



Gardening with hardy perennials

HAMPSHIRE GROUP NEWSLETTER

Number 89

Spring 2019



SPRING BLOOMS

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Front cover pictures: Galanthus 'Bertram Anderson', Tulipa 'Ballade', Narcissus 'Carlton', Crocus 'Pickwick' courtesy of Hardy Plant Society

Indoor meetings are charged at £2 per member (guests £5) and held at St. Boniface Centre, Hursley Road, Chandlers Ford, beginning at 7.30pm and preceded by tea and coffee. Where the speaker has brought plants for sale, these will be available after the talk.

Plant Labelling

We do our best at our Plant Sales and Raffles to ensure plant labelling is correct. Occasionally, plants are donated with the wrong plant name. Also, some plants grown from seed are not always marked accordingly and there is no certainty that they will come true, even when grown from HPS supplied seeds. The Society cannot always guarantee accuracy but we will continue to vet all labels to the best of our ability.

The opinions expressed by the authors are their personal views and not specifically endorsed by HPS Hampshire Group. All illustrations are copyright to the author of the article unless otherwise indicated. The editor reserves the right to edit contributions as necessary.

Contributions for the Summer edition of the Newsletter should be sent to the editor by 31st May 2019.

Editorial

Welcome to the spring newsletter. Chris Smith, who has edited the newsletter for the past five years, is now in the process of moving back to her home county of Yorkshire. A big thank-you Chris for all your efforts. Martin Ward has taken over as our newsletter editor but as he is away on a long holiday to New Zealand, Martin will start with the summer edition. So to fill the gap, I have put together this edition.

Martin will be very grateful for any articles or contributions, no matter how small. Here are some suggestions – news about how your own garden is progressing; have you had some great successes or perhaps failures; plants you can recommend or steer clear of; or some useful tips to help us all? Have you visited some interesting gardens, perhaps on holiday, or treasures of some out-of-the-way nursery or a foreign holiday with exotic plant life? We would all like to read about it. Perhaps you can help with a brief write-up of our programme of visits and open gardens? Pictures are also always welcome, and don't worry about the style and format, we can deal with that. This all makes for an interesting newsletter and your help will be most appreciated.

On the subject of help, several of our key committee members have retired or will do so later this year. As Mike, our Chairman, said at the AGM and in his thoughts in this newsletter, we urgently need someone to look after our outdoor garden events. Another person is also needed to look after our indoor meetings, working with Sue Hough this year and arranging the indoor programme for next year and beyond. Someone to arrange future coach trips and holidays is needed as Dawn is retiring at the next AGM. Unless these positions are filled fairly soon, the Group is in serious danger of folding, something which I am sure none of us would want to happen.

This edition of the newsletter includes write-ups of three of our garden visits from last year and two of our recent indoor meetings as well as a report on the AGM. There are still a few vacancies on the Kent holiday, details are on page 10 and please note also that the July meeting has regrettably been cancelled.

Peter Hart

Chairman's Thoughts

As we start a new year it is good to escape into the garden even if it is cold, if only to find certainty and beauty which seems sadly lacking at times in other aspects of life. Having just returned from two weeks spent on, and around, the Equator it is interesting to contrast life there with here, particularly after reading the RHS thoughts on the 2018 drought and lessons to be learned. I have to say that the thought of a standard 12-hour day and night sounds attractive, but then when you realise there is no variation during the year it loses something.



We can take the seasons for granted yet variation offers so much. Walking around our garden one is first met by the almost overpowering aroma of *Daphne bholua* 'Jacqueline Postill' followed by *Sarcococca confusa*. How do such tiny, almost insignificant flowers fill the air with such a delightful smell? Nothing in the tropical rain forest approaches either of them and they will flower their hearts out for some time to come before having a rest. By then other flowers appear to delight the senses. In the woods snowdrops abound around aconites and hellebores. Variety is again something special particularly as this year we have a small clump of *Galanthus plicatus* 'Wendy's Gold' which is such a contrast to *G. nivalis*, *G. nivalis* 'Flore Pleno', *G. elwesii* and *G. woronowii* which dominate the woodland.

Yes, our seasons are definitely an asset even if we do not know what they will actually bring.

