

LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Newsletter - Spring 2018

Apart from welcoming everyone to the first of our 2018 newsletters I have one particular event to speak about. Village Day this year is on 2nd June. We are expanding our stall this year to include a recruitment section. This is the idea of our new Publicity Officer David Barrett. We need to recruit more members especially younger members and village day is the ideal time to try. As usual we will need volunteers to sell the plants starting from 9am until 4pm. I will be sending out a reminder for volunteers nearer the date. If you can do a two hour or even a one hour stint I would be very grateful.

For those of you who have access to the internet please keep a watch on our web site - www.lindfieldhorts.org - as it is very informative, well set out and easily accessible for which your committee would like to record their thanks to Tim Richardson.

Here's hoping you all have a great gardening year – sun during the day and rain at night.

Pat Whetstone, Chairman LHS
Email - whet25@btinternet.com - 01444 483236

Forthcoming events

(for a full list, please see page 8 of the 2018 Show Schedule and Programme)

12 March - Willow Weaving Workshop - enquiries to Jenny Samuels - 01444 616763

14 March - Talk by Derek Dexter on Fuchsias - entry £1 payable 'on the door'.

7 April - Spring Show

11 April - Talk by Nick Bailey of BBC's Gardeners World - tickets - Michael Elliott 483039*

9 May - Talk by Sandy Wansbury on Organic Growing - entry £1 payable 'on the door'

*There are still tickets available at £5 each for the **Talk by Nick Bailey** or from 14 March, at £7.50 for non-members, as detailed on page 6 of the 2018 Show Schedule and Programme

Evening Talks

Wendy Dumbleton has again put together a varied programme of Talks this year.

Vanessa Jones's interesting and thought provoking talk in January on the growing of vegetables in containers referred to 5 publications and for those interested in this subject, these were:-

Organic crops in Pots by Deborah Schneebeli,

Container Gardening (Readers Digest Garden Basics),

Window Box Allotment - A beginners guide to container Gardening by Penelope Bennett,

The Container Gardening Encyclopaedia by Sue Phillips and

The Sprouters Handbook by Edward Cairney.

The excellent talk in February by Paul Templeton on Fruit Growing was informative particularly regarding the fascinating suggestion that those of us who eat apples should place the core of each apple in a small pot of compost, leave it under a hedge and see if another variety of apple grows to add to the 20,000+ varieties already identified in the UK.

Sponsor a Class

I am appealing to Members to sponsor a Show class in 2018. 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 - 01444 483039

RHS Entry.

The Society is an affiliated member of the Royal Horticultural Society and as such receives a number of benefits. One of these benefits 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, to take advantage of the reduction please phone me. We have only one card so it will be on a first come basis.

Michael Elliott - 01444 482739

**Upcountry Garden Centre,
Lewes Road, Scaynes Hill, RH17 7NJG**

Upcountry Garden Centre has offered to provide members of the LHS with a 10% reduction from purchases upon production of a current LHS membership card at the till.

Correction

The post code of Susan and David Barrett, the Minute Secretary and the Publicity Officer respectively, as detailed in the 2018 Show Schedule and Programme should be RH16 1SN

Sundries Centre

The next opening on **17 March**.

(We are also open on **24 March and please note**, this date has been added since the printing of the 2018 Annual Membership cards.)

It may not feel like it but this really is the time of year to start the horticultural year. As well as the usual bargains on potting compost and Rootainers etc. we've invested in some new Ericaceous feeds for those with a passion for Camellias and their ilk.

Another innovation... we're stocking is Strulch, the saviour of bark mulch haters like me. It's a straw based mulch that is very popular at the likes of Alnwick gardens. Prices will be on the website soon and we look forward to seeing you all at the centre.

I'm looking for volunteers with pernicious perennial weeds...please contact Gill Jones at sundries@lindfieldhorts.org.uk if you would like to take part in some interesting product trials"

The price list of the products we have for sale at the Sundries Centre is detailed on our website

LHS Outings 2018

Yet again, Rose Mortenson has (with Neal McNamara's assistance regarding a trip to a Gin Distillery) put together an attractive programme of outings - see over - and has arranged 4 coach outings and 1 local visit.

