

Chichester Organic Gardening Society

Newsletter 77 April 2019

Notes from the Committee

Thank you to all those who came to our January **Members Evening**. At the coldest, darkest time of the year, we were few in number but managed a lively session of discussion, questions and sharing of experiences from the past, made even more enjoyable by the varied selection of homemade chutneys and jams that were brought along for sampling. Mary Iden talked about her project of planting buckthorn to encourage more Brimstone butterflies and promised to bring some for sale at the February meeting.

In February **Martin Jarvis of Culberry Herbs** gave a talk on growing herbs – both familiar and not so well-known – and brought along plenty of pots for sale. A visit to the nursery has been organised for June (see below). The buckthorns also arrived. There are a few left if anyone is still interested.

Michael Joseph's March talk on 'Art and the Garden' was very well-attended. The idea of blending artistic concepts like shape, perspective, shadow, tone etc as part of garden planning should make us all look at our garden space – whether big or small – through new eyes, even if we can only dream of creating something as innovative as Michael and Jane's own garden at Adversane.

Just a reminder that Penelope is still taking minutes of meetings, even though she wants to step down from the job after more than 10 years. A replacement would be welcome if anyone has just a tiny bit of time to spare. It is not that onerous. We are also still looking for another Committee Member (or 2). There are only 3-4 meetings a year, but we need to keep the ideas flowing if Cogs is to remain a vibrant organisation.

Weald and Downland 'Living Well' Spring Fair will be held on **Sunday 5th & Monday 6th May – the bank holiday weekend**. Cogs has been offered a stall but can only run it if there are enough volunteers, so please contact Stephanie or Penelope if you can help – if only for a short shift.

Spring Meetings 2019

April 29th Barry Newman: Growing Vegetables. Barry is a popular expert on cultivating vegetables and has been a judge at many shows. He is coming at a good moment to give us his advice on how to manage our own vegetables over the spring and summer. We are hoping for a really good turnout for this one. If you know of a good place to put up a poster advertising it, please so let Stephanie and she will get one to you.

May 20th Plant Swap and Spring Fling. Hoping we have all profited from the April meeting, we may have numerous seedlings and young plants to bring and exchange. Please remember that if they do not find a good home, you must take them back with you. And, of course, there will be the traditional supper of home-cooked food. Please bring your own plate, glass and cutlery with you, as well as a dish to share. Ben has promised to run another of his popular quizzes.

Summer Visits 2019

12th June 2.30pm – a conducted tour of Culberry Nursery, which specialises in herbs. Meet at the main gate at 2.30. It is at Dappers Lane, Angmering, BN16 4EW and complicated to reach by bus, so if you a) want to come b) can offer someone else a lift, please let a committee member know. As ever, friends and family are welcome.

4th July 2pm A members' tour of **Tuppenny Barn**, taking in the growing areas, orchard and education centre. Parking is limited but the 700 bus goes right past, and we can car share as usual. The cost is £8, which includes tea and (mostly vegan) cake. It is not possible to opt out of the tea. The minimum number for the tour is 12 and numbers will have to be firmed up in advance to help with the catering, so do get in touch with a committee member as soon as you are sure that you can come. Tuppenny Barn is a charity and all profit goes to boost the charity's funds. If you also want the chance to shop for fresh organic produce and (maybe) fresh fish in the shop there, just come early to give yourself time to browse.

23rd July 2.30pm – tour of **Aldingbourne Centre**, taking about an hour and a chance to enjoy the recently refurbished café. Once again, car sharing is suggested, as it is bit off the beaten track.

There will be sign-up lists for all the visits at the forthcoming meetings.

Autumn Meetings 2019

September 30th Dr Steve Millam on Shrubs and Foliage. A return visit from this popular lecturer from Brinsbury College, who will talk about the more long-lasting parts of the garden.

October 28th AGM 2019 and Harvest Supper. Please bring a dish to share.

November 25th Kerry Jackson of RSPB on Birds in our Gardens. Kerry will illustrate her talk with photos and recordings of bird songs.

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

Out and About in the Area

Local Council Elections take place on **Thursday 2nd May** and the local Green Party would like to ensure that they have a councillor on both. Sarah Sharp is standing for re-election for the City Council and election to the District Council. If you can help in any way, please let Stephanie Carn know (contact details below). I may get my knuckles rapped for introducing politics here but I don't think many members will disagree.

Your Cogs Organisers are:

Treasurer – David Scott (01243 778689; d4davidscott@btinternet.com)

Membership Secretary – Stephanie Carn (01243 533393; stephcarn@gmail.com)

Website – Tom Broughton (01243 790026; tom@chicogs.org.uk)

Committee Members – Treasurer, Membership Secretary, plus:

Pat Alderton (01243 822615) Penelope Johnstone (01243 771881)

Diana Morgan (01243 786386) Anne Bennett (01243 781289)

Liz Campling (01243 532910; lizcamplinguk@hotmail.com)

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