As we move into 2019 I am reminded that we still have two key vacancies on the committee which we do need to fill to continue our terrific indoor programme and our garden visits and holidays. If you think you could help but feel it may be too much then job sharing may be the answer. Whichever way, we must fill the vacancies to ensure we can continue to thrive in 2020.

Mike Maunder

Garden visit to Paddy and Ben Parmee Sunday 10th June 2018

I had been very pleased with my own few candelabra primulas until I stepped into Ben and Paddy's garden and saw what a true mass display should look like, drawing the eye to the end of their long and fascinating garden, full of wonderful healthy and intriguing shrubs and plants. I definitely stood there feeling "ahhhh so that's how it should be done".

Paddy and Ben are enthusiastic knowledgeable planters, with a beautifully designed garden crammed with many delights. The design of the garden and the meticulous care lavished on all the plants shone with perfection on the day we visited.



candelabra primulas

The terrace provided the perfect spot for visitors to sit with teas and delicious cakes, admiring the view of all of the garden treasures.

Immediately below the heavily planted terrace, a steeply banked natural stream dissects the garden. After crossing the wooden bridge, visitors are led along attractive curving paths towards the many features and beds that this oasis contains; packed perennial beds, a large pond, thriving bog garden, a woodland area, fruit and vegetable beds, a large greenhouse with many intriguing delights, extensive alpine beds and an alpine house. There is extensive use of tufa stone in the alpine beds for used for growing saxifrages and other alpinists.

There is an extensive and impressive collection of sarracenia, *Iris ensata* and *Iris sibirica* and the aforementioned candelabra primulas in the bog garden. The overflow damp ditch running from the pond to the stream is edged with meconopsis (the Himalayan poppy) which is difficult to grow in the south of England.

As extraordinarily ardent ambassadors of the Alpine Garden Society, Ben and Paddy have magnificent alpine displays with each treasure carefully positioned to display it to its best advantage among its neighbours.

Jackie Jack

Garden visit to Brian and Janet Wilkins Sunday 17th June 2018

Rattling my usual collection box demanding the £3 entry fees, I was lucky enough to be stationed in the front garden of Janet and Brian's house, and so spent the entire three hours in the intoxicating scents of the *Philadelphus* 'Belle Etoile', pink spiraea and the variegated *Trachelospermum jasminoides* planted amongst the flowering perennials there.

The large and long back garden graduates from full sun into the relatively deep shade of the large mature trees on the bottom boundary, and so offered the visitors many ideas on what can be achieved with hard work, and an excellent eye for good planting.



The whole garden was studded with fascinating statuary, carefully positioned to highlight each bed. One of my particular favourites was the impish gargoyle beside the steps leading down from the terrace.

In the sunny area, the rose bushes were in full flower and the paths were lined with many flourishing perennials. There was a very productive "cutting garden" with an abundance of sweet peas, and promising shoots of dahlias and gladioli. The pond was full of water lilies and other interesting aquatics.

One of the shady areas in the garden sported a fabulous *Podophyllum versipelle* 'Spotty Dotty', while another area held a very healthy collection of heucheras and tiarellas. There was a lovely display of hostas and brunnera and a wonderful damp border with ferns and Rodgersia, in addition to a most impressive *Fatsia japonica* 'Spider's Web', which everyone admired. Another talking point was the very dark *Papaver somniferum* which had flowers as big as my palm.



Fatsia 'Spider's Web'

We all had a lovely day, and I was very grateful to be presented with a lovely bunch of sweet peas when I left.

Jackie Jack

Garden visit to Nancy Kay 15th September 2018

Nancy originally suggested opening her garden during April or May, but when she offered me a coffee and a chance to look around in September 2017, I was so impressed with the colour and diversity of her garden at that time I asked her to consider opening instead during September, as we have had so few late openings over the years. Of course, this cunning plan had not foreseen last year's horrendous heatwave and dry summer.



Lagerstroemia indica

I am not sure how Nancy managed it, but when we did visit, her garden was a real triumph! The quarter-acre garden contained a wealth of truly fascinating perennials and shrubs which have been planted and nurtured over the last 38 years. The apple and pear trees were laden with very healthy looking fruit, and the red corylus promised a great crop of hazelnuts.