Application Procedure - see application forms at the end of this Newsletter.

1. 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 banked 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, RHS, HHA or any other organisation, 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 tickets.

(Other Queries about any of the Outings should be referred direct to Rose Mortenson - rose.mortenson@gmail.com - Tel. 01444 483229 or 07931 775675.)

LHS Outings 2018

Tuesday 1st May – Hinton Ampner & The Bombay Gin Distillery

We are going to the National Trust property Hinton Ampner and to Laverstoke Mill where the Bombay Sapphire Gin is distilled! (Thanks to Neil McNamara who is organising this trip)

Hinton Ampner was rebuilt after a catastrophic fire in 1960, in a light and airy Georgian style, by the then owner Ralph Dutton. There are extensive lawns, flower beds and the old walled garden. The café provides a good range of snacks, meals and cake.

We will leave in time to travel the 16 miles to Laverstocke Mill for a 2.00 visit. The Mill was once a paper mill pioneering the watermark process in the 1700s supplying the Bank of England and the British Empire with Bank Note paper until 1963. Our visit will be a 'self-discovery' experience, culminating in the Mill Bar where you will receive a drink according to your personal taste, "on the house". The Mill is in a great setting and has been converted to its present use sympathetically with a very modern twist. **Please Note:** Laverstoke Mill is a working distillery and they insist that guests wear suitable foot wear, so please, **no open-toes or high heeled shoes.**

Fee includes coach travel, driver's tip, and entrance fees where necessary to both venues.

Standard Fee - £38.50. NT Members - £29.50

Friday 15 June – Mount Ephraim Gardens & Ightham Mote

Mount Ephraim Garden is a spectacular 10 acre Edwardian Garden owned by the same family for over 300 years and has been beautifully restored to its former glory. There is a beautiful Rose Garden which should be in full bloom in June plus topiary, Japanese and water gardens. I have booked us refreshments on arrival which are included in the ticket price. Please indicate on the booking form whether you would like the sweet pastry or savoury bacon/sausage sandwich option. There is also the option of a guided tour. Mount Ephraim is a member of the HHA so members will have free entry - see below

In the afternoon we will visit Ightham Mote. This is a National Trust run, 700 year old moated manor house with lovely tranquil gardens. The house itself is full of fascinating historical features including a crypt, a Tudor painted ceiling and a Grade II listed dog kennel! The gardens include an orchard, flower borders, water features, lakes and lots of walks through the wider estate. There is a gift shop, excellent café or a picnic area if you prefer to bring your own. Entrance from the visitor reception is steep though a volunteer driven buggy should be available for those needing assistance and there is no wheelchair access to the first floor of the house. Free entry for NT members - see below.

You could choose to have lunch at either site though you are welcome to bring your own picnic. Both have wheelchairs and for this trip the fees include coach travel, driver's tip, entrance fees at both sites but also morning refreshments at Mount Ephraim.

Standard Fee - £35.25;

HHA member - £29.25;

NT member - £25.25:

Members of both HHA and NT - £19.25

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LHS Outings continued

Wednesday 18th July – Chelsea Physic Garden & Fulham Palace

Both of these London venues are on the banks of the Thames. We will start the day with a visit to the Chelsea Physic Garden which was founded in 1693 by Apothecaries to grow medicinal plants. Today it houses 5,000 medicinal, edible, herbal and useful plants. Nick Bailey, the former Head Gardener, is coming to give the evening talk to the society in April so hopefully our appetites will be whetted! There is an optional guided tour at approx. £2pp.

We will move on just up the road to Fulham Palace the former home of the Bishops of London. The Palace dates back to Tudor times and there have been many later additions. Many of the rooms are open to the public and there is also a museum charting the history of the site back to prehistoric times. The garden is itself Graded II listed and comprises a 13 acre botanic garden with some wonderful unusual trees, a walled garden, a kitchen garden and a knot garden.

