

# CSGGA Newsletter

## April 2023



RHS Affiliated Membership Number: 10570237

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### April Meeting Report

The April Meeting was intended to be the Spring Show combined with a talk from Tom Coles but sadly Tom could not attend due to family illness. In the absence of Briony on a well-deserved holiday Margaret Dykes stood in to give the notices to the 25 members who were present.

Although we had no official speaker, Alan Clark very kindly stood in at late notice, as he has before, with an informal Q&A. His knowledge is boundless! Topics included the effect of the cold weather on penstemons and hydrangeas: these are susceptible to cold weather so Alan recommends taking cutting every year to avoid losing the plants altogether. Another query was regarding a rhododendron that is not looking too good in the ground despite ericaceous compost

and feed – it is likely it has dried out rather than succumbing to the cold weather. Other discussions covered F1 and F2 seeds, peas (which pollinate themselves), a very old magnolia plant and the importance of plant identification, because you can't graft one plant onto a totally different genus.

Congratulations to Chin Fenton who won the meeting raffle!

Eleanor O'Connor

### The Gardens Association Spring Show 2023

Everything in the hall was bright and beautiful once all the entries for the Spring Show had been laid out.



Here are a few of the photos John Bradley kindly took - hopefully you can get a flavour of how good everything looked!

The daffodils and tulips were plentiful, alongside impressive spring veg, including the fine rhubarb specimens you can see on the right.



A particularly fine orchid won the Flowering Plant class (left) and there were some colourful displays in the Flowers from my Garden class. The Foliage entries showed that you don't need flowers to create something special.

Well done Caroline Jackson, Sam Patel and Mary Holloway for their nimble teamwork gathering results and inputting on the computer to produce the results which are included here. Margaret Dykes swept the board with 23 points which gained her the Edwards Cup.

Congratulations to Margaret, as well as Peter Bentall and Moiya Stroomer for coming in second and third respectively. Alan Clark presented the prizes as shown in the photo (Left to right: Alan Clark, Peter Bentall, Margaret Dykes, Moiya Stroomer).

Special thanks to Alan Clark for stepping in to judge the classes in the absence of Tom Coles. Thanks also to John Bradley for the photos and to everyone who turned up, entered the show and helped clear away afterwards.

We hope to add more of the photos on the website as there is limited space here.



	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>Class 1 Daffodils/Narcissi</b> – 1 Stem, Own Foliage	Chin Fenton	Peter Bental	Chin Fenton
<b>Class 2 Daffodils/Narcissi</b> – 3 Stems, Own Foliage	Chin Fenton	Margaret Dykes	Peter Bental
<b>Class 3 Miniature Daffodils/Narcissi</b> – 3 Stems, Own Foliage	Claire Hodgson	Claire Hodgson	Jan Bradley Marian Challis Warren
<b>Class 4 Multi-headed Daffodils/Narcissi</b> – 1 Stem, Own Foliage	Chin Fenton	Moiya Stroomer	Peter Bental
<b>Class 5 Tulips</b> – 3 Stems, Own Foliage	Eileen Baldwin	Margaret Dykes	Eileen Baldwin
<b>Class 5a Tulip</b> - Single Stem, Own Foliage	Moiya Stroomer	Eileen Baldwin	Mary Bentall
<b>Class 6 Flowering Shrubs or Trees</b> – 1 or more varieties	Peter Bental	Margaret Dykes	NA
<b>Class 7 Pot of Primulas, Primroses or Auriculas</b>	Peter Bental	Moiya Stroomer	Margaret Dykes
<b>Class 8 Petite flower arrangement</b> –6" cube	Moiya Stroomer Marian Challis Warren	Mary Bentall Moiya Stroomer	Eileen Baldwin Margaret Dykes Caroline Jackson
<b>Class 9 Any other flower</b> - 1 Kind, 3 Stems	Jan Bradley	Margaret Dykes	NA
<b>Class 10 Rhubarb</b> – 3 Sticks, forced with leaves	Margaret Dykes	Peter Bental	Chin Fenton
<b>Class 11a Root Vegetables</b> – Any quantity.	Margaret Dykes	Caroline Jackson	Mary Bentall
<b>Class 11b Brassicas</b> - Any quantity	Margaret Dykes Caroline Jackson	Peter Bental	Peter Bental
<b>Class 11c Any other vegetable</b> – Any quantity	Eileen Williams Marian Challis Warren	Moiya Stroomer Margaret Dykes	Mary Bentall
<b>Class 12 Flowering Pot Plant</b> (in flower)	Peter Bental Marian Challis Warren	Mary Bentall	Mary Bentall
<b>Class 13 Foliage Pot Plant</b> – Max pot size 8"	Margaret Dykes	Claire Hodgson	Peter Bental

### Position and Points - each were awarded a garden voucher.

First (Awarded the Edwards Cup )	Margaret Dykes	23 points
Second	Peter Bentall	19
Third	Moiya Stroomer	14

## M's Action Diary for March

- Continue to deadhead faded daffodils and narcissus. Bulbs planted in grass require a general fertilizer to encourage flowering next Spring.
- Prune winter-flowering shrubs, such as forsythia and jasmine
- Tidy phormiums by pulling away dead leaves.
- Hand prune cotinus if large colourful leaves are required, forgoing the "smoke" flowers.
- Keep an eye open for lily beetles on fritillaries and lily leaves. Also vine weevil – they particularly love pot grown heucheras.
- Plant summer flowering bulbs such as gladioli and lilies.
- Remove any suckers from around the base of trees.
- Weed and mulch around the base of hedges.
- Getting on top of weeds now will help later in the year. Regularly hoe around weeds and dig out any perennial weeds that are regrowing.

