

Cornwall Garden Society Newsletter

Number 80 September 2019

Affiliated to The Royal Horticultural Society

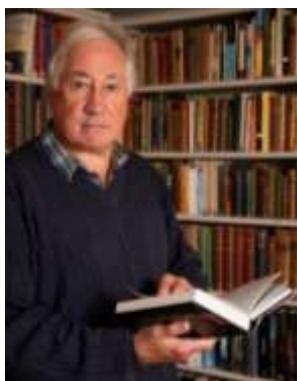
Patron: HRH The Prince of Wales

Charity No: 1094859

Company No: 4504080

- **Article 1**

Chairman's Corner



A new word seems to have entered the lexicon – ‘wilding’. Some of you may have read the book with that title by the appropriately named Isabella Tree. Although it is about the wilding of a 3500-acre estate in West Sussex – on a grander scale than most of us can aspire to! – it is a fascinating illustration of the speed at which natural flora and fauna re-establish themselves. More relevant to the gardening world that we inhabit, many of you will have seen the recent episode of *Gardeners' World* about the plight of wild flowers and the pollinators that used to thrive on them. The stark fact is that the country has lost 97% of its wild flower meadows since the Second World War, a loss of 7½ million acres. Few will have the space to introduce or re-establish wild flower meadows, but Monty Don suggested that we could make a massive difference by planting cultivars known to attract pollinators; allowing areas of our gardens the freedom to run wild, and taking a more tolerant view of the native plants on which most gardeners have historically waged war, i.e. ‘weeds’. A weed is, after all, only a plant in the wrong place; and insects don’t differentiate between them and garden flowers. Monty’s exhortation is to find a place for them, and pointed out that the 23 million gardens in the country amount to a significant habitat. It will also not have escaped the notice of some – myself included – that adopting this view has labour saving properties!

Sir Robert Owen
Chairman

- **Article 2**

Garden Holidays for 2020



Caption: Highgrove House

Our Garden Holidays for 2020 have a royal theme. In June, we are offering a trip to Highgrove, the country home of our patron, HRH The Prince of Wales and in September, we will visit the royalty of Kent and Sussex gardens – Christopher Lloyd’s Great Dixter, Vita Sackville-West’s Sissinghurst and Sarah Raven’s Perch Hill.

The Highgrove & Cotswolds holiday, from 23rd to 25th June, will also include visits to the quintessentially English Hidcote Manor, the Arts and Crafts garden at Eastleach House and Kiftsgate Court Gardens, from £414 per person.

The Kent & Sussex Gardens holiday will run from 6th to 10th September, from £724 per person. In addition to the gardens listed above, we will visit Great Comp Garden, Pashley Manor, Merriments Garden and West Dean Gardens.

Both holidays include dinner, bed and breakfast at 4-star hotels, and comfortable coaching with pick-up points throughout Cornwall.

We expect these holidays to be popular so please return your booking forms to Mary Hutt as soon as possible to secure your places.

Julia Chant
Garden Holidays Organiser
julia.chant@btinternet.com

- **Article 3**

Annual Accounts

The Society remains in a healthy financial position. Although we incurred a slight loss, we have substantial cash reserves. The Spring Flower Show did well to make a small profit following its move to Wadebridge given the risks involved. I believe that it can become more profitable still. If it does, then we will be able to devote more resources to horticultural education and our other charitable objectives.

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2019

	2019	2018
	£	£
INCOME		
Subscriptions	22,550	22,958
Income from charitable activities	124,735	131,459
Interest receivable	542	219
Total Income	147,827	154,636
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities	121,690	136,288
Governance costs	29,436	22,240
Total Expenditure	151,126	158,528
LOSS FOR YEAR	(3,299)	(3,892)
Total Funds at beginning of year	91,046	94,938
TOTAL FUNDS AT END OF YEAR	87,747	91,046
Fixed assets - equipment	5,456	7,275
Deposit account	72,500	73,520
Current account	1,426	18,390
Stock and debtors less creditors	8,365	(8,139)
TOTAL ASSETS	87,747	91,046

Tim Smith
FCA
Treasurer

- **Article 4**

Conifer Conservation for Professional Gardeners

On 25th July, members of the Cornwall Professional Gardeners' Group (CPGG) met at Pentillie Castle to learn from Martin Gardner of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh about the vital International Conifer Conservation Project that it has been running since 1991.

This project seeks to protect some of the world's most remarkable trees in their native habitats or, if necessary, to create a genetic 'bank'. 34% of the 650 conifer species are currently threatened. Many are victims of their own success because their magnificent size and habit make them attractive to foresters. Protecting these trees from, often illegal, forestry is nigh-on impossible.

It is hoped that land owners will help by offering a home for rare and important species so that they can be reintroduced into the wild in the future.

