

MARLBOROUGH GARDENING ASSOCIATION



NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2018

HAPPY NEW 2018 TO ALL OUR MEMBERS!

We have an excellent programme lined up for 2018, and a great programme of visits. We look forward to seeing you!

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY 10 JANUARY

DIG FOR VICTORY

SPEAKER: CHRIS SMITH

Venue: Christchurch Wesley Hall, Oxford Street, Marlborough

Doors open 7.15 for 7.45 p.m.

CHRIS SMITH from the Walled Gardens in East Pennard exhibited 3 separate Allotment Gardens at Chelsea in 2016 and has also exhibited at Hampton Court, Malvern and R.H.S. Flower Shows. He is the co-owner of Pennard Plants Nursery specialising in South African plants which was established in 2001 and has been in horticulture for 40 years.

GARDEN VISITS 2018

Jane Tilbrook and Miranda Gilmour have once again been busy planning our outings for 2018. If you would like to join MGA on some of its 2018 garden trips, do put the following dates in your diary now. Nearer the time we will provide further information and booking forms:

Kew Gardens on Tuesday 22 May - Kew is probably the world's most famous botanic garden, home to the largest and most diverse plant collection, growing out in the Gardens and inside the glasshouses, the most famous being the Victorian Palm House. For those with a head for heights the Treetop Walkway will provide an opportunity to walk amongst the top of the trees and take in breath-taking views across the Gardens and beyond. There is the Georgian Pagoda, Queen Charlotte's Cottage and Kew Palace, all worth visiting. The cafés and restaurants offer lots of choice and picnics are allowed. Wheelchairs and mobility scooters are available.

Hidcote and Kiftsgate Court Garden on Wednesday 27 June – Hidcote is one of the best-known and most influential Arts and Crafts gardens in Britain, with its linked "rooms" of hedges, rare trees, shrubs and herbaceous borders which we will visit in conjunction with Kiftsgate, a garden created by three generations of women gardeners. Whether we time it right to see the amazing Kiftsgate rose remains to be seen. Mobility scooters are available at Hidcote, but not at Kiftsgate which contains some steep paths. Both offer cafes facilities and plant sales.

Waterperry Gardens Friday 20 July – Waterperry gardens were developed in the 1930's when Beatrix Havergal opened her School of Horticulture for Ladies. The 8 acre ornamental gardens include a rose and formal knot garden, water-lily canal, riverside walk, and herbaceous border. It may also be possible to view (optional) the contemporary frescoes in Waterperry House. These are thought to be the largest single work of its kind in this country in over 500 years. A mobility scooter is available, as are wheelchairs. There is a café and plant sales.

Hestercombe Gardens Thursday 23 August – Hestercombe Gardens are considered unique as they span three centuries of garden design. Set within 50 acres, the Victorian Shrubbery, the Georgian Landscape Garden and the Edwardian Formal Gardens all offer a different experience to explore. Sir Edwin Lutyens and Gertrude Jekyll influenced the design and planting of parts of the garden. Hestercombe offers a café, shop and plant sales. We may also visit to the Willow and Wetland Centre where we can see the different types of withies being grown and a demonstration of basket making, with afternoon tea squeezed in as well. Mobility scooters are available at Hestercombe but not at the Wetland Centre.

LOCAL TRIPS -

We hope to organise at least one local trip with car sharing. This will be to Urchfont Manor for 'Art in the Garden' 2018. The exhibition will feature over 100 works of art by 23 contemporary sculptors working in a wide range of mediums. Large parts of Urchfont garden have been completely redesigned by Chelsea gold winning team del Buono Gazerwitz, so the visit should be of interest to all artists and gardeners. The date has still to be agreed but it is likely to take place in early July.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2018**

Venue: Christchurch Wesley Hall, Oxford Street, Marlborough.
Doors open 7.15 for 7.45 p.m.

This is your chance to hear a review of last year's activities, raise any questions and vote in the new committee for 2018. We need some new members on the Committee so please return the Nomination Form below if you or a friend are interested. Any ideas for future visits and lectures are most welcome, so come along for tea/coffee, a chat with a friend and an opportunity to have your say in the running of the Association.

**MARLBOROUGH GARDENING ASSOCIATION
COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM**

Name.....

Address.....

Tel.....

Name of **Proposer**.....Address.....

Name of **Seconder**.....Address

I am happy to accept nomination to join the committee as an ordinary member.

Signature of Nominee.....

**To be returned by 1st February 2018 to:
Tricia Hayllar, 53 George Lane, Marlborough, SN8 4BY
hayllar@tiscali.co.uk**

The copy deadline for the February Newsletter is Friday 26th January 2018.
Contributions to Anne Crawley, 3 River Park, SN8 1NH or email anne@unicorn9.plus.com