

New Membership Secretary

We are pleased to welcome Jilly Easterby as our new Membership Secretary.

A former Head of Public Affairs at Falmouth University, Jilly is an Accredited Practitioner of the Chartered Institute of Public Relations, the founding Director of Curlew PR Limited and brings a wealth of experience in strategic communications and stakeholder engagement to the Society. During the summer months, Jilly has been adding a little polish and sparkle to our membership database, streamlining some of our processes and acquainting herself with the rhythm of the Society's year.

If you have any queries about your membership of the Society, or if you know of anyone who either hasn't been receiving the Society's newsletters, or who would like to join us, Jilly can be contacted via the following channels:

Address: Charnwood, Burnthouse, St Gluvias, Penryn, Cornwall TR10 9AS

Email: membership@cornwallgardensociety.org.uk

Telephone (between 10am and 5pm, Monday to Friday): 07743 164434

News from the Affiliated Societies

Hearty congratulations to the winners of Cornwall Garden Society Gold and Silver Gilt Medal Certificates that were awarded at the annual shows of six of our Affiliated Societies this Summer. Mrs Hilary Kilborn was awarded Gold at the St Germans Flower and Vegetable Show on Saturday 18 July 2015 for Best Exhibit in the Flower Section for her entry in the 'Six Fuchsias on a Board, one or more variety' category. All six fuchsias were 'Lady Boothby,' a most vigorous variety that thrives in Mrs Kilborn's garden. Mrs Heather Harper was awarded Gold at the St Cleer Garden Club Show on Saturday 1 August 2015 for the elaborately embroidered bag that she entered in the 'Handicraft - Canvas Work' category, which was much admired. On the same date, at the Lerryn & District Produce Show, Mr Brian Philp was awarded Gold for his entry in the 'Vegetables for a Sunday Roast' category, which was Best Exhibit in Show, whilst Mrs Dawn Clark claimed the Silver Gilt for her tomatoes, which won Second Best Exhibit in Show. Also on the same day, Mr Rob Badcock won Gold for his collection of potatoes at the Stoke Climsland Show. At the St Tudy Garden Produce Association Late Summer Show held on Saturday 12 September 2015, the Gold winner was Mr Raymond Jago for his outstanding display of 24 onions and the Silver Gilt was awarded to Mrs Jane Miller for her potted dipladenia, which was again, a wonderful example. On the same date, at the Lostwithiel Garden Society Show, Mr Roy Knight was awarded Gold for his flawless white dahlia, which won Best Exhibit in the flower classes.

All winners will receive one year's individual membership of the Cornwall Garden Society (valid from 1 January to 31 December 2016) and we look forward to welcoming them to our events.



St Tudy Garden
Produce Association
Gold winner

Mr Raymond Jago,
with his outstanding
onions.

Photo credit:
Mr Bob King.

C.G.S. Contacts

Please be sure to update your records when changes are made.

President: Mrs Elizabeth Prideaux-Brune
Prideaux Place, Padstow PL28 8RP

Chairman: Mr Andrew Leslie, Ethy House, Lerryn, Lostwithiel, PL22 0NF
Tel: 01208 872770. E-mail: andrew.leslie@mac.com
Vice Chairman: Mrs Judith Hancock Tel: 01872 862904
E-mail judith.hancock@keme.co.uk.

Hon. Treasurer: Mr Giles Bingley, Nantellan, Grampond, Truro TR2 4RD
Tel: 01726 882443. E-mail: giles@willsbingley.com

Self Drive Visits:

Mrs Caroline Hooper Tel: 01208 851315. E-mail: pencajer@hotmail.com
Mrs Caroline Rucker Tel: 01566 86126. E-mail: mortarbee@gmail.com

Show Director: Mr Martin Pallett, 19 Sea Road, Carlyon Bay, St Austell
PL25 3SF Tel: 01726 817346 / 07734 366504
E-mail: showdirector@cornwallflowershow.co.uk

Membership Secretary: Jilly Easterby, Charnwood, Burnthouse
St Gluvias, Penryn, Cornwall TR10 9AS

Email: membership@cornwallgardensociety.org.uk

Telephone (between 10am and 5pm, Monday to Friday): 07743 164434

Lectures: Lady Banham. MBE

Mrs Elizabeth Wilton, Akebia Cottage, 2 Paul's Row, Truro TR1 1HH
Tel: 01872 270854. E-mail: elizabeth.wilton1@btinternet.com

Tours/Outings Team:

Mrs Alison Davy, Creek Lodge, St Just-in-Roseland, Cornwall TR2 5JD
Tel: 01326 270990 E-mail: adavymeridian@gmail.com