The extensive gravel beds showed their value after the long dry summer with many healthy flowering plants and grasses. There was a particularly healthy *Loropetalum chinense* and a wonderful *Antennaria dioica* 'Rubra' which I envied. The pool was framed by a beautifully shaped *Catalpa bignonioides*, and an utterly gorgeous *Lagerstroemia indica*, which we were lucky to see in full bloom.

Nancy had her trusty RHS Plants and Flowers Encyclopaedia available for reference, as there were a number of more specialist plants. The perennial shrub that was most commented on was the *Amicia zygomeris*, while the *Zauschneria californica* 'Dublin' also attracted much attention.

Nancy was as generous as ever with her cuttings and seedlings, and I came home with a very healthy phyteuma.



Amicia zygomeris

Tea, coffee, cakes, plants to take home, and an afternoon of green-eyed envy is why HHPS Open Gardens are not to be missed!

Jackie Jack

More Special Snowdrops – Talk by Jim Almond

Galanthophiles gathered at our January meeting to listen to our snowdrop speaker! Jim Almond was certainly a passionate speaker and breeder of these special winter favourites and gave us a few tips on ones to grow and ones to avoid.

The latter refer largely to those appearing for exorbitant prices on the Internet – you may remember the plant advertised for £750 a few years ago which subsequently died! The price of a snowdrop of course depends upon how new/rare it is and usually goes down over time. Green Tea for example was £200 but is now available for £75 – the price of this will settle. His favourite, Godfrey Owen, which is a lovely double, retails at £20. As he pointed out, if you are buying a plant which will bunch up in a couple of years or so and which can then be divided; that is not really expensive.

His tips for growing snowdrops are:

- 1) Give some to a friend
- 2) Propagate
- 3) Lift and divide
- 4) Grow some in pots
- 5) Take photographs
- 6) Label carefully.

It seems that many in the world of galanthopy (not sure if that is a proper word – but you know what I mean I hope) increase their stock by swapping with others and that is very much in the spirit of the HPS!



Everything under the soil can be sensitive to frost. He recommends plunging the pots to avoid seasonal damage – but I wondered if that really defeated the point of having them in a pot? I suppose you can keep them in a frost-free greenhouse that way. We all know of gardens which are full of snowdrops at this time of year and many church yards are also brimming with them. This means that the area can't be mown for part of the year which may not be practical or desirable for everyone. A snowdrop's beauty is of course highlighted with a dose of apricity and we wouldn't be without these gems to give us hope for spring.

If you want to stop your new planted snowdrops from being picked

off by birds, then plant them 4-6 inches deep. This may seem deep for such a tiny bulb but it will grow quite happily. Slugs can of course be a problem.

If one snowdrop looks like another to you, then think again. Some have green ovaries, some yellow. Some are taller, have longer or more 'drooping stems' or more upright stems. There are singles and doubles; some may be green both on the inside and out. The white markings on the inside differ in size, colour and shape. Some will bunch and/or flower more easily than others. Good dependable names to look for are 'S.Arnett', 'Barnes', 'Augustus' and 'Magnet'. For rarer or more challenging plants, you can try 'Carolyn Elwes', 'Mrs Thompson', 'Irish Green', or 'Boyd's Double'. Other recommended varieties include 'John Gray', 'Bertram Anderson' and 'Percy Picton'. Jim left a list of the snowdrops that he mentioned in the talk. At over 3000 cultivars and growing, we wonder if anyone can claim to collect any more than a snip of the range available.

A really good evening enjoyed by all.

Helen Cleare

Adventures with Woodland Plants

Talk by Tim Ingram

After the AGM in November we were delighted to have Tim Ingram from Copton Ash Garden, who spoke to us about his garden and nursery near Canterbury. He runs both, which were started as a family business by his parents. The garden is based around rows of apple trees grown on loam over chalk which means that it is very dry during the summer. The apple trees are dwarf varieties of no more than 8 feet high although they are now over 40 years old. Who doesn't love an old apple tree for some character in their garden?

As Tim does not have many later flowering plants the garden looks at its best during winter and spring. He grows several bulbs as well as perennials. As a self-confessed obsessed galanthophile, his recommendations for snowdrops are: *Galanthus* 'Straffan' (very easy to grow and naturalise), Reverend Hailstone, *G. plicatus* 'Wendy's Gold' and *G. Richard Ayres*'.

