

Aston Clinton, Buckland & Drayton Beauchamp Horticultural Society

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President Mrs Lorna Price



February 2021
Chairman Diane Kolonko

Hello everyone,

Hope you're all keeping safe and well. Have you managed to get out in the garden or your allotment? The weather has been rather changeable and the ground is very wet, but we have had a few mild days, perfect for a bit of clearing or pruning! It will be time to get your seeds planted soon - I usually sow celeriac January/February. They do have a long growing cycle, so you need to start early to get them to a reasonable size. We'd love to see what you're growing - feel free to post your photos in our Facebook group, or send in photos via our email address - news@astonclintonhorticulturalsociety.co.uk.

I'd like to welcome Rachel Mellor to the committee. Rachel loves her plants and already provides us with lots for our plant sales! If anyone else would like to join the committee, or help out with anything, please get in touch.

Unfortunately, due to the covid restrictions, we are still unable to hold our monthly meetings. However, we have decided to try some talks via Zoom in place of the meetings and have managed to book some interesting speakers. We're starting off with Catherine Jones from Sunnyside Rural Trust Charity, on Wednesday 10 February. Sunnyside is a thriving charity and social enterprise, based in Dacorum, offering training and work experience for vulnerable people. They provide training for those with learning disabilities to acquire skills in a number of rural activities. These include beekeeping, looking after chickens, growing a wide range of plants and produce, landscaping and garden maintenance.

The Zoom talks are free to all members but we will need an email address from you, if you would like to attend the meetings. Please email Ken Halls on kandjhalls@btinternet.com if we do not already have your email address and you would like to attend.

We hoping to be able to have other events and garden visits during the year - these will be subject to covid restrictions, so we will confirm details of events as we go through the year. We've included the plan for the year as part of this newsletter.

I am delighted to inform you that Sue Lipscomb and John Seaton have agreed to become honorary vice presidents of our Society, and have agreed to stay committee members.

Look forward to seeing you soon

Diane Kolonko

List of Events 2021

Please note that all events are subject to change, depending on Covid restrictions. Updates & additional information on events will be communicated regularly via Newsletter, Email and Facebook.

- Wed 20 January, 8pm, AGM on Zoom
- Wed 10 February, 8pm, Zoom Talk, "Sunnyside Rural Trust Charity – Community, Horticulture, Sustainability", Catherine Jones
- Wed 10 March, 8pm, Zoom Talk, "Spectacular Containers for Year-round Colour", Sue Fisher
- Saturday 10 April, Plant sale & Daffodil displays. Further details to be confirmed closer to the time. **NOTE that this is in place of the Spring Show which has been regrettably cancelled this year. Also see proposed alternative event scheduled for 22nd May**
- Wed 14 April, 8pm, Zoom Talk, "The Garden, forage & bees", Pam Hunter, Master Beekeeper
- Sunday 25 April, 2pm-5pm, National Garden Scheme Open Gardens, Lantern Cottage & No. 101 Green End Street
- Wed 12 May 8pm, Meeting, details to be confirmed
- Saturday 22 May, 2pm, Late Spring Showcase & Plant Sale. Date is provisional and details to be confirmed closer to the time
- Wed 9 June, 8pm, Meeting, "Horatio's Garden, Spinal Injuries Unit, Stoke Mandeville Hospital", Amy Moffett, Head Gardener
- Sunday 20 June, 2pm-5pm, National Garden Scheme Open Gardens, Lantern Cottage & No. 101 Green End Street
- Sunday 27 June, Buckland Open Gardens & plant sale
- Sunday 4 July, Drayton Beauchamp Open Gardens & plant sale
- July, Local Garden visit, details to be confirmed
- August, Local Garden visit, details to be confirmed
- Saturday 21 August, 2pm, Summer show & Plant sale
- Wed 8 September, 8pm Meeting – Talk "Colourful tubs/planters for Autumn" Edwin Rye
- Wed 13 October, 8pm, Meeting – Talk "The Forgotten River", John Tyler
- Wed 10 November, 8pm, Meeting, Talk (via Zoom) "The Market Garden past & present", Liz Wright
- Wed 8 December, 8pm, Meeting - Social evening