Journal: Mr Charles Francis, The Wagon House, Heligan Manor, St Ewe, Cornwall
PL26 6EW Tel: 01726 844505 E-mail: thewagonhouse@mac.com

The 2016 Programme Booklet will be **Included with your December Newsletter.**

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PL26 6EW Tel: 01726 844505 E-mail: thewagonhouse@mac.com

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THE CORNWALL GARDEN SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER 65 DECEMBER 2015

www.cornwallgardensociety.org.uk

AFFILIATED TO THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
PATRON: HRH THE PRINCE OF WALES

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1094859
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Chairman's Corner

What a tragic end to the year, with the sad death of Anthony Fortescue. Please see below for our tribute.

I am pleased to report that our Membership Secretary, Jilly Easterby, is doing a great job, tidying up the various loose ends that had appeared in the database, which will mean a much smoother members' renewal. It will also mean that all members will receive the Newsletter and details of outings etc on time.

The Lecture season got off to a flying start with fascinating lectures from Tony Kirkham and Chris Beardshaw. There are many more excellent ones coming up and we much look forward to seeing you at those.

If I do not see you at the Christmas Lunch, may I take this opportunity of wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and successful gardening New Year!

Andrew Leslie Chairman



Anthony Fortescue.

It is with great shock and sadness that we hear of the untimely death of Anthony Fortescue.

He was a huge supporter of the CGS, hosting our Annual Spring Flower Show at his beautiful Boconnoc Estate. During the setting up and of course during the Show weekend, he was always there with a welcome and a smile for everyone. He will be sorely missed by all his many friends in the CGS.

Our most heartfelt sympathy and sorrow go out to his family, particularly to his wife Elizabeth and his daughters Clare and Sarah.

Anthony Fortescue 1946 -2015 High Sheriff of Cornwall



CGS SPRING FLOWER SHOW

Saturday, April 2nd and Sunday, April 3rd
Boconnoc, near Lostwithiel

See inside for more details and save
money by buying tickets in advance

CGS Coach Tours and Holidays 2016

Wednesday 27th April

Coach visit to Sidbury Manor and Killerton

Tuesday 24th May

Coach visit to Elworthy Cottage and Nursery and Hartwood House, Crowcombe.

Friday 10th June – Wednesday 15th June

Coach Tour to The Gardens of Normandy
48 Members booked on this Holiday

Wednesday 13th July

Coach visit to Venn Cross Railway Gardens and Hestercombe.

Monday 5th September – Friday 9th September

Coach Tour to the gardens of North Wales

Tuesday 20th September

Coach visit to South Wood Farm, Cotleigh and Forde Abbey



2015 Self Drive Visits

Thanks to the owners who kindly opened for us and the many members and their friends who joined our visits, we had another very enjoyable year. Even the weather was pretty kind to us.

We are however, to some extent dependent on our members for tips about new gardens to visit, garden projects in progress and sometimes the rebirth of a garden, which is being lovingly restored by new owners. If you are one of those, we are very glad to hear from you – so please don't be shy - because one garden often leads to another in the same area and another interesting visit is born! Please keep the suggestions coming, because without you our job would be so much more difficult.

We have already experienced some difficulty for next year with three potential visits cancelled at relatively short notice. Although we usually have some up our sleeves it can be difficult to match two places in the same area, which is our way of making the visits open to as many people as possible – without swamping any one garden. We do try very hard to move the visits around the county, so again we are indebted to all of you for widening our knowledge of places we don't know.

We begin next year, in early March with a visit to Tregothnan. Many of you may know something of the garden from other events there but this is the first time we have been invited by the owners and we are looking forward to some wonderful early spring colour with knowledgeable guides and a chance to try our hands at a little tea blending. On a cold day that will be a very enjoyable experience.

We look forward to welcoming as many people as we can again next year. Just remember to book early.

