden. More recently developed areas include a small wild flower meadow and a brand new barn garden, with beds defined by brick paths that are filled with roses and herbs. There is coffee and cake on arrival included in the fee and optional guided tour at £3.50 per head.

We will move on to Groombridge Place, one of the Seven Wonders of the Weald in time for lunch. The garden surrounds a 17th century moated manor house. There are formal walled gardens; terraces on which peacocks roam; a Knot and Oriental garden; Secret Garden; White Rose garden and a Drunken Garden (!). There are birds of prey displays every day and an area of forest. Optional extras are a Garden tour and a short canal boat trip. Most of this site is easily accessible Both venues have a shop and plant sales.

The fee is £32.50 and includes coach travel; driver's tip; entrance fees and coffee and cake in the morning.

Option extras

Guided tour of Sarah Raven's garden at £3.50 per head

Garden tour at Groombridge at £2.00 per head

Canal Trip at £1.00

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September – Salvia Spectacular Event at Great Comp Gardens**

Great Comp in Sevenoaks is a lovely garden to explore with many unusual plants, follies and woodland pathways. It is also host to one of the largest collections of Salvias in Europe and it is holding a Salvia Spectacular event over this weekend. William Dyson, the garden curator and UK's leading Salvia expert, will be giving demonstrations and advice and it is a chance to see, learn about and buy these plants and have a wonder around this lovely garden. There is a tea room and a nursery.

We are offering this trip on either a self-drive or coach basis. A small coach has been provisionally booked but costs for this are approximate as it does depend on

demand. We would need a minimal number of 12 people when the cost would be £25 per head and a maximum of 26 people when the cost would be £13 each so if you would prefer to go by coach encourage all your friends and relatives to come with us!

Entrance fee: RHS members free

Non-members £7.00 per head

Coach travel to include driver's tip: between £13 and £25 per head

### ***Finally ... do you want to go again to Kew Gardens this year?***

I know that many of you have either a Friends of Kew or Friends of Wakehurst card which gives you free entry but getting there by public transport is a drawback. Since we went last September the Broad Walk which was under reconstruction has now been planted up and will be magnificent later this year. There is also a spectacular new addition, The Hive, which will provide visitors with a multi-sensory experience of the life of bees and their role as pollinators in feeding the planet. The best time to go to see these new features would be August or September. It is easy for me to arrange a coach so let me know if you would like to go by returning the slip at the end of this newsletter, by emailing me on: [rose.mortenson@gmail.com](mailto:rose.mortenson@gmail.com), phoning me on: 483229 or telling me at any of the talks, shows or coffee mornings.

### ***Application Procedure***

1. Application forms can be found at the end of this newsletter. Please complete the specific form and **send a separate cheque for each outing**
2. I will acknowledge receipt of your application if you are able to include an email address. If this is not possible, I will bring a list to each of the evening talks.
3. Cheques will not be cashed and tickets sent out until it is certain that an outing is viable.
4. Tickets are initially only open to members of Lindfield Horticultural Society (LHS). If you have friends or family who would like to come on one or more of the outings, you are welcome to enclose a note giving me their names and I will put them on a waiting list for spare tickets
5. Tickets will show the departure and approximate return times. Coach pick up point is always the bus stop by the Lindfield Greengrocers.
6. Ticket price covers the coach travel, the driver's tip and entry to the venues. Unless stated nothing else is included.
7. If you have purchased a ticket based on your membership of the National Trust or RHS you must have your valid membership card with you on the day. If not you may be liable to pay the full entrance fee.
8. Once your tickets have been sent, the booking is fully confirmed. If you then cancel, your fee is non-refundable unless we are able to resell your ticket.

Any problems, queries or comments do please contact me on: 483229 or:  
[rose.mortenson@gmail.com](mailto:rose.mortenson@gmail.com)

Rose Mortenson

## **The Future of your Sundries Centre**

### **Your help is needed.**

Most members will be aware that Noreen and Alan Smith, who have run the Sundries Centre for many years, have relocated to Cambridgeshire. Unfortunately, their move happened late in the year, which made it difficult to make a decision on the future of the Centre before it was necessary to publish opening dates for the current year. The Committee has decided that the Centre should be restocked and opened as usual during 2016 and that it would be run by members of the Committee together with volunteers from the membership. **It was also decided that this situation would only be allowed to operate for one year.** If we cannot find anyone, or a group of people, to take over the running of the Centre by November of this year the Centre will be run down during 2017 and **closed permanently as from 2018.**

The post of Sundries Centre Supervisor, on the face of it does sound quite arduous but the role can be broken down into specific tasks and with a team of helpers, together with the group of volunteers that we have already, it would be very manageable. A detailed analysis of what would be required is now available and we would ask that anyone who is willing to help or to be part of a team, contact me for a copy to see how they can help. If you would like to talk it through please feel free to contact either myself (483039 or [michaelelliott6@googlemail.com](mailto:michaelelliott6@googlemail.com)) or Sheila Hobbs (483396).

