

## CSGGA Monthly Meetings & Speakers 2024

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11 <sup>th</sup> January	<p><b>All Muck and Magic – Geoff Hodge</b></p> <p>The roots of plants are very important – which means the soil or compost they live in is vital to their growth and the overall health and quality of the plant. Yet, some people disregard soil as “that brown stuff in the garden”! In this practical talk, Geoff Hodge discusses what it does, and what you need to add to it to improve it – in order to get the very best from all your plants – and how.</p>
8 <sup>th</sup> February	<p><b>Priestfield Arboretum – Tim Pye</b></p> <p>Priestfield Arboretum is a privately owned tree collection in Little Kingshill, described as a “hidden gem in the Chilterns”. Tim is the arboretum’s curator and will give a brief history of the arboretum and then focus on some of the more interesting specimens.</p>
14 <sup>th</sup> March	<p><b>Propagation of Woodies and Non Woodies – Tom Cole</b></p> <p>An illustrated talk highlighting the propagation of a range of woodies; trees and shrubs, plus perennials. Discussing the benefits of key techniques to be used at key points throughout the year.</p>
11 <sup>th</sup> April	<p><b>Spring Show</b> – Always a highlight of the year for members with a bit of friendly competition between amateur growers. The show offers the chance to show off your daffodils, rhubarb, houseplant or any other plant for that matter!</p>
9 <sup>th</sup> May	<p><b>Wonders of the Botanical World – Matthew Biggs</b></p> <p>If you have ever wondered how cacti survive the extreme heat and cold of the desert, the ‘Giant Pitcher plant’ finds food in high altitude cloud forest or what the largest parasitic plant in the world looks like, this fascinating fact filled talk reveals all. Alongside these amazing stories we will also discover how life on earth depends on plants and how much they contribute to our survival. Welcome to the wonders of the botanical world!</p>
13 <sup>th</sup> June	<p><b>Summer Soiree - Evening Visit - location to be confirmed</b></p> <p>An early evening visit to a local garden or park with the opportunity to chat to other members while enjoying a strawberry tarts and some bubbles!</p>
11 <sup>th</sup> July	<p><b>Acers and their Companions - George Lockwood</b></p> <p>An illustrated talk looking at many different Acers explaining what soil and aspect they need and how tall they grow. George will also show some evergreens that grow well with acers.</p>
8 <sup>th</sup> August	<p><b>Cyclamen – Paul Whitlock</b></p> <p>All you need to know about how to grow and propagate these lovely plants to add colourful interest when there isn't much going on in the garden.#</p>
12 <sup>th</sup> September	<p><b>A – Z of Foolproof Gardening – Chris Day</b></p> <p>Chris shares his hints and tips on how to get the best from your garden and your plants. A seasonal gallop through 26 letters of the alphabet featuring a range of plants and props along the way.</p>
10 <sup>th</sup> October	<p><b>AGM and Autumn Show</b></p> <p>Bring along your dahlias, apples and pot plants and enter into a little garden rivalry!</p>
14 <sup>th</sup> November	<p><b>Soil Association – Alex Cullen</b></p> <p>The Soil Association is a charity that works to transform the way we eat, farm and care for our natural world. Join Alex to hear about their campaigns and causes.</p>
12 <sup>th</sup> December	<p><b>Christmas Party</b></p> <p>Our annual party gives us an opportunity to reflect on the year and share the evening with friends and fellow gardeners. A seasonal dinner will form part of the evening, together with quizzes and a raffle.</p>

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