



Derbyshire Group

NEWSLETTER



Autumn 2020

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FROM THE CHAIR

I thought that the most used (or over-used) word of 2020 would probably be 'Brexit'. It seems like I was wrong. Could it be 'coronavirus'? What an impact coronavirus has had on our group: no activities since our February meeting, and no end in sight to the disruption despite the committee's best efforts. The committee wondered about hiring Pride Park to meet social distancing requirements for our meetings, but Derby County say that they have a need for the premises on a Saturday afternoon. Such a pity: we would have more paying customers than the Rams are allowed under current government rulings. We mustn't feel too sorry for ourselves, however: everyone is in the same boat and it ultimately won't be the Titanic. Remaining positive is key. Rest assured that we will be back as soon as possible, but only when the committee deem that the relevant requirements are met and it is safe to do so.

Whilst we all lament the lack of activities, it must be doubly frustrating for those who have organized events only to find them cancelled, and in many cases having to rearrange them on a future date. I therefore extend my thanks to these people: Ian (holiday), Celia (meetings and plant fair), Lynn (trips) and Martin MAD visits). Operation of the conservation scheme in the absence of meetings has also provided Nigel Parkes-Rolfe with difficulties which he has tackled admirably.

My thanks also to Sallie Vardy for producing our annual accounts and to David Andrews for auditing them. These accounts can be seen in abbreviated form in this newsletter. Although our expenditure exceeded our income for the financial year ending 31st July, there is no cause for alarm given our excellent capital reserves. Whilst this year's shortfall may be attributable in part to various factors, I think that the figures do show particularly what a large part the plant fair plays in our financial fortunes. Had it taken place this year, I believe that our income would have exceeded our expenditure.

Anne Evans has also been busy and somehow contrived to sell articles from the HPSD 'shop' despite there being no meetings. Well done, Anne.

Our Facebook page, for me, has been both a delight and a disappointment. There have been some interesting submissions and good photographs, but they seem to be down to the same faithful few contributors. I have to admit that I'm not a big Facebook fan generally, and I can understand a reluctance to utilize it, but for the greater good (and not least for your own enjoyment and benefit) I would urge you to regularly look at our page and try to make an occasional contribution. Ann Franks has done a splendid job managing the page and deserves our full support.

A final vote of thanks goes to our newsletter editor, Hildegard. She has produced an interim 'coronavirus newsletter' (and would happily have produced more given enough articles) and this autumn newsletter you are now reading. Like Ann, she deserves our full

backing, so don't forget to provide her with material for the spring newsletter. Since your outdoor gardening activities will be curtailed over the autumn/winter months, do try to devote a little time to providing an article for all to enjoy. If nobody does, there is no newsletter!

Despite the anticipated less welcoming winter weather, as keen gardeners I'm sure that you will still find some 'bracing' outdoor tasks. Perhaps in the evening you will 'snuggle up' to some interesting bulb and seed catalogues and dream of new delights for your garden next year. Do enjoy your gardening, whatever form it may take, and look forward to next year. Let's hope that the delay until the resumption of our meetings is as short as possible and that we can then share our pleasure and enjoy each other's company again.

My thanks to all who have sent me their best wishes after my January operation. They were greatly appreciated. I am recovering quite well.

Best wishes for 2021.

Nigel

EDWARD LATHAM

We have received the sad news that our member Edward Latham passed away on 14th October after a period of several weeks in a nursing home. Edward was a passionate gardener who particularly enjoyed growing tender perennials, notably salvias. He knew several nursery owners in various parts of the UK and even assisted some on their plant sales stalls, notably on the stall of John, Ingrid and Sarah Millington of Hillview Hardy Plants, Shropshire, on whose website his photograph appears as a team member. Edward was extremely proud to say that he was a founder member of the Derbyshire group of the HPS and for several years during my period as treasurer audited the group's accounts. It was my privilege to visit Edward in this respect (after negotiating an appointment in his busy schedule!) and enjoy a long chat supplemented by coffee made to my own specification along with a chocolate biccie. Edward was a strong character with a deep Christian faith, characteristics which were evident in his association with our group. His friendship, attendance and contribution to the group will be sadly missed.

EDITOR's NOTES

Welcome to the autumn newsletter.

Owing to the unusual times in which we currently live, gardening has been an increasingly important distraction and a new-found pleasure for many. For others it has meant a lifeline and a haven of sanity with many mental health charities realising the important link between access to the outdoors and gardens and mental health. Gardens have also been the link that has allowed people to meet in their respective 'bubbles' and hopefully continue to do so as we are heading for the next phase of the Corona Virus pandemic, albeit probably wrapped up and donning hats and scarves.

