

# Chichester Organic Gardening Society

## Newsletter 74 April 2018

### Notes from the Committee:

**Thank you** to all who came to the AGM and our celebration of 25 years. We now move on to the next 25 – and we need new members, to keep up our numbers, and continue to spread the organic message. We have planned some interesting talks for the autumn, and two visits. If you have any ideas for future speakers or visits, do let one of the Committee know.

**We need a new Secretary – NOW!** After about ten years Penelope is finishing and would like to have time to hand over. So please will someone come forward or there will be a gap. The task is not complicated and all committee members support each other.

**Weald and Downland Countryside Show** Sat 6-Sun 7 October (tbc). Whether COGS has a stall there again, as in the past seven years, depends on availability of helpers.

### Spring Meetings

**April 30 Colin Clark on Feeding Futures**, which trains farmers in rural Kenya to improve their soil and yields thus enabling them to provide meals to hungry school children in another community and teach the farming methods to the new community so they too can become sustainable.

**May 21 Plant Swop and Spring Fling** An opportunity to find plants and seedlings, to pass on any of your own surplus, and to surprise us with your culinary skills. A reminder to bring your own plates, cutlery, etc as well as a dish or two to share.

### Summer Visits

**June 18 (Monday) 4.30 Veg Out**, the organic box scheme at Three Oaks Nursery, between Sidlesham and Pagham Nature Reserve

**July 26 (Thursday) Tuppenny Barn**, the organic smallholding and shop, with its state-of-the-art Education Centre, in Southbourne. **From 2.30; Tour at 3.0.**

### Autumn Meetings

**September 24: Ben Cross from Crosslands Nursery** “British Alstroemeria & The UK Cut Flower Industry’. Some of us visited Crosslands Nursery last summer and were most impressed by the enterprise. We hope that Ben will bring some Alstroemeria for us to buy.

**October 29: Annual General Meeting and Harvest Supper.** Our annual review, your chance to have your say; and the usual delicious supper to follow. (See May 21)

**November 26: Diana Morgan** A visit to Organic and Permaculture projects in Cuba

Unless otherwise stated, Monday meetings take place at  
Bassil Shippam Centre, Tozer Way, St Pancras, Chichester PO19 7LG  
Meetings start at 7.30pm, doors open at 7.15pm

**Other visits: not organised by COGS but for information:**

**Weald & Downland Museum: Historic Gardens weekend:** Sat June 30-Sun July 1.

**Cookscroft Gardens:** open for the NGS on Sun 13 & Wed 16 May (11-4), Sat 16 June (5-9). A group of us went to these very lovely gardens last summer; for those who did not go, or would like a return visit, we could plan a group outing.

**May 31 to June 2 Cathedral Flower Festival:** An extravaganza of flower arrangements on the theme “This Earthly Paradise”; while not in any sense ‘organic’, this is worth a visit and supports the Cathedral Restoration Trust – which is working hard at present with the roof repairs.

**Sat-Sun June 2-3 Fishbourne Roman Palace: Gardens in Time:** “talks, tours, demonstrations and workshops covering everything from Roman cuisine to ancient garden design”.

Two events as part of **Chichester Festival** :

**1. Monday June 18, 8 pm** New Park Centre, Chichester PO19 7XY.

**Pollinators –What’s the Buzz?** - a talk by Laurie Jackson of Buglife. £5.

**2. Saturday July 7, 2-5pm** New Park Centre, Chichester, Free event

**National Meadows Day** – join us by the recently established wildflower bank at New Park Centre for a nationwide celebration of wildflowers and the wildlife that they support, organised by the charity Plantlife. Organised by Transition Chichester and New Park Centre. (For details of both these events, see Stephanie’s email of March 30, or Festival organisers)

**Infinity Foods:** for the past ten years Pat Evans and Susan Maguire have organised the ordering and delivery of these organic foods. This arrangement has had to cease from now, unless anyone with plenty of storage space would like to take it on. We are most grateful to Susan and Pat for their work over the years.

**Your COGS organisers are:**

Secretary – interim – Penelope Johnstone (01243 771881)

Treasurer – David Scott (01243 778689) [d4davidscott@btinternet.com](mailto:d4davidscott@btinternet.com)

Membership Secretary – Stephanie Carn (01243 533393) [stephcarn@gmail.com](mailto:stephcarn@gmail.com)

Website – Tom Broughton (01243 790026) [tom@chicogs.org.uk](mailto:tom@chicogs.org.uk)

**Committee Members:** Treasurer, Secretary, Membership, plus:

Pat Alderton (01243 822615)

Anne Bennett (01243 781289)

Diana Morgan (01243 786386)

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