



Garden Topics April 2023

I hope you are enjoying the lovely display of spring flowers this year, the snowdrops, and now the daffodils have produced one of the best displays in many a year, predictions are that the tree blossom will also be one of the best years yet. Our Garden Society is looking forward to all the usual events and we hope to see many members at all the events. So far this year we have had a garden talk on Women Authors and Their Gardens by Cherrill Sands. Our next event is the informal members Flower Show on Tuesday, 18th April at 7 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. start. Gerald Smith will be our judge and whilst the judging is taking place there will be a fun quiz and tea and biscuits will be available. A first prize will be awarded for each category. The categories are:

1. A vase of 6 cut mixed blooms of flowering bulbs or corms.
2. 3 sprays (single or mixed) of any variety of flowering shrub or tree.
3. Bowl of floating hellebore heads.
4. Vase of daffodils 3 blooms any variety.
5. Vase of 3 tulips any variety.



This is an informal show, so please do come along whether you are exhibiting or would like to join in the quiz and meet other members of the society.

As our Society is an Affiliated member of the RHS, we now have an **RHS Garden Entry Discount Card**. This card is for sharing amongst our members only (full members) and offers two adults a 50% discount off entry to any RHS Garden (Bridgewater, Harlow Carr, Hyde Hall, Rosemoor and Wisley). Unfortunately, the card cannot be used for Flower Shows and the Glow illuminations. Therefore if you are a full member of Esher Molesey Garden Society and not a member of the RHS and would like to use this card please contact Jean Billett, jean.billett@ntlworld.com or tel. 01372465961.

Jean Billett, Chairperson

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - 2023

Tuesday 18th April 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm start, The Spring Flower Show, St Nicholas Church Hall

Saturday, 10 June, 2023, Molesey Carnival, Molesey Recreation Ground

Tuesday 20th June 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm start. Ben West is returning to give us Part 2 of his talk on Molesey Heath 'Where the Things Are'. St Nicholas Church Hall

Sunday, 16th July, Coach Trip to Chenies Annual Plant Fair

Saturday 12th August the EMGS Annual Flower Show. St Nicholas Church Hall

Thursday, 21st September, Coach Trip to Beth Chatto's Gardens

Tuesday 17th October 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm start, a talk by Paul Patton on 'Autumn aspirations-looking forward to Spring' a talk to get you ready for 2024 St Nicholas Church Hall

Tuesday, 28th November AGM, St Nicholas Church Hall

CHENIES MANOR ANNUAL PLANT FAIR, SUNDAY JULY 16,2023

This visit has been strongly recommended by several members, and in particular by our member Gerald, so I am sure this will be a day out that will be well worth joining!

Because our aim is to attend the plant fair, we are booked to arrive as the event opens at 09:30 to get the best opportunity to choose and buy from the wide range of stalls and plants that will be there.

"Chenies Manor House annual plant fair hosts over 80 specialist growers and nurseries and local artisan stalls.
A wonderful day to browse amongst expert horticulturalists, garden items and so much more.
Lunch is available and Tea is served in the Manor gardens or our Garden Room."

See more here: <https://www.cheniesmanorhouse.co.uk/>

We will spend the whole day there, as, according to the Head Gardener, there is plenty to enjoy:

Head Gardener's Comment

Winner of the Historic Houses Association & Christie's Garden of the Year Award, its beautiful five acres of garden include The Sunken Garden, White Garden, Physic Garden, Kitchen Garden with two mazes.

From mid June to October five acres of enchanting gardens billowing with Annuals, including Dahlias, Cosmos, Salvias and many more.

The annual FAMOUS PLANT & GARDEN FAIR takes place in July. Exhibitors from around the country, rare & exceptional plants. Light lunches & Refreshments all day.

See more here: https://www.gardenvisit.com/gardens/chenies_manor_house_and_gardens

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MANOR HOUSE WILL NOT BE OPEN ON JULY 16

Our day begins with a departure at 07:45 from the Marquis of Granby Pub on the Portsmouth Road. You can buy snacks, lunch and tea at Chenies, or you can bring your own snacks. We will leave Chemise at 4pm, so back by 17:30 all being well.

The day includes coach travel and entrance to the Annual Plant Fair and grounds.



To book, please complete the information on the booking form as soon as possible and no later than May 31 2023.

MOLESEY CARNIVAL

This year's Molesey Carnival will be held on the 10th June and EMGS will have our usual plant stall. As this is our main fund-raising event, we are asking you as a member for your help. The help we require is growing on plug plants which have now been delivered, even if you can only spare a small space in your greenhouse it would be much appreciated (please contact Tony Speller tony_speller@hotmail.co.uk or Tel. 02083981774 . If you are dividing your perennials and have spare plants please pot and label them, and last but not least help on the day - setting up and breaking down the stall and selling plants, especially from midday when we get very busy, even if you can only spare an hour or two we would love to see you.

TRADING DEPOT

There have been several deliveries of composts, fertilisers, and all other garden essentials therefore you should find what you require. Attached to this newsletter is our current price list dated 1 April 2003. Commencing from Wednesday, 5th April till the end of June the depot will be open on Wednesday evenings from 7p.m. until 8 p.m. We are open as usual on Easter Sunday, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

BETH CHATTO GARDEN VISIT, THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

We have got in early with a booking for this extremely popular garden. There are 5 separate gardens awaiting us at Beth Chatto's and too much to write here so I have included a few snippets, and urge you to follow the links to the website to see more: <https://www.bethchatto.co.uk/garden-nursery/gallery/>

“Beth transformed desolate wasteland that was deemed unfit for fruit farming into a series of gardens. The landscape varied dramatically so that each garden within the garden has become an example of working with nature to find the right plants for the right place.

“During her lifetime, Beth Chatto OBE VMH won countless awards for her garden design. She exhibited and won Gold many times at one of the most well - known horticultural shows; the Chelsea Flower Show, and these gardens are her life’s work in plants. Transformed from challenging terrain into beautiful gardens that provide a living demonstration of how plants thrive when they’re grown in the conditions that suit them best. Explore and be inspired!”

<https://www.bethchatto.co.uk/garden-nursery/>

For groups, the gardens offer half day visits so we will spend the afternoon there, with time to see the gardens, shop and enjoy tea or refreshments at the café.

Our day begins with a departure at 10:30 (exact time to be confirmed) from the Marquis of Granby Pub on the Portsmouth Road. You can buy food and drinks at the café at Beth Chatto’s, or you can bring your own. It’s probably a good idea to bring a lunchtime snack to eat on the way there. We will leave the garden at around 4:15, so back by about 6:30pm.

The day includes coach travel and entrance to the Beth Chatto Gardens.

To book, please complete the information on the booking form as soon as possible and no later than August 21 2023.

‘KNIT AND NATTER’

This is a new group which runs on Tuesdays at The Talbot House Cafe, St Nicholas Church Hall, Summer Road, Thames Ditton. All ages and abilities are welcome and can just turn up on the day with their knitting. 10.30am – 12 noon. Free to attend, coffee and cake are provided.