*Michael Elliott*

### **Sundries Centre opening dates**

After its winter slumber our fantastic Sundries Centre is now open again for business. We look forward to supplying you with all your horticultural wares from 9.30-11am on the following dates this spring:

Saturday 5th March  
Sunday 13th March  
Sunday 20th March  
Saturday 9th April  
Sunday 17th April  
Saturday 30th April  
Sunday 8th May  
Saturday 21st May  
Sunday 29th May

May we gently remind members to bring along their membership cards when purchasing from the sundries centre please.

*Heather Martin*

### **Newsletter by Email**

If you are on email and do not as yet get your newsletter by email, just go to: [www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk](http://www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk) and click on 'email us' on the shed door and ask for your newsletter by email.

Why not at the same time view our website, which is really great thanks to the efforts of Tim Richardson who can be contacted with your suggestions and/or contributions in the same way.

*Committee*

### **Do you enjoy our tea and cakes etc?**

Our society is very lucky in having a host of wonderful ladies and gentlemen who volunteer to help with the catering at our shows and coffee mornings. However, there is always room for more! A couple of weeks before a show I go through the list of helpers and phone around to see who may be willing to help. There are two shifts: on show days they are 2pm - 3.30pm and then 3.30pm – 5pm; and at coffee mornings 10am – 11am and 11am – 12noon. Helpers are either up front serving and taking the money, or in the kitchen. It's good fun and a fantastic way to meet other members of the society, with the added bonus of a free cup of tea and slice of cake for all helpers!

So if you think you would like to give it a go and add your name to the list of either helpers or cake bakers (or both) please contact me, Debbie (413193 or [debbianscombe4@gmail.com](mailto:debbianscombe4@gmail.com)), leaving your name and a contact number.

Also if any members have sets of china cups and saucers they no longer have use for or want, LHS catering would love to give them a new home.

*Debbie Anscombe*

### **Spring Show**

The Spring Show will be on **Saturday 2nd April** from 2pm. We look forward to seeing your impressive entries which always make such a wonderful display in the hall and invite you to stay for coffee and delicious home-made cakes; to browse the plants on sale to help get your season off to a florific start, and you might even win a prize in our raffle.

*Heather Martin*

### **Our new Show Secretary wants to introduce herself**

Hello, I am Deborah Novotny and have recently taken over the role of show secretary from Pat Whetstone. Pat is kindly showing me the ropes and will be at my side during 2016 helping me learn all that there is to do preparing for our three annual shows.

I retired in 2014 after a wonderful career working at the British Library in London and although I miss the buzz of the job, I was Head of Collection Care, I certainly don't miss the commuting! My initial training was in book and paper conservation and although I've always had an interest in gardening it wasn't at the forefront of things until I retired and I am definitely keen as opposed to knowledgeable. I look forward to meeting with as many of you as possible at our Spring Show and also contributing to the continued success of LHS.

*Deborah Novotny*

### **Amendment to Spring Show class 80**

In the Show Schedule for class 80 please delete the words “that means: cook it, or paint on it, or”

### **Forthcoming events**

Irene Eltringham-Willson talks to us about “The Yellow Book” at **8pm on Wednesday 13th April**. In her talk which is entitled “NGS- All Gardens Great and Small”, Irene will take us on a trip round a variety of beautiful gardens in Sussex, explain the history of the National Gardens Scheme and her role as County Organiser.

Then at **8pm on 11th May** we are joined by Ian Everest for a very interesting insight into “A Sussex Farm during the 1950s.” We will be shown a year in the life of a downland farm recorded in colour on 16mm cine film and narrated by Ian. It shows an age when over twenty men were employed on the 1000 acre farm and forty at harvest time!

Finally, as spring thinks about giving way to summer, do pop along to our sale of plants and enjoy a coffee from **10am on Saturday 14th May**.

### **Keep up to date online:**

If you cannot wait for the next newsletter and wish to keep up to date with the latest news and events from the Society, please visit our

website: [www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk](http://www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk) or ‘Like’ us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/lindfieldhorts](http://www.facebook.com/lindfieldhorts) or you can even ‘Follow’ @LindfieldHortSx on Twitter (go to <https://twitter.com/@lindfieldhortsx>).