This newsletter is published on what would have been our October meeting. Sadly we will not be enjoying each other's company and the talk about **Alpines in the Wild and in Cultivation** by Diane Clement, but the various contributions by you, the members, will hopefully provide a pleasant distraction and maybe even inspire you to put on your wellies, head out into your own garden and prepare for what will hopefully a better year for all of us.

Please send items for the next newsletter to wiesehofer@btinternet.com

Cover picture: *Salvia ulignosa* 'African Sky'.

In memory of Edward Latham. I purchased this last year at the October HPS meeting and it has flowered its socks off all summer.

A visit on 2nd August to Powys Castle Gardens – one of the greats! Jeff Bates

The constraints of Covid-19 have been many, particularly in a year which included such a glorious spring of warmth and sunshine, but limited opportunity to enjoy it. So once we were finally allowed out – and in particular to visit gardens – the weather didn't always play ball, (rain at Hardwick Hall) but was usually good enough to enjoy the sites, with Hanbury Hall and Upton House both new to us, and both having much to offer. But once Wales also opened up, Powys Castle was a definite, having not been for 10 years.

I first visited Powys as a youngster, at some point in the 1960s, with my parents, and the spectacle of the site made an immediate and lasting impression, with occasional visits taking place in the period since starting out in horticulture as a career 50 years ago....about which a little more at the end.

The fascinating thing that is most different about the 2020 visit is the peacefulness, as visitor numbers are being carefully and effectively managed by the National Trust,

meaning that there was time to view and enjoy every aspect of this outstanding garden, without the usual crowds. The sustainable management of the grounds was a notable aspect of the garden, with the 'meadow' maintenance of appropriate grassed areas and banks a joy, and one obviously beneficial to wildlife from the diverse pollinators and other insects seen everywhere.

The long borders always amaze, and also always have plants that demonstrate how many plants there are that I don't know! The most notable example this time was when Irene asked me "what is that thorny thing?". Fortunately it was also in flower and that at least meant that the family was identifiable (*Solanaceae*), even though the final details had to wait until I could get back and make use of the internet, at which point it proved to be *Solanum sisymbriifolium* (sticky nightshade), a tender perennial.

The brilliant oranges and reds of *Heleniums*, *Crocsmia* and *Dahlias* were set off against *Echinops ritro* and *Solidago* in one of the borders; in another the tones were pinks and blues of *Agapanthus*, *Veronicastrum* and *Phlox*; the ancient cloud-pruned yews separate each section perfectly.

The gardens at the estate houses to the North-East of the site featured an appropriate 'cottage-style' of planting, with lovely displays of hollyhocks and *Achillea*; the rose borders here were also in full bloom and fragrance. Continuing the walk around the site takes in the woodland area, with views into the main lawn with the terraces and castle towering above on one side, and out across the vale to Shropshire on the South-East; the woodland pool, with dragonflies passing across the edges and striking clumps of purple loosestrife a lovely end to the afternoon walk.

Which takes me back to the start. On the way in we passed volunteers giving advice, which began with 'Had we been before' – and given my response the lead volunteer said she'd been volunteering there for 15 years. "Have you met the Head Gardeners during this time?", I enquired. "Yes". "Did you know Peter Hall?" said I. "Yes – why – do I know him?". Yes indeed, was my response – we were both apprentices at the Royal and Savill Gardens from 1970 to 1972. The remarkable garden at Powis is a tribute to the skills and abilities of people like Peter, Jimmy Hancock and the other Head Gardeners who have continued to preserve, enhance and sensitively update this wonderful place.

Borders at Powys Castle



The most noteworthy thing about gardeners is that they are always optimistic, always enterprising, and never satisfied.

Vita Sackville-West

PIECEMEAL'S FLOWERING SHRUBS – JUST A FEW! Mary Thomas

Behind a row of 1830s cottages, in a tiny, south-west facing courtyard garden, lives a large collection of shrubs amongst a wide variety of unusual plants. Some are grown for their interesting foliage, both shape and colour, others for their flowers. Many are grown in terracotta pots - a good way of keeping them under control while giving each the conditions they prefer. In the borders of rich, loamy soil, some plants run riot!

A small selection is described here, listed in the order they normally flower each year. All but three are in containers, and most are evergreen and well over ten years old.



Piptanthus nepalensis. Planted in the main border and, as the name suggests, this originates from the Himalayas. As well as being the tallest shrub at over ten feet, it is the first to flower in the garden. Its yellow pea flowers appear in late spring and early summer, followed by clusters of long, flat seed pods which remain on the branches for most of the year.

