



Open Garden – Sunday 9th August 2-5pm



Becky Getgood will be opening her garden for the Group on Sunday 9th August. There will be plants for sale, and you are welcome to bring your own refreshments as, due to Covid19, we cannot serve tea and cake. There is seating and plenty of room to social distance and we will use an entry timeslot booking system, which has worked well at previous garden openings. Toilet available. You can spend as long as you like in the garden so please come and enjoy the afternoon. Entry £4. Please place exact cash or a cheque in the honesty box at the entrance.



If you would like to attend, please contact Becky Getgood for an entry timeslot stating how many people are in your group. Becky's contact details are:

Email: r.a.schofield@btopenworld.com

Phone: 01264 889413; Mobile: 07894 870630

Garden Description. The garden has been developed, bit by bit over the past 8 years, from rough scrubby grass with lots of Laurel planted by the previous owners. The soil is shallow well drained chalk with a high pH and plants have been chosen for these conditions. It is also very exposed. We have a wildlife pond, mixed perennial and shrub borders, shade bed, greenhouse and small raised bed area for fruit and veg. Annuals are used to fill gaps in the newer areas, which also allows colour schemes to be changed throughout the year. I garden for wildlife, so it has a relaxed feel and beneficial wildflowers are incorporated or tolerated. This year I've been growing various umbels (Apiaceae family), including perennial *Seseli libanotis* (a rare native in the UK found on chalkland) and trying prairie plants such as *Ratibida* and *Heliopsis*. Current favourites in the garden are *Nepeta nuda* 'Romany Dusk', tall with upright dark stems, and *Salvia* 'African Skies', hardy in the garden but amazing too in pots.

Conservation Group Meeting 12th September – **Cancelled**

September Indoor Meeting - Friday 18th September

This meeting is likely to be an evening Zoom Meeting with our scheduled speaker Graham Blunt talking about "Growing Exotics" Details will be in the next Snippets.

HHPS Tea Party – Sunday 20th September

Mike and Jenny Maunder are inviting everyone to an afternoon HHPS Tea Party in their garden. Plenty of room to social distance but at the same time an opportunity to catch-up with people who you may not have seen for 6 months! More details to follow.

September Autumn Coach Trip

We are still taking names for people who want to go on this trip. However, we will take the final decision in August based on the current advice and feedback from the various venues. Full details on the [HHPS Web Site](#).

Fantastic Open Gardens

Over the last 2 months we have had two excellent open garden events, both attended by around 30 people over the period of the afternoon. A full writeup will be in the next Newsletter however it was wonderful to see Valerie and David Menzies' relatively new, yet quickly maturing, super garden, along with the beautifully established garden of Patricia Elkington. With many interesting plants and knowledgeable owners, the experience was enjoyed by all who attended. On a social note, it was lovely to catch up with other members in a spacious environment. The arrival timeslots meant that there were no queues at the gate, yet there was plenty of time to linger over the planting and to take a socially distanced seat to have a natter.

Bamboo at Hillier's Arboretum

If anyone has been to Hillier's recently, they may have seen this amazing botanical phenomenon. This of course would happen while the gardens were in lockdown and may not happen again for many years! Now open appointment only.

Did you know?

Bamboos flower for several years and only once in their life and then they die. Seeds from the flowers continue their survival ensuring the plant is not lost.



"One of the many amazing facts about bamboo is that when one flowers, every single bamboo of the same species flowers across the entire planet. So while we are looking at this *Chusquea culeou* bursting forth with grassy blooms we know that all the *Chusquea* are doing the same whether it's in Chile, the Chilterns or Chattanooga!"

National Hardy Plant Society

As part of a Strategic Review process HPS members are invited to take part in a membership survey. Your answers will help the Society understand what you like (or don't like) about the HPS and give you the chance to play a part in shaping the future of the Society. All the details on the HPS website <https://www.hardy-plant.org.uk/>

Hampshire Hardy Plant Website

Please take a look at the new website – lots of pictures and information to browse

<http://hants-hardy-plants.org.uk/>

THE GARDENERS' HYMN

*All things spray and swatatable,
Disasters great and small,
All things Paraquatable,
The Lord God made them all.*

*But what we never mention,
Though gardeners know it's true
Is when He made the 'goodies',
He made the 'baddies' too.*

*The greenfly on the roses,
The maggots in the peas
Manure that fills our noses,
He also gave us these.*

*The fungus on the goosegogs,
The clubroot in the greens,
The slugs that eat the lettuce
And chew the aubergines*

*The drought that kills the
Fuchsias,
The frost that nips the bud
The rain that drowns the seedlings,
The blight that hits the spuds.*

*The midges and mosquitos,
The nettles and the weeds,
The pigeons in the green stuff,
The sparrows on the seeds.*

*The fly that gets the carrots,
The wasps that eat the plums,
How black the gardener's outlook,
Though green may be his thumbs*

*But still we gardeners labour,
Midst vegetables and flowers
And pray what hits our neighbours,
Will somehow pass us by.*

*All things spray and swatatable,
Disasters great and small,
All things Paraquatable,
The Lord God made them all.*

Courtesy of Valerie Roberts