## Chalfont St Giles Open Gardens – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2023

Ten lovely gardens will be open for visitors from 11am until 5.00 pm. Once again, Milton's Cottage will be open as part of the scheme. Cream teas will be available in the Memorial Hall from 2.00 pm.

Tickets £6 to visit all the gardens for adults, children under 16 free. These will be available from the Library beforehand and on the Village Green on the day.

## Next Month's Meeting – Hanging Basket Display

Alison, the owner of Rowan Garden Centre, is coming to give us a practical demonstration on how to plant your hanging basket. Learn hints and tips from a professional. Not to be missed.

## Green Gardening Tip – Bring your Lawns to Life

**Wild About Gardens** is a joint initiative by the RHS and The Wildlife Trust to get more people gardening for wildlife. Over the past 50 years, we've seen declines in two-thirds of the UK's plant and animal species – this year, we're celebrating our lawns as a habitat for wildlife and asking you to pledge your support.

There are many ways we can use our lawns to support wildlife. Leaving it to go or experimenting with different lengths, adding floral interest, or creating mini lawns for balconies – however you decide to support the flora and fauna in your lawn, you'll be making a positive impact on biodiversity.

Find out more about the campaign and download the 2023 booklet for advice and activities at [Wild about lawns | Wild About Gardens](https://www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk/about-lawns)

## Outings for 2023

We visit Borde Hill and Denmans Lane on 3<sup>rd</sup> May. Further dates are as follows:

**Wednesday 28th June – National Trust Mottisfont and Little Court, Winchester.** Mottisfont includes an 18th-century house with a medieval priory at its heart, which was transformed into a Neo-classical home in the 1930s. The highlight of our visit will be their walled garden which is home to the National Collection of pre-1900 old-fashioned roses, which reach their peak in June. There are also riverside walkways, an ancient spring, magnificent trees and seasonal planting.

Little Court is an NGS privately-owned garden which totals over two acres on different levels, with one of the best views in Hampshire. In the field are many English wildflowers - a haven for butterflies. There are also large herbaceous borders and a kitchen garden. The cost includes tea/coffee and cake. **£31 per member, £36 non-members and guests. Non NT members will need to pay the admission fee in addition of £18.05.**

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July – Hampton Court Flower Show.** Needs no introduction! The RHS Hampton Court Flower Show offers a unique day out browsing fantastic floral displays and glorious show gardens, local community gardens in the allotment area, and of course essential retail therapy amongst the hundreds of trade stands offering plants, foodie treats, gifts and homeware. So much to do and see. **£56 per member, £61 non-members and guests.**

**Friday 22nd September – Adwell Estate Garden, Thame, and Waterperry Gardens, Wheatley.** Adwell Estate Garden is normally open to the public only three times a year but we've got our own private visit at a time that is 'good for colour' including a tour with the head gardener. Visitors are greeted with a magnificent herbaceous border which sweeps around the drive. The Parish Church nestles within the grounds and there is a walled garden, with its herbaceous borders, roses and a superb collection of salvias. The garden is fed by spring water and the water garden continues to be the major feature with magnificent trees dominating the lawns.

We then move on to Waterperry Gardens where we can have lunch and enjoy these 8 acres of beautifully landscaped ornamental gardens which were once a School of Horticulture for Ladies. Waterperry is most famous for its superb herbaceous borders which burst back into life with Michaelmas Daisies (Asters) throughout September. **£25.75 per member, £30.75 non-members and guests. Non RHS members need to bring cash of £10.50 or £9 for entry to Waterperry on the day (amount depends on how many non RHS members attend).**

### Your CSGGA Committee

**Chairman and Membership Secretary:**

Briony Wickenden Mulberry House, 54 Milton Fields, Chalfont St Giles, HP8 4EP 01494879482 [brionywickendke@hotmail.com](mailto:brionywickendke@hotmail.com)

**Secretary:** Jan Bradley, 23 The Lagger, Chalfont St Giles, HP8 4DH 01494 874704 [janbradley4@btinternet.com](mailto:janbradley4@btinternet.com)

**Treasurer:** Margaret Dykes, 4 Roughwood Fields, Roughwood Lane, Chalfont St Giles, HP8 4AA 01494 874511 [margaretdykes@btinternet.com](mailto:margaretdykes@btinternet.com)

**Committee Members:**

Mary Holloway	01494 875793
Caroline Jackson	01494 876685
Eleanor O'Connor	01494 875646
Sam Patel	01494 875319

New Committee members are always welcome. We are a friendly bunch! Please contact a committee member to find out more if you're interested in joining us.

[www.csgha.org](http://www.csgha.org)