Hellebores are also a great favourite including the green coloured

Helleborus viridis, which will keep flowering until Spring. This comes from France and other countries across Europe. Another green variety but less commonly seen is *H. dumetorum*, which is found in Hungary, Austria and Croatia. Hellebores are important to this garden as they take over from the snowdrops. As a contrast to the green varieties he also grows *H. x hybridus* 'Queen of the Night' which has beautiful dark red flowers. I had only heard of the tulip of the same name, which has been made very popular of the last few years. The colour spectrum for Hellebores also includes pink, white, yellow, magenta – some are hybrid and others double.

In Spring Tim has tried an early flowering saxifrage but the garden was too dry to make much success of these. Other plants grown include *Hacquetia epipactis* to provide sweet little lemony coloured flowers in spring and also tulips, trilliums, erythroniums and aquilegias. He favours *Epimedium* 'Spine Tingler' (known in the US as 'Sphinx Twinkler' !) and *E.* 'Pink Champagne'. Having researched these two further I think Spine Tingler is the better-looking plant.

Celandines, dicentras and brunneras then get to steal the show. Cow parsley appears in May, followed by hostas, geraniums and peonies in the summer along with self-seeding foxgloves. Tim likes *Hosta* 'Great Expectations' which has blue leaves with a bold golden-yellow centre that changes to off-white. The garden in late summer is then just left to do what it wants and it takes on a rather wild appearance.

The garden is open under the NGS scheme – see his website for dates. The nearest plant fair to Hampshire that he will be attending during 2019 is on the Alpine Garden Society Show on Saturday 19th May in Wimborne, Dorset.

Helen Cleare

Hampshire HPS on Facebook and Twitter

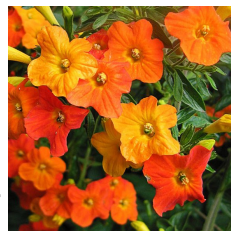
Hampshire HPS now has a presence on Facebook and Twitter and we are keen to promote our visibility to the public and encourage new members. If you are on Facebook please 'like' and 'follow' 'Hardy Plant Society - Hampshire Group'. We are also on Twitter under the same name. If you have photos of interesting plants for us to put on our FB page then please email them to our secretary,

Helen at hants@hardy-plant.org.uk. We use social media to encourage new members to attend our meetings, to link with other gardening organisations and individuals and to raise the profile of the society. If you would like us to promote gardening related stories or events that you are involved with, please let Helen know. We are keen to develop our social media presence to ensure that the wider community is aware of who we are, what we do and where and when we meet. Please support us if you can!

Helen Cleare

Gardenworthy Plants - *Streptosolen jamesonii*

Get your sunglasses out, because this is one bright plant! The Marmalade Bush, *Streptosolen jamesonii*, is a rare single species bush that's smothered in cheerful flowers throughout the year. It is an evergreen shrub that produces loose clusters of flowers, gradually changing from yellow to red as they develop, resulting in an overall appearance resembling orange marmalade. It has wrinkly ovate to elliptical dark green leaves about 4cms long. The shrub flowers from late spring to late summer and is found in the open woodlands of Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. The inch-long trumpet-shaped blooms are a riot of colours, ranging from yellow to orange to red. A great shrub which is easy to grow. The bush requires winter protection in a temperate greenhouse or conservatory and should be watered sparingly.



Peter Schofield

Propagation workshop – Saturday 4 May

We will be holding a Propagation Workshop on Saturday 4th May from 10am to 12:30pm. Mike and Jenny Maunder have kindly agreed to use their splendid barn at Hill Farm House, Droxford Road, Swanmore SO32 2PY. £10 per person includes the cost of all material and refreshments but bring your favourite secateurs and a gardening knife. The maximum number of places is 12.