Euphorbia mellifera. This architectural plant prefers dappled shade, and its honey-scented flowers in late

spring are particularly attractive to insects.

Crinodendron hookerianum, known as the Chilean Lantern Tree, likes its compost on the acid side and grows in a sheltered spot with its roots in the shade. Its flower buds start to form each autumn, although the spectacular red lanterns don't appear until late spring the following year. In cultivation in the UK for over 150 years, it usually continues to flower into mid summer.



Cestrum parqui or

willow-leaved jessamine. Another from Chile, bearing scented yellow flowers in June and July. Hardy in a sheltered, sunny position in mild areas.



Kalmia latifolia 'Pinwheel'. Probably the oldest evergreen shrub in the main border, this outgrew its pot some years ago. Although it grows well in the ground, some years it will bloom prolifically and in others, produces only a cluster or two. Some say the flowers look like iced gem biscuits!



Callistemon 'Pink Perth'. A compact bottlebrush with, as the name indicates, bright pink flowers. Up to four inches long, these are reliably produced every summer. The bees certainly love them! Although borderline hardy, it has survived many winters

against a sunny, south-facing wall. Originally grown in the conservatory, it appears much happier outside.

Holodiscus discolor. Sweetly scented, cup-shaped flowers form large pendant flowerheads in June and July. Also known as Oceanspray, it seems to thrive on neglect, currently in far too small a pot in the furthest corner of the garden! Must remember to repot it next spring!



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The **desfontainea spinosa** started life here in a container and was transferred to the main border a few years ago, enjoying deep fertile soil in part shade. Underplanted with ferns, it has probably reached its full height at around eight feet. Another originating from South America, this year it has flowered continuously from July to October.



Amazing!

Kew Garden Lecture Schedule

Lindsay Fox has forwarded this link for anyone who is interested in Kew talks by computer.

<https://www.kew.org/learning/talks-and-lectures/kew-mutual-improvement-society>

October

- 5 October: A tale of two morphs: Life in the desert with Waheed Arshad (Botanical Specialist at Candide Gardening)
- 12 October (Fundraising lecture): Future nature: Transformational green with Prof. Nigel Dunnett (Professor of Planting Design and Urban Horticulture, Sheffield University)
- 19 October: Living with fires: What we have (or have not) learnt with Richard Barley (Director of Horticulture, Learning and Operations, RBG Kew)
- 26 October: The Kitchen Garden at Kew: A brief history with Helena Dove (Kitchen Gardener, RBG Kew)

November

- 2 November: Ethiopia and the tree against hunger with James Borrell (Tropical Crop Ecologist)
- 9 November: Gravetye Manor: William Robinson's historic garden with Tom Coward (Head Gardener, Gravetye Manor)
- 16 November: Kiss the ground – how perennial polycultures and healthy soil can reverse climate change with Michael Wachter (Gardener, Great Dixter)
- 23 November (Fundraising lecture): Making a modern garden with Andy Sturgeon (Landscape Designer)

December

- 7 December: Mycorrhizas in changing ecosystems with Laura Martinez-Suz (Research Leader in Mycology, RBG Kew)
- 14 December: Making and keeping an English flower garden with Mat Reese (Head Gardener, Malverleys)

January

- 11 January: The evolution and fate of tropical diversity with Prof. Alexandre Antonelli (Director of Science, RBG Kew)
- 18 January: No dig gardening: How and why? with Charles Dowding (Market Gardener, Teacher and Author)

February

- 1 February: Lowther Castle: A garden's journey with Martin Ogle (Head Gardener, Lowther Castle)
- 8 February: Plants and biodiversity in the Kambui Hills Forest Reserve, Sierra Leone with Silke Strickrodt (Kew Diploma student, RBG Kew)
- 22 February: Tales of the city: Revealing London's secret garden with Sean Harkin (Head Gardener, The Honourable Society of the Inner Temple)

March

- 8 March: Global and local significance of mangrove forests with Angie Elwin (Research Fellow, Reading University)
- 22 March: Seasonal cut flower gardening with Becky Crowley (Cut Flower Gardener, Chatsworth House)
- 29 March (Fundraising lecture): RHS Garden Bridgewater with Tom Stuart-Smith (Landscape Architect)

New to me. New to you?