With our best wishes for a happy Christmas from the Two Carolines



Seasonal Report from Trelissick Garden. Text & photo by Thomas Clarke Assistant Head Gardener

With winter fast approaching the days shorten, bringing dark mornings and longer nights, this of course triggers a change in both the atmosphere in the garden and the emphasis of our work, from maintaining and manicuring the garden as we do in the spring and summer to attacking some of our larger winter projects. People always naively ask what do we find to do in the winter, (as all keen gardeners know all too well, you can be even busier in the winter months than any other time of year !!) This year, as many of you that that visited Trelissick recently will have seen, we started by dismantling a very large Pinus Radiata (Monterey pine) above the water tower, we have been monitoring its decline closely over the last few years and when a cauliflower fungus (*Sprasis crispa*) was spotted on its root system it was time for it to go!! The fungus rots the root plate but leaves the stem intact, making it dangerously unstable and hard to detect the damage it is doing internally. The good news is that a young pine planted nearby many years ago as a replacement is now doing really well and will soon have the same impact as its predecessor on the Trelissick skyline. We have also been busy looking after our lawns with a programme of scarifying and feeding before the lawns go dormant for the winter. A large consignment of rare trees and shrubs have just arrived last week from the NT's plant conservation centre located at a top secret site in darkest Devon!!! Ensuring the gardens here at Trelissick continue to flourish for many years to come.



The Cornwall Spring Flower Show 2016 - a celebration of Cornish excellence

Preparations are well underway for Cornwall's annual Spring Flower Show which takes place in the magnificent grounds of Boconnoc House, Lostwithiel, on Saturday, April 2nd and Sunday, April 3rd. The theme for 2016 will be Celebrating Cornish Excellence with a line-up showcasing Cornish talent, Cornish gardens and Cornish produce.

Darren Hawkes - one of the county's most distinguished garden designers and Royal Horticultural Society Chelsea Gold Medal winner, 2015 - will open the event and take part in the extremely popular Gardeners' Questions event. With Darren on the panel will be Jim Buttress of BBC TV's Allotment Challenge. The Show's master class programme is also taking shape. On Saturday, a head gardeners' forum, hosted by well-known broadcaster Tim Hubbard, will feature a line-up of the county's most knowledgeable gardeners representing our finest gardens. On Sunday, local horticultural experts Nutty Lim and Trevor Wiltshire will host a master class about entering competitive classes.

A selection of the county's best traders have already confirmed they will attend the show as well as some of the best nurseries - including the prestigious Crug Farm Plants from North Wales.

Army cadets will be on hand to take the strain again with even more wheelbarrows, ready and willing to transport visitors' purchases back to their cars. Feedback from this year's show highlighted the fact that some people find the walk from the car park to the show ground quite long. In response, the organisers have arranged a minibus to take people with mobility issues from the car park to the main entrance and back.

There's good news about ticket prices too. In 2014 ticket costs were reduced. Those prices were frozen in 2015 and will remain the same in 2016. Advance tickets can be purchased through the Cornish Riviera Box Office, telephone: 01726 879500, online at www.crbo.co.uk or via the QR Code in the bottom right corner of this page.

"The show is shaping up well," said Show Director, Martin Pallett. "If it's to be a true reflection of the Cornish horticultural standard it must be excellent."

Volunteers needed for the Cornwall Spring Flower Show 2016

Organisers of the county's most prestigious horticultural event, hailed by The Daily Telegraph as 'the Chelsea of the South West', are recruiting volunteers to help ensure that the Cornwall Garden Society's Spring Show enjoys even greater success in 2016. Several key positions need to be filled, as well as a number of more general roles.

In conjunction with the National Trust, the society is launching a new Bring a Bloom competition as part of the event, which aims to encourage those who are new to exhibiting to enter competitive classes.

"We need a coordinator as a point of contact for exhibitors before the show," said Show Director, Martin Pallett. "Someone with exhibiting experience would be ideal, but it's not essential, so we'd like to hear from anyone who is enthusiastic, has an eye for detail and is interested in participating."

Trade stands are an integral part of the show and the tradestand coordinator needs two people to assist in 2016 with a view to taking over the role in 2017. Tasks will include a mix of the administrative and the practical - taking bookings, marking pitches, welcoming traders on arrival, helping them during set-up week and overseeing them during the Show.

The Society's chief carpenter is planning to retire after the 2016 Show so a new incumbent is needed to work alongside him this year to learn the role.

Volunteers are also needed to help run the shuttle service between the car park and the Show-ground by driving mini-buses. The only requirement is a normal driving licence that includes a 'D' category, as basic training will be provided.

Lots of volunteers are also needed to help with more general tasks throughout set-up week and during the Show - such as stewarding, car parking, and running the raffle.

"The Show just couldn't happen without the generous efforts of our team of volunteers," adds Martin Pallett, "so please consider whether you could help with any of the above tasks and let us know if you would like to join in."

For further information about volunteering, please contact Debbie Evans on 07525 411774 / 01209 710787 or email volunteer@cornwallgardensociety.org.uk.

To find out more about Cornwall Garden Society and all the benefits that being a member has to offer, please visit www.cornwallgardensociety.org.uk



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QR Code for Show Tickets