Come and spend a morning with enthusiastic gardening folk. Share some thoughts, skills, plant propagation ideas, with a 'hands-on session' and come away with the fruits of your labours. Whether

you are new to plant propagation or are skilled in the art, it will be suitable for everyone. The workshop will be run by Jenny Maunder and Olenka Snell. Email or phone Olenka or Jenny if you are interested.

olenka100@hotmail.co.uk - - - - - tel 07715105436

jenny.maunder@btinternet.com - - - tel 01489 878722

Olenka Snell

Hampshire HPS Holiday to Kent 16 - 18 June

This year for the HHPS holiday we will be visiting Kent and we will be staying at the Mercure Tunbridge Wells Hotel. The cost of the holiday will be £265 pp, but for those of you who would prefer a twin room for single occupancy there would be an extra charge of £25 per night so the holiday price would be £315. The price includes coach travel, entry to the gardens, b/b and a three course evening meal at the hotel for 2 nights, plus some teas/biscuits/cakes at some of the gardens. Also included in the price of the holiday is the tip for the driver, but hotel tips are at the discretion of individuals. One of the gardens we will be visiting is a National Trust garden, so if you are not a NT member there would be an extra charge of £13.10 on top of the holiday price. THERE ARE JUST SIX PLACES LEFT, so if you would like to book a place, please email me at dawndavina6@yahoo.co.uk and I will send you a booking form.

These are gardens we will be visiting:

DAY 1

CAXTON HOUSE, Reigate, Surrey - A lovely 7-acre garden with an arboretum, well stocked beds, prairie planting and a gothic folly.

TIMBERS, Maidstone, Kent - A 5-acre garden surrounding a house built in the Arts and Craft style. Extensive herbaceous borders enclosed by yew hedging, a formal box parterre garden, wildflower meadow and specimen trees.

NETTLESTEAD PLACE, Nettlestead, Kent - C13 Manor house in 10-acre plantsman's garden. A stunning arrangement of formal and informal gardens awarded a star rating in Good Garden's Guide.

DAY 2



Nettlestead Place



Merriments Garden

MERRI-MENTS GAR-DENS,

Kent - 4 acres of creative design and striking planting. Deep sweeping borders giving a long season of colour. Featured on BBC Gardeners World and other television shows and in gardening magazines. Plant sales in the nursery.

SISSINGHURST CASTLE GARDEN (NT) Kent - One of Britain's most renowned gardens with its series of stylized outdoor rooms created among the ruins of a moated Tudor manor in the 1930s by poet and novelist Vita Sackville-West and her husband, writer and diplomat, Harold Nicolson.

MADRONA NURSERY, Kent - Madrona is a specialist nursery offering a wide range of unusual trees, shrubs and perennials.

DAY 3

LEYDENS, Kent - A small private garden of garden designer, nursery owner and author Roger Platts, who created 3 gold medal Chelsea gardens including Best in Show, and People's Choice.

DURRANCE MANOR, Sussex - A 2-acre garden, surrounding a Medieval Hall House. There are many different gardens including long borders, Japanese inspired gardens, large pond, and wild flower meadow.



Durrance Manor Garden

UPWALTHAM BARNs, Sussex - A unique farm setting that has been transformed into a garden of many rooms. Includes a walled, terraced garden, extensive vegetable garden and fine views.

Dawn Trenchard

Hampshire HPS Conservation Scheme

The members of the Conservation group have been very busy. Enthusiasm and a strong willingness to look after and propagate Hampshire Conservation plants and the new plants brought back from the National Group meeting, shows that the group is thriving! As the Spring season approaches it's time to be thinking about propagation again!

Sue Hough and I travelled up to the National meeting last year in September and not only brought back several plants not grown by the Hampshire scheme, but also introduced to National several of the Hampshire scheme plants.

Plants brought from National this time were, *Bergenia* 'Pugsley's Pink', *Iris* 'Peter Hewitt', *Erigeron* 'Sincerity', *Erysimum* 'Ruston Royal', *Heuchera sanguinea* 'Snowflakes', *Persicaria runcinata* 'Needham's Form', and *Symphytotrichum* 'Farncombe Lilac'. These along with 13 other plants are now grown both in Hampshire and by the National scheme.

The aim now is to introduce to National the huge variety of rare plants currently grown by Hampshire, collected by Hampshire members, and introduced to our scheme over the past 25 years. These plants have historical significance and are now little grown by garden centres and nurseries, as new plant trends drive the commercial side of the business.

To introduce a plant to the National Conservation Scheme, needs a minimum of 5 plants of each variety to be propagated. This enables growers from other Counties to take the plants to their members. Growers propagate the plants to increase circulation across the country. We took four Hampshire plants to National this time.