Nigel Needham

The coronavirus pandemic has curtailed our activities and affected everyday life in so many ways, hasn't it? One of the things which I have missed has been visits to nurseries and garden centres. Once you've got the gardening bug, you need a regular fix! It gives Jean and I much pleasure to see a variety of well grown plants, both previously known and unknown, and buy some, as my son would say, that we don't really need. Well, we all have an Achilles heel, don't we? Exercising as much caution as possible, however, we have managed to visit three such outlets this year and inevitably succumbed to temptation. Our purchases included the plants detailed below, all of which were new to us and with which we are delighted.

Our first capture of the year was photinia serratifolia 'Pink Crispy' with eye-catching emerging pink shoots which become part of its lovely marbled green foliage. It has a bushy habit and is said to have an ultimate height of 175 cm. Post purchase, I found that it is a new Dutch introduction. It's a delightful alternative to the popular photinia 'Pink Marble'. Now where can we plant it?

Purchased on our second visit was sanguisorba 'Little



Angel', which is the smallest sanguisorba that I have seen. I find it hard to resist variegated plants and this one was no exception, with its dainty cream edged leaves in a neat clump. I was also taken by its small, button-like maroon cum raspberry coloured flowers, though I imagine that some people would find them too insignificant and their colour not vibrant enough. Although their label indicated an ultimate plant height of 60 cm, the flowers on the purchased plant were just 15cm tall and in perfect scale with the plants on our rockery, where it was thus duly planted. Time will tell whether the choice of site was foolish.

Though sanguisorbas may not be everybody's cup of tea, I must tell you that our sanguisorba hakusanensis 'Lilac Squirrel' has been magnificent this summer. It's gorgeous pink squirrel tailed blossoms have provided colour from early/ mid july to mid-September.



It is a tall variety (up to c 1.5 metres) and maybe it sprawls slightly (no problem with support, however) but it's a definite must-have plant for me.



Last, but not least, our third visit resulted in



the purchase of salvia guaranitica 'Black and Bloom'. What an eye-catcher this is, with its vivid blue flowers and black calyces. Once sighted in the garden centre it seemed to leap into our basket without a moment's hesitation. Nursery websites generally seem very enthusiastic about it and claim it is as good or better than the earlier variety salvia 'Black and Blue', with larger, more abundant flowers and thicker, darker stems. Surprisingly, websites quote quite a range of ultimate sizes: 1.2 metres seems about the average. There also

seems to be slight differences of opinion on hardiness. I think I will err on the side of caution this winter and treat it as semi-hardy and leave it in the cold greenhouse.

I wonder if our discoveries are new to you too. If not, I'm sure that you have some of your own: gardening never ceases to provide new delights.

Sylvia's GARDEN RULES

IF IT'S PRETTY..... PLANT IT
 IF IT WILTS.....WATER IT
 IF IT SUNBURNSSHADE IT
 IF IT GROWS PRUNE IT
 IF IT'S A FRIEND PROTECT IT
 IF IT'S A PEST SWAT IT
 IF IT'S A WEED PULL IT
 IF IT'S A FUNGUS ... SPRAY IT
 IF IT'S DEAD COMPOST IT
 IF IT TASTES GOOD PICK IT
 IF IT FLOWERS FLAUNT IT

Reflections from a new Garden -A few words from Ann Franks

I continue to be surprised by the determination of plants to survive. As you will know by now this is my first year in my new garden and I am taking things slowly and seeing what comes up allowing me to assess what grows best where and understand my micro-climate and soil conditions. I have a shady border under a twisted willow with a mature Fatsia japonica growing through it and Hostas and Bergenia as ground cover.

What should flower this week in the same border but a clump of dark blue agapanthus. (photo 1) The same goes for a sunny bed with Dianthus Doris thriving between two Hostas and a clump of self-seeded foxgloves(photo2).





At the moment I am designing a new East facing border at the base of a stone wall covered in an old wisteria (photo 3 location on left hand side), I have taken soil samples and carefully planned my planting list around its aspect and sheltered position and am starting to bulk up the plants in a nursery bed. I wonder now if it is worth it, it seems when it comes to planting the plants themselves seem to know what's best.

Weeds are just nature's graffiti

Mind those Butterflies

Sally Meecham writes...

This summer I've found much success in the attraction of bees and butterflies on a recent introduction of a summer flowering Allium. It's called 'Millennium' and it's a stunner! Very floriferous with bright dark purple heads for front or middle of the border..... must be full sun though.

Usefully, it has an upright habit and is evergreen. It grows from a rhizome unlike many Alliums. It is so popular with insects it reminds me of how Buddleja used to be covered in them but, sadly, doesn't seem to be any more!



