



## LHS SWEET PEA WORKSHOPS

Many of you will be familiar with the wonderful prize-winning Sweet Peas produced by our own John Rieley, blooms which regularly win first prize in our Summer Flower Shows. So how does he do it?

John has kindly agreed to share his expert knowledge with us in a series of five short workshops so that you too can produce beautiful, long-stemmed blooms for your home, for friends, or even to enter in our Flower Shows.

The workshops will be suitable for all: those wishing to improve their Sweet Pea growing techniques and for new and novice gardeners alike. They will cover such topics as choosing suitable varieties; sowing methods; caring for seedlings; ground preparation; planting out and how to get the best from your plants.

Initially, John will be available to visit your garden to advise on siting, soil conditions and winter protection. He will suggest some suitable Sweet Pea varieties to allow you to pre-purchase your seeds, ready to sow at the January workshop.

The five tutorial sessions will be held on Saturday/Sunday mornings between January and June and will take place in John's own garden in Lindfield. The precise dates will be determined according to what our weather dictates, but here is a rough guide to the schedule:

- October/November: Pre-start garden visits (if desired)  
Advice on varieties and winter protection, e.g. cold frame/greenhouse/conservatory/other
- January Session 1 Sowing, caring, ground preparation
- March/April Session 2 Planting out, setting out supports
- April Session 3 Initial training
- May Session 4 Growing on and layering
- June Session 5 Picking, showing and staging

In addition to John's initial visit to your garden, the five subsequent tutorials and a full advice and support service, you will be provided with everything you need (other than your chosen seeds, which you will provide). You will go home after Session 1 with your first two pots of seeds, sown under John's guidance and you will have gained the knowledge to enable you to sow more at home with confidence.

A fee of **£15 per person** will be required for the all-inclusive package deal, to include refreshments, with any resulting profit donated to charity. To secure your place, please email your name and contact details to Christine Cawley at [christine.cawley@outlook.com](mailto:christine.cawley@outlook.com), or phone her on 01444 487407. Confirmation of your place, together with payment instructions will be provided shortly.

We look forward to hearing from you.