***Chrysanthemum* 'Romantica'.**



© Hardy Plant Society

These were snapped up, as being a late flowering smaller variety, it is a valuable addition to the Autumn garden.

The flowers are sprays of soft-pink semi-pompom 3cm flowers with a darker pink centre, fading to cream.

***Phlox paniculata* 'Bosvigo Pink'**



© Olenka Snell

This was the first plant that I took from the Conservation meeting and I found it easy to propagate. It is a vigorous grower in my enriched clay garden and I now have several clumps of it giving scent and colour over a long period. Spotted growing in Bosvigo Gardens, Cornwall in the 1990's by HPS members Sue Ward and Jennifer Harmer and named by Jennifer after the garden.

***Phlox paniculata* 'Lady Clare'**



This phlox has very pale lilac-pink flowers which are scented and have a softly deeper eye. Not as vigorous as the phlox above but it stands out with its beautiful inflorescence, almost toppling over in its eagerness to shine. More flower than foliage on this plant! Staking is needed in my garden!

***Penstemon* 'Margery Fish',**



© Hardy Plant Society

A few flowers still lingered on these plants last September, and the National Group relished the chance to propagate and grow this plant again. This plant was included in the Hampshire scheme being originally displayed at a HPS event called 'Look who's in the Garden'.

A request from National Collection holders for MISSING plants.

Both *Chrysanthemum* 'Albert's Yellow' and *Hesperantha coccinea* 'Crawshaw Chance' have been lost by all National Collection holders. If you grow either of these plants please let Olenka or Sue know so that we can begin to propagate them for return to the Collection Holders.

Finally I am looking forward to a good growing and gardening year with less extreme weather than last year! I will soon be sending the new updated Conservation checklist out to Conservation group members to help you choose and propagate plants for our September 7th plant exchange meeting. If you would like to join the conservation group please see Sue Hough or myself at one of the monthly meetings. You will be most welcome!

Minutes of the 30th Annual General Meeting of the Hampshire Group of the Hardy Plant Society held at St. Boniface Church Centre on 16th November 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: Mike Maunder (Chairman), Peter Hart (Treasurer), Helen Cleare (Secretary) and group members.

1. **Welcome:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for coming.

2. **Apologies:** Barry Cubbage, Sheila Cubbage, Dawn Trenchard, Julie Willis, Chris Pointer, Eileen Pointer, Diana Filmer, Chris James, Jo James, Olenka Snell, Joy Couper and Chris Smith.

3. **Minutes** of the Annual General Meeting held on Friday 17th November 2017 having been printed in the Spring Newsletter were taken as read and signed by the Chairman.

4. **Matters Arising:** None

5. Chairman's Report:

Mike Maunder said that the group had had a good year with many trips and visits organised. He thanked Dawn Trenchard for organising the holiday. Olenka Snell's work in running the conservation group had been a continuing success. We unfortunately had to cancel the Study Day due to Dan Hinkley being unable to attend. We were most grateful to Sue Hough and her team for the work undertaken in organising the day.

There were changes to the committee. Christine Smith was leaving as she was moving and so there was a vacancy in running the newsletter. Anyone with PC skills was encouraged to volunteer for this role. Sue Hough would be leaving the committee at the next AGM and so a volunteer was needed to book the speakers for the meetings. Sue would offer to train her replacement.

Dawn Trenchard was organising the holiday for 2019 and as she was currently unwell, Jackie Jack was the contact for this. Dawn had also advised that she would be resigning from the committee at

the 2019 AGM so a replacement was needed.

All members were urged to let Roret Blue have their email address if they had not already done so. All committee members were thanked for the work that they had done throughout the year. As a Group we urgently need new committee members and helpers if the Group is to continue in 2020. Mike thanked those who had already volunteered as helpers.

6. Treasurer's Report:

The accounts were circulated at the meeting, they had been split into 'core activities' and 'special activities'. Income was down a little in 'core activities' but so was expenditure. The most expensive item were speakers. The miscellaneous figure referred to the new audio system.

With regards to 'special activities' the snapshot gives a distorted view as expenditure takes place before income. Had the Study Day run, we would have had a healthy surplus. We need to run extra events like this in order to make a surplus.