The organisation of the abortive trip to Kent Ian Evans

At the time of writing this we would normally have been preparing for our weekend trip to Kent, but of course Covid-19 has put paid to that. Next year's trip is all arranged for 25-28 June 2021, and will be to Hereford and Monmouth. Roberts are holding our deposits for the Kent trip and will put these towards the Hereford trip, which is very good of them as they had already paid a deposit to the hotel. All those who were down for the Kent trip will get priority for Hereford. I hope to rearrange the Kent trip for 2022.

However, I thought you may be interested to read how the Kent trip was arranged, and to preview the gardens which had been arranged for the trip. The process is typical of the trips Anne and I have organised in the past, so you can see what is involved and, possibly, stir someone's interest in taking over from us for future trips when we finally give up!

Why Kent? Some of you will remember that Martin organised a trip to East Sussex in June 2011. We stayed at a hotel near Gatwick and visited gardens including Great Dixter, Pashley Manor, Sissinghurst and Nymans. There are more than enough good gardens in this area and further east into Kent to justify another trip without much duplication. Personally, I have always wanted to visit Goodnestone Park, which is so far east as to be unreachable for itineraries based in Sussex. So Kent it was to be.

The first considerations are travel and a hotel. Hotels have to be booked at least a year in advance for a large group. All the coach companies who organise their own holidays book up all the large hotels anywhere near an area where people want to visit on holiday. We had problems getting an hotel for our week-end in West Wales 2 years ago because Tenby was the obvious choice and they had all been booked up by the time I approached them! The hotel and the coach travel are the major costs for any trip, and is important for the trip to be affordable for as many people as possible. Roberts Travel have done a good job for us since they took over MacPherson, so we decided to stay with them for Kent. These trips have to be organised through a professional travel company for the simple reason that insurance costs would be prohibitive if we tried to arrange the hotel and transport ourselves. It also simplifies the payments to gardens if the holiday costs are all routed through Roberts. We collaborated with Roberts to find a suitable hotel in the right price range, and came up with the Bridgwood Manor Hotel, which is just off the M2 south of Chatham and is within easy reach of Sissinghurst and Goodnestone. It is a well-appointed hotel and has a swimming pool and sauna!

The next thing was to select which gardens to visit and in what order. On any given day the gardens must be reasonably close to each other and we also have to be sure that lunch is available somewhere which can cope with our large group. We also need a

garden to visit on the way down on the Friday and it is now traditional that we visit a good nursery on the way home on the Friday.

Our membership of the RHS allows us a free visit to one of their gardens each year, and Hyde Hall isn't far off the route to the Dartford crossing. We will be able to buy lunch there. The development of Hyde Hall started in the 1950's when Dr and Mrs Robinson moved into an old farmhouse on top of a windy hill surrounded by clay underlying gravel and lots of rubbish from farming. Over many years they created a splendid garden which was eventually bequeathed to the RHS in 1993. A 10 million gallon reservoir was created and the RHS proceeded to develop the garden with its famous dry garden being followed by themed gardens such as the New Zealand garden and the Australian garden. Recently around 50000 trees have been planted to create a woodland garden, a project which continues.

On Saturday we will visit Sissinghurst again. We had a poor experience there in 2011; the entry arrangements were rubbish and we didn't feel very welcome. Since then the gardens have been refreshed by Troy Scott-Smith, who came to speak to us at Shirland in November 2018, and the entry arrangements have been significantly improved. For the afternoon we chose Penshurst Place, which was used as a hunting lodge by Henry VIII and has been in the Sidney family since the time of Edward VI. Anne and I visited Penshurst Place many years ago and remember their superb display of Paeonies. We will probably be too late for them but there are 11 acres of formal gardens divided into themed "rooms", most of which will be at their best in late June.

On Sunday morning we have Goodnestone Park, which I am looking forward to seeing. Jane Austin stayed at Goodnestone many times and it is believed to have inspired her to write *Pride and Prejudice*. The walled garden is Goodnestone's most renowned area and the central view through the succession of mellow brick-walled enclosures to the church tower is claimed to be one of the best in any English garden. After lunch at Goodnestone we travel west to Hole Park which won the "Visit Kent" garden of the year award in 2016. As well as an extensive garden, Hole Park is renowned for its cream teas which enables us to maintain another of the traditional activities of these trips!

Our nursery visit on the Monday morning is quite close to the hotel and allows us to fulfil a special request from one of our members, to visit Great Comp, the home of salvias! The nursery is run by William Dyson, who is also the curator of the splendid garden. The salvias will be at their best in late June. We can have lunch at Great Comp and the plan was to travel straight back to Alfreton after that, however, there is probably time to squeeze another garden in on our way home in 2022 if we run this trip then. If anyone has ideas for a garden they would like to visit