Ben Probert MCIHort
Cornwall Professional Gardeners' Group

- **Article 5**

Affiliated Society Show Winners



Caption: John Bernallick and Rosemarie Crocker with their Medal Certificates

One of the benefits of becoming an Affiliated Society is being eligible to receive our Gold and Silver Medal Certificates to award at your annual shows, the prize for which is a year's complimentary membership of the CGS. We congratulate the following winners:

- Josiah Eddy who was awarded a Gold Medal Certificate for his entry in Flowering Plant, Section 3, Class 43, One Specimen Dahlia at Lelant Village Produce Association's (LVPA) 75th Anniversary Show on Saturday 13th July
- John Bernallick who received a Gold Medal Certificate for achieving the most points for his entries in various vegetable classes and Rosemarie Crocker who was presented with a Silver Medal Certificate for her entries in various flower classes at the Pengover, Merrymeet & Menheniot Horticultural Show on Saturday 27th July.

Alison Avard

Clubs, Societies and Affiliations

affiliations@cornwallgardensociety.org.uk

- **Article 6**

CGS Awards Bursary to Horticulture Apprentice

The CGS has awarded a bursary of £150 to Henry Welch, who is a Level 2 Horticulture Apprentice at The Lost Gardens of Heligan.

Henry has secured a week-long work placement at The National Botanic Garden of Wales to increase his experience of horticulture in a vastly different setting but required assistance with travel and subsistence costs to enable him to take up this beneficial opportunity.

We were only too pleased to assist Henry and wish him every success in his horticultural career.

- **Article 7**

Royal Garden Party for Alison



Caption: Alison Davy with her husband, Julian

Our patron, HRH The Prince of Wales kindly invites a representative of the CGS to attend a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace each year. Alison Davy was this year's nominee.

Alison has organised 24 day trips by coach and 11 garden holidays for the Society, enabling members to enjoy outings that they might not otherwise experience.

"We had an amazing day in sunny weather," said Alison. "We met Prince Charles and were interviewed for the official DVD so I was able to mention the CGS. 8,000 people attended and the tea – which comprised 27,000 sandwiches and 24,000 cakes – was delicious."

- **Article 8**

Key Dates

October



Caption: Tresco's Head Gardener reveals Scilly secrets

CGS AGM and Evening Lecture

Tresco Story by Mike Nelhams

Date: Tuesday 8th from 7pm

Venue: The Alverton, Tregolls Road, Truro

Daytime Lecture

Gardens of the Mediterranean by Mike Nelhams

Date: Wednesday 9th at 2.30pm

Venue: Penventon Park Hotel, West End, Redruth

Pop-up Self-drive Visit

Manaton, Launceston and Hooper's Barn, Altarnun

Date: Tuesday 15th

Contact: Caroline Rucker (01566 86126)

November

Evening Lecture

Unusual and Long-blooming Plants by Derry Watkins

Date: Tuesday 12th at 7.30pm

Venue: The Alverton, Tregolls Road, Truro

Daytime Lecture

Pushing the Boundaries by Derry Watkins

Date: Wednesday 13th at 2.30pm

Venue: St Mellion International Resort, Saltash

December

Christmas Lunch

Carlyon Bay Hotel, Sea Road, St Austell

Date: Saturday 7th at 12 noon
Contact: Mary Hutt (01872 863735)

Evening Lecture

Stourhead by Alan Power

Date: Tuesday 10th at 7.30pm
Venue: The Alverton, Tregolls Road, Truro



Caption: The splendour of Stourhead

Daytime Lecture

My Journey Through Great Gardens by Alan Power

Date: Wednesday 11th at 2.30pm
Venue: Penventon Park Hotel, West End, Redruth

- **Article 9**

Trio of volunteers take on self-drive visits

We are delighted to introduce ourselves as your new Self-drive Visit Organisers, following the successful tenure of Caroline Hooper and Caroline Rucker, who have stepped down from the role after nine years – a hard act to follow but we will do our best!

Planning for next year is underway but if you would like to suggest any new gardens to visit or provide any general feedback, please let us know.

Louise Thomas (louise.trewidden@gmail.com | 07966897561)
Elizabeth Harris (elizabeth@boscrowan.co.uk | 01736 332396)
Michele Richards (michele.l.richards@gmail.com | 07854 950646)
Self-drive Visit Organisers

- **Article 10**

Next Issue

If you would like to contribute to the December 2019 issue, please contact Jilly Easterby by 1st November on membership@cornwallgardensociety.org.uk or 07743164434.

FOOTER

To make provisional bookings for day trips by coach and garden holidays, please contact Mary Hutt, Bookings Secretary on 01872 863735 or via patfward@hotmail.com

To find out more about the CGS, please contact Jilly Easterby, Membership Secretary on 07743164434 or membership@cornwallgardensociety.org.uk

You can also like us on [facebook.com/CornwallGardenSociety](https://www.facebook.com/CornwallGardenSociety), follow @CwllGardenSoc on Twitter and Instagram, or visit cornwallgardensociety.org.uk

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