The accounts were proposed as accepted by Jennifer Harmer and Eileen Collins and all group members were in favour by a show of hands.

7. Election of Officers:

Chairman: Mike Maunder – proposed by Valerie Roberts, seconded by Peter Schofield and unanimously elected.

Vice Chairman: Peter Schofield – proposed by Sue Hough, seconded by Anne Lyman and duly elected.

Treasurer: Peter Hart – proposed by Jenny Maunder, seconded by Margaret Pallant and duly elected.

Secretary: Helen Cleare – proposed by Roret Blue, seconded by Pat Gormley and duly elected.

8. Election of Committee:

Existing committee members comprising Roret Blue, Sue Hough, Dawn Trenchard, Linda Ham and Olenka Snell all agreed to stand for a further year and were proposed en bloc by Valerie Roberts, seconded by Mark Lyman and duly elected.

9. Election of Auditor:

The existing auditor Brian Collins had agreed to continue and was proposed by Sue Hough, seconded by Mark Lyman and duly elected as the Auditor.

11. Any Other Business:

Three members of the committee had resigned: Jackie Jack, Christine Smith and Joy Couper. Jackie Jack was thanked for her hard work in organising the garden visits, collecting money and making cakes. She was given a token of appreciation by the group.

Mike Maunder called for new committee members to come forward as there had been no nominations to replace those who had left. Outstanding roles to fill were the arrangement of: indoor meetings, garden visits, holidays, day trips and open gardens; and the newsletter. There was a concern that we might not have enough committee members to run the group in the future. Joy Couper and Chris Smith were thanked in absentia for their work on the committee.

Margaret Pallant was thanked for organising teas and coffees at each meeting and presented with a token of appreciation.

12. Date and location of next AGM:

This will be held on Friday 17th November 2019 at 7.30pm at St. Boniface Church Centre.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm followed by a talk by Tim Ingram.

Forthcoming Events

Friday 15th March at 7.30 pm - 'Peonies and Irises' a talk by Susannah Applegate.

Susannah's talk will include colourful photographs of Peonies and Irises in flower, description of flower types and practical 'hands on' demonstration of how to optimize the flowering potential of these lovely plants.

Susannah was formerly Production Manager for Kelways Nursery. Since 2007 is Managing Director of her own commercial nursery.

Friday 26th April at 7.30 pm - 'Women and the National Trust' a talk by Judith Plante-Cleall.

Judith will give us an insight into women's contribution to the National Trust which includes wonderful slides to illustrate the topic.

Saturday 4th May 10.00am - 12.30pm - Propagation Workshop.
See page 9

Saturday 1st June 2.00 - 4.30pm - Garden visit: Dower House, Springvale Road, Headbourne Worthy, Winchester SO23 7LD

Saturday 6th July 2.00 - 5.00pm - Garden visit: Roret Blue, 40 Raymond Road, Shirley, Southampton SO15 5AL

Friday 19th July 2019 - This meeting has been cancelled.

Saturday 7th September 10.00am - 12.00am - Conservation Group meeting. St. Boniface Centre.

Friday 20th September 2019 at 7.30 pm - 'Making the most of your Bulbs' at talk by John Gibson.

John is a RHS Daffodil Society speaker and judge and a member of the RHS bulb committee. He has been hybridizing daffodils for over thirty years and runs a mail order bulb business. His talk will cover Daffodils, Tulips, Hyacinths and other bulbs including propagation, planting and growing conditions.

Friday 18th October 2019 at 7.30 pm - '51 Years of Ashwood Specialties' a talk by Howard Dury

Howard's His talk will look at the many speciality plants such as cyclamen, Lewisias, Primulas, Salvias, Hydrangeas, Hepaticas and Anemones which Ashwood Nurseries have developed and how to grow them in your garden or greenhouse.

Friday 15th November 2019 at 7.30 pm - AGM followed by **'Hampshire Group's Holidays 2018 and 2019'** a talk by Dawn Trenchard.

Including bring and eat refreshments.

Saturday 18th January 2020 at 2.30 pm (Please note this is a Saturday afternoon meeting) - **'Growing Old Fashioned Flowers'** a talk by David Standing

Hampshire Group Committee Members

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