

## LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

### SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2021

Dear Fellow LHS Members

2021 marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Lindfield Horticultural Society, and we are planning to celebrate our birthday in style with a Summer Garden Party on **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August**. Further details will be announced shortly, and we do hope you can join us, so please note the date in your diary and look out for the invitation which will be coming to you very soon.

We have had to cancel so many of our usual events over the past 18 months and have reluctantly just made the decision to cancel the Summer Show which would have taken place in July, so it's wonderful to have this Garden Party for everyone to look forward to once restrictions are finally lifted.

Kind regards,

Jenny, Heather & Christine – your Party Planning sub-committee

#### **SUNDRIES NEWS**

Well, the view from the shed has changed a little since we were last in touch. Thanks to all for your feedback on Peat, to have or have not? That there are strongly held views amongst the membership is clear. We will report back in detail on all our findings, once the implications of the proposed Government changes have clarified. Watch this space! As I write, it is the official start of Summer. Seems to me that we've skipped straight from pseudo winter straight here with no real Spring in between. I can cope with wet, but it's been so cold. As Confucius said though, be careful what you wish for. I've now had to start watering and I have this niggling worry that we may return to March and April with no rain. Let's hope I'm wrong. I just need someone to invent the effective overnight watering dance, then I'd be content, (until the next problem of course).

So to commercials. Everyone keeps telling me things are at least three weeks (if not a month) behind, horticulturally. Having opened every weekend in May in more 'normal' times we would have just about done before a break until the Autumn. Given the lateness of the season I've been asked if we can open once more over the next 2 weekends before the Summer break. I've chosen Saturday 12th June. Please email [sundrycentre@gmail.com](mailto:sundrycentre@gmail.com) to book a slot. We have some lovely big Tomato Bags and an updated price list of everything in stock is on the website. We really need your support if we're to keep the Sundry centre running and the best way to do that is to order something. We're happy to deliver if you can't join us, use us or lose us as they say.

One last thing. Apparently, we should all be sowing Runner Beans, Salad Leaves, Courgettes, and Spring Onions according to one nursery's email this morning. That's what I like about gardening; we may have missed out on a traditional Spring, but no one told the onions.

Their name is after all just a label and they just get on with it, so perhaps we should to.....?

Happy Gardening.

Gill Jones

## OUTINGS NEWS

Please find below a list of all remaining outings for 2021:

### **TUE 15 JUNE - Town Place, Freshfield (Outing 21B)**

As previously advertised in the Spring Newsletter. Few tickets remaining.

### **WED 7 JULY – Titsey Estate, Oxted (Outing 21C) - A self-drive afternoon visit.**

Restored Victorian Walled Garden, Queens Jubilee Rose Garden, Formal Parterre and including a guided tour of the 18th Century house, featuring family portraits and Canaletto paintings.

Optional: Guided Tour of the walled garden with the Head Gardener.

No refreshments included. Café serves snacks. Picnics permitted.

Ticket Price £8 per person Garden & House

### **WED 4 AUGUST – RHS Hyde Hall Flower Show, Chelmsford (Outing 21D)**

A coach excursion on the first day of the flower show.

Ticket Price £21 per person (incl. travel + driver's tip)

### **FRI 20 AUGUST – Merriments Gardens and Brightling Down Farm (Outing 21E)**

A self-drive, combined visit.

Merriments Gardens – A morning visit to a 4-acre garden which is open to the public, which features a variety of different zones of interest; café and plant sales. Coffee and cake on arrival, then you are free to explore the garden. Lunch at the café, or bring a picnic to have at our afternoon visit to....

Brightling Down Farm Gardens - An NGS award winning garden which is opening exclusively for us. It comprises several different zones, including a Zen garden, water garden, walled vegetable and herb garden, large greenhouses, herbaceous borders and a woodland walk. Bring a picnic before having a guided tour with the gardener, followed by home-made cakes and tea/coffee.

Ticket Price £25 per person (incl refreshments at both venues)

### **THU 14 OCT – Ramster Gardens and Guildford Cathedral (Outing 21F)**

A coach outing combining 2 venues.

Ramster Gardens, Chiddingfold – A morning visit to see the autumn colours in the woodland garden. Refreshments available at the café (not included), or bring a packed lunch.

Guildford Cathedral – An afternoon visit to look around the 'people's cathedral', including a choice guided tours; General Tour, or Specialist Tour (Artistic Gems/ Kneelers).

Ticket Price £34 per person (incl coach travel + driver's tip)

**Waddesdon Manor** has taken the decision not to hold its Christmas Event this year, so we have had to delete it from our programme. Never mind, there's always next year.

Please contact Chris Gurr (Tel 01444 482 739) if you are interested in any of the above outings and he will provide you with the full details and application form(s).

All applications to be sent/delivered to:

Heather Hitchcock (Outings Organiser)

81 William Allen Lane, Lindfield, RH16 2ST

Tel 01444 453 202 / 07971 857 182

### **And finally, a brief note from your Chairman**

Not a good year so far in many ways, with crops a long way behind due to adverse weather. However, apart from having to cancel the summer show, it is all positive news from your LHS. Let us hope restrictions continue to ease and we can look forward once again to a full autumn/winter programme.

I trust you are excited by the news from Christine and the ladies organising our 75 year anniversary celebrations, and our sincere thanks to Sue and Jim Stockwell for inviting us to their excellent garden. Let's hope the weather behaves!

Thanks to Heather who has again spent a lot of time and effort in preparing her programme. I trust there is something there that appeals to you. If you are interested please book early so that she can confirm the trips to both you and the relevant venue.

Thanks to Gill for opening the sundry centre again for the benefit of all members. Remember our excellent prices are only minimally above cost, so please support her.

The only negative is regret that the Committee, by a majority vote, cancelled the summer show, An early decision for the benefit of all members, and KEH was heavily influenced by latest uncertainty regarding the ease of lockdown. Including, but not all;

We could still be facing a deep clean before and after, including all vases etc used. A huge task for a few helpers, Numbers in the hall at any one time may have to be limited, and individual members may still have doubts about attending. If we could not use the kitchen to sell tea/coffee/cake etc this would add to loss of income to an event which we already have to fund.

Back to the positive. Hopefully the autumn show can go ahead. Confirmation (or otherwise!!) will be brought to you in our autumn newsletter in September, plus all the news of events arranged for the winter months. Stay safe.