*Heather Martin*

### **Vegetable plot in Lindfield is available**

Clare Sampson who lives on Gander Hill has a well worked kitchen garden which although she has a gardener she no longer uses. Rather than turf it over she wondered if there is a LHS member who would be interested in cultivating it. If you are interested, for further details please telephone Clare on 413068.

### **Sponsor a Class**

As usual I am appealing to Members to sponsor a Show class in 2016. Putting on a Show is really quite expensive and Members sponsorship makes so much difference to the economics of our Shows. Just one class in one Show would cost £2.00, the same class in all three Shows £6.00 and a specialist class in one Show £5.00 and in all three Show’s £15.00. If anyone could help we would be most grateful. You could, just for a bit of fun, sponsor a class and challenge your friends or relations to win it back or you could give it as a present for one of those people who already have everything. Whilst begging can I also ask for the donation of items, that we could use as raffle prizes.

*Michael Elliott*

**RHS Entry**

The Society is an affiliated member of the Royal Horticultural Society and as such receives a number of benefits. One of these is a reduction in the entrance fee of 30% for two people at any one time, to any of the four RHS gardens. If you are thinking of going to a RHS garden and would like to borrow the card for a day, please give me a ring 483039. We have only one card so it will be on a first come basis.

*Michael Elliott*

**TICKET APPLICATION: Ham Cottage, High Brook Ardingly**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

I wish to apply for:

..... ticket(s) at £5.00

Please provide the name(s) and telephone numbers

.....  
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.....

I / we will require a lift to Ham Cottage                      **Yes / No**

I / we can offer ..... other people a lift to Ham Cottage

I / we will be giving a lift to the following people who have applied separately for tickets:

.....  
.....  
.....

Address for tickets to be sent to .....

..... Post Code .....

Email address .....

I enclose a cheque for £ ..... made out to LHS  
a **separate** cheque for each outing please

Please send this form, a stamped addressed envelope and your cheque to:

**Rose Mortenson, Shamrock Cottage, Gravelye Lane, Lindfield, West  
Sussex RH16 2RY  
Tel: 01444 483229**

**BLANK**

**TICKET APPLICATION: Mottisfont and West Dean Gardens**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

I wish to apply for:

..... ticket(s) at £21.00 each (NT members)

..... ticket(s) at £32.00 each non NT members

..... ticket(s) at £2.00 each (optional Introductory Tour)

Please provide the name(s) and telephone number for each person

.....  
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If anyone in your party wants to pre-book a wheelchair or has any other special needs, please give details below:

.....  
.....

Address for tickets to be sent to .....

..... Post Code .....

Email address .....

I enclose a cheque for £ ..... made out to LHS

**Separate** cheque for each outing please.

Please send this form, a stamped addressed envelope and your cheque to:

**Rose Mortenson, Shamrock Cottage, Gravelye Lane, Lindfield, West  
Sussex RH16 2RY  
Tel: 01444 483229**

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**THE SAVILL GARDEN AND WISLEY**

**WEDNESDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2016**

I wish to apply for:

..... ticket(s) @ £25.25

Please provide the name(s) and telephone numbers

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If anyone in your party wants to pre-book a wheelchair or has any other special needs, please give details below:

.....  
.....

Address for tickets to be sent to .....

..... Post Code .....

Email address .....

I enclose a cheque for £ ..... made out to LHS  
a **separate** cheque for each outing please.

Please send this form, a stamped addressed envelope and your cheque to:

**Rose Mortenson, Shamrock Cottage, Gravelye Lane, Lindfield, West  
Sussex RH16 2RY  
Tel: 01444 483229**

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**SARAH RAVEN'S GARDEN AND GROOMBRIDGE PLACE**

**THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2016**

I wish to apply for:

..... ticket(s) at £32.50

..... ticket(s) at £3.50 option tour of Sarah Raven's garden

..... ticket(s) at £2.00 optional garden tour Groombridge

..... ticket(s) at £1.00 optional canal trip

Please provide the name(s) and telephone numbers

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If anyone in your party wants to pre-book a wheelchair or has any other special needs, please give details below:

.....  
.....

Address for tickets to be sent to .....

..... Post Code .....

Email address .....

