



September 2023

Dates for your Diary

Garden Talk Tuesday, 17 October 2024
AGM Tuesday, 28 November 2023, 7pm for 7.30pm start
Garden Talk Tuesday, 20 February 2024
Garden Talk Tuesday, 16 April
Garden Talk Tuesday, 18 June 2024
Annual Flower Show 2024 Saturday, 17 August 2024
Garden Talk Tuesday, 15 October 2024

Flower Show

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who exhibited at the show and congratulate you all on your exhibits. Also, our grateful thanks must go to the team from the Depot which every year transports tables and equipment to and from the depot to St Nicholas Church Hall as the hall does not have the required number of tables to stage the flower show. Then there are the volunteers who help to set up the show on the Friday evening and then break down the show on Saturday evening. Lastly but not least are the volunteers who help on the day, manning the tearoom and the donation of cakes, selling plants, and organising raffle prizes and selling raffle tickets.

I must say that every year I panic. Will we have enough entries, cakes and plants to sell, volunteers to help? But every year members rally round. Our show is always a huge success with rewarding feedback from exhibitors and visitors. Many thanks to you all for making our show this year a great success.



Certificates Awarded

Gerald Smith, National Dahlia Society Silver Certificate for the Best Dahlia in the Show

Nick Creedy, EMGS Certificate for the member with the most points in all classes

Vic Choules, EMGS Certificate for the member with the most points in Fruit Classes

Nick Creedy, EMGS Certificate for the member with the most points in Vegetable Classes

Ernest Mallett, EMGS Certificate for the member with most points in Baking and Preserving Classes

Basil Doobay, Best Novice – overall

Lynwood Road Allotments, Certificate for Best Vegetables Allotment Society (Class 67)

Lynwood Road Allotments, Mabs Hawley Cup, Allotment Society with most points gained by members

Banksian Medal for 2023, Vic Choules

2024 EMGS Flower Show

The 2024 EMGS Flower Show will be held on Saturday, 17 August. Let's start planning now. We would like to see many more members from Hampton Court Way, Hurst Road, Beauchamp Road and West End Allotments competing and challenging Lynwood Road. Our congratulations to Lynwood Road for winning the Mabs Hawley Cup in 2022 and 2023.

Photograph Classes for the Show

For 2024 we are reintroducing the photographic categories. The subjects will be **Autumn Colours, Wildlife and The Joys of Spring.**

Once again, many thanks to all our exhibitors and volunteers and I look forward to meeting you all again next year.

Jean Billett

AGM

This year's AGM will be held on Tuesday, 28 November 2023. We look forward to seeing you and would love to hear your comments about our events and any new ideas you may have for bringing members together socially.

Garden Talks

The final talk for the EMGS for 2023 will be given by Paul Patton on Tuesday 17th October, 7pm for 7.30pm at St. Nicholas Church Hall in Summer Road. His subject will be 'Autumn aspirations - looking forward to Spring', which will be preparing the garden in autumn for the following spring. We look forward to seeing you there.

EMGS Garden Days Out

As I write this, our Autumn trip to Beth Chatto's Garden on September 21st is still a few weeks away but plans for 2024 are already underway.

Thank you for your feedback and suggestions for future garden visits, which really help me to do my best to organise future days out that are appealing both to current members and attractive to new

joiners. Thank you too for inviting friends to join our trips, particularly as they often become active new members

So, for 2024, the focus of our visits will be to select gardens that are fairly local (about an hour away at most) and belong to the National Garden Scheme. So that I can arrange our own group visit, the gardens I choose offer the 'open by arrangement' facility and in addition to that I'm going for gardens that will serve refreshments and are also accessible partially or wholly by wheelchair. In this way, I hope that as a society we can enjoy affordable days out that are manageable for as many members as possible, also safe in the knowledge that our payments for entry to NGS gardens make a valuable contribution to charity.

At the moment I'm working my way through the NGS website with a view to finding 1 or 2 gardens for a spring time 'bulbs in-flower' day out and another 1 or 2 for a colourful late summer day. I've made a long list and as soon as I've contacted the owners for their advice about dates, I'll be able to advertise the details. Hoping that I've found some lovely locations in Hampshire that you haven't already been to!

Julia Jones. Juliajones22@icloud.com

Trading Notes

Thank you all for your continued support. It is great to see you when you visit us at the Trading hut.

We have just received delivery of the spring flowering bulbs so come and have a look at what we have before they all get sold. Also available are onion sets. Amaryllis bulbs and garlic bulbs are expected in the next week or so.

We are now taking orders for seed potatoes (**price list attached**) that will be ready for collection in February next year. Please place your orders now to make sure that you get the varieties and the quantities you need. Some people missed out last year as they forgot to order. We expect delivery in late January or early February. We have good stocks of Rosedale compost both ordinary and Peat Free. Those who have been buying Peat Free mostly say that the quality has improved since we first started selling it.

Please remember we take both credit and debit cards and there is no minimum purchase necessary or charge for this service.

Don't forget, if there is something that you are looking for and we don't stock it, please let me know and I will try and obtain it for you. We have got several special items for customers recently, so just ask. We want to stock items that you want.

New, and old, members may like to be reminded the EMGS Trading Depot is on the Beauchamp Road Allotment Site (entrance between 104 and 106 Beauchamp Road, East Molesey, KT8 0PH).

We are open on Sundays from 9.00 am to 11.00 am until and including the 26th November 2023. We then close over Christmas and New Year, reopening on Sunday 4th February 2024. We will also be opening on Wednesday evenings from 7.00pm till 8.00pm during the months of April, May and June in 2024.

A reminder that parking is limited when the depot is open, so please only bring your vehicle on site if you are purchasing anything heavy. Also please remember that there is a site speed limit of 5 mph for obvious reasons.

Drostan Stileman