Entry to Fulham Palace and gardens is free but there is the option of a guided tour at £8 per person. Both sites have a café or you are welcome to bring a picnic. No refreshments are included in the fee. **Fee £23** includes coach travel, driver's tip, and entrance fees where necessary to both venues.

Friday 17th August – An evening walk and picnic at High Beeches Woodland and Water Garden

This will be a 'self-drive / shared lifts' outing. High Beeches have agreed to open just for us in the evening, so we can have a walk, with a guided tour if you want, and then hold a picnic in the grounds. It sounds like a lovely way for us to celebrate the summer, have a relaxing stroll in a very beautiful local garden and a social get together. Bring your own picnic and wine (optional of course), picnic tables are already there. **Entrance Fee - £8.00 (Optional guided tour £3.00)**

Thursday 13th September – Fishbourne Roman Palace & Woolbeding Gardens

Fishbourne Palace was built in AD 75 and destroyed about 200 years later but the site provides a fascinating glimpse of what it was like. This year is the 50th anniversary of the opening of the site and you can explore the huge collection of artefacts and see the beautiful mosaics. The garden of the original palace has been carefully restored to show what the very earliest gardens would have been like. There is a collection of fruit, vegetable, herbs, dye and medicinal plants and shrubs that would have been cultivated in Roman times. There is a shop, a café and an optional tour available.

From here we will continue on to Woolbeding Gardens which is a far more modern and constantly evolving garden run by the National Trust. This is a 26 acre garden with a wide variety of 'rooms', plus greenhouse, orangery, orchid house, vegetable and herb gardens. We will have a short introductory talk on arrival but then wander freely. We came to this garden on the first trip I organised for LHS and it has become a personal favourite of mine. Always beautiful, always relaxing and a lovely café what more can we ask of our last outing of the year.

Both sites have good access, wheelchairs and good cafés. Fee includes coach travel, driver's tip, and entrance fees where necessary to both venues:
Standard Fee - £30.00; NT member - £22.25

Hinton Ampner & Bombay Sapphire Distillery

TUESDAY 1ST May 2018

I wish to apply for:

- ticket(s) at £38.50 per person
- ticket(s) at £29.50 per person NT members

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:

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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 by 24 March with a stamped addressed envelope and your cheque to:

Neal McNamara, Glenhaven, 46 Gander Hill, Haywards Heath, RH16 1RD
01444 451825
nealnitamc@tiscali.co.uk

Mount Ephraim Garden & Ightham Mote

Friday 15th June 2018

Ticket prices:

Standard £35.25; HHA member £29.25; NT member £25.25: member of both £19.25

I wish to apply for:

.....	ticket(s)	@ £
.....	guided tour	@ £4.00 at Mt Ephraim
.....	sweet morning refreshments	
.....	savoury morning refreshments	

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:

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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

rose.mortenson@gmail.com

Chelsea Physic Garden & Fulham Palace

Wednesday 18th July 2018

I wish to apply for:

- ticket(s) at £22.75
- ticket(s) at £2.00 optional tour at Chelsea Physic Garden
- ticket(s) at £8.00 optional tour at Fulham Palace

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:

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.....

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
rose.mortenson@gmail.com**

High Beeches Gardens and Picnic

Friday 17th August 2018

I wish to apply for:

..... ticket(s) at £8.00

..... ticket(s) for guided tour @ £3.00

Please provide the name(s) and telephone numbers

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I / we will require a lift **Yes / No**

I / we can offer other people a lift

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

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

rose.mortenson@gmail.com

Fishbourne Roman Palace & Woolbeding Gardens

Thursday 13th September 2018

I wish to apply for:

- ticket(s) at £30.00
- ticket(s) at £22.25 NT Members
- ticket(s) at £3.00 option guided tour at Fishbourne

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:

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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
rose.mortenson@gmail.com**