I enclose a cheque for £ ..... made out to LHS  
a **separate** cheque for each outing please

Please send this form, a stamped addressed envelope and your cheque to:

**Rose Mortenson, Shamrock Cottage, Gravelye Lane, Lindfield, West  
Sussex RH16 2RY  
Tel: 01444 483229**

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**TICKET APPLICATION: Great Comp Salvia Spectacular**

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September**

I wish to apply for:

..... ticket(s) at £7.00

..... ticket(s) free RHS member

Please provide the name(s) and telephone numbers

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I / we will be travelling in our own car **Yes / No**

I / we would like seats on the coach and agree to pay an additional fee of between £13 and £25 per person **Yes / No**

Address for tickets to be sent to .....

..... Post Code .....

Email address .....

I enclose a cheque for £ ..... made out to LHS

***If you are travelling by coach please send a cheque for the ticket plus the minimum fee of £13. Any additional coach fee required will be collected closer to the event***

Please send a **separate** cheque for each outing

Please send this form, a stamped addressed envelope and your cheque to:

**Rose Mortenson, Shamrock Cottage, Gravelye Lane, Lindfield, West  
Sussex RH16 2RY  
Tel: 01444 483229**

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**Kew Gardens 2016**

I / we would be interested in a trip to Kew Gardens this year **yes / no**

If **yes** please provide the name(s) and telephone numbers and any preferences as to time of trip

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Any other comments on trips generally including suggestions for destinations:

.....  
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.....  
.....

**Rose Mortenson, Shamrock Cottage, Gravelye Lane, Lindfield, West  
Sussex RH16 2RY  
Tel: 01444 483229**

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**LHS Sundries Centre Price list as at 22nd February 2016**

	£
COMPOST< PEAT & GRIT	
Compost Sinclair All Purpose 75ltr	6.95
Compost Ericaceous 40lt	4.20
Compost Sinclair Potting 75lt	6.80
Growbag Arthur Bowers	2.60
JI Compost No 2	3.10
JI Compost Seed	3.10
JI Compost No3	3.10
Multipurpose Foremost 60ltr	4.10
Multipurpose Vital Earth	4.75
Peat 200lt bale	12.50
Potting Grit - Tunstall	4.40
Sharp Sand	3.80
Silver Sand	3.80
Vermiculite 5ltr	1.30
<b>FERTILISERS</b>	
Bone meal 4kg	4.00
Bone Meal 25kg	18.30
Fish Blood & Bone 4kg	3.90
Fish Blood & Bone 25kg	17.50
Garden Lime 4kg	1.40
Garden Lime25kg	5.80
Garotta 10kg	11.65
Growmore Granular 4kg	4.85
Growmore Granular 25kg	21.80
Groworganic Manure	6.30
Groworganic Pellets	5.60
Lawn Feed & Weed 4kg	6.30
Lawn Feed & Weed 25kg	28.40
Lawn Feed Weed mosskiller4kg	6.60
Lawn Feed weed mosskiller20kg	29.70
Lawn Sand25kg	10.00
Maxicrop complete 1lt	4.60
Maxicrop Mosskiller&lawn Tonic 1lt	4.80
Maxicrop +SEQ 1lt	5.00
Maxicrop Tomato Feed 1lt	4.60
Osmocote 1kg	4.50
Phostrogen half packet	4.40
Phostrogen	8.70

**All Prices are subject to change as new deliveries are received**

	£
Rootgrow -Empathy	3.75
Rosefood 4k	4.50
Seaweed Calcified 4kg	4.40
Sulphate Ammonia 4kg	3.85
Sulphate Iron 4kg	3.85
Sulphate of Potash 4kg	8.45
Tomorite 2.5ltr	8.75
Vitax Compost Maker	4.10
<b>INSECTICIDES/PESTICIDES</b>	
All in One - Doff	2.90
Bordeaux Mixture 175g - Vitax	3.70
Brushwood Kiler 500ml SBK	10.45
Fly Traps x25	10.80
Pathclear small packet	1.25
Roundup 280ml	13.90
Rose Clear 200ml	7.20
SB Plant Invigorator	2.65
Slug Pellets 350gm	2.40
Slug Pellets friendly	5.55
Sulphur	3.05
Weedol small packet	1.30
<b>SUNDRIES</b>	
Canes 4ft	0.30
Canes 4ftx20	5.40
Canes 8ft	0.50
Canes 8ftx20	9.00
Basket Liners 2'x2'	1.20
Green Jute 250gm	2.65
Labels Standard White 4" -25	0.35
Potato Bags x 10	2.20
Rootainers 32x12cm complete	3.70
Rootrainer inners	2.00
seed Tray - Heavy Duty	0.35
Split Canes sticks/100	1.65
Twist Ties 6" sp per 100	0.70
Pots 13F	0.20
Pots 2ltr	0.15
Pots 9Fx10	0.80
Vacpot 7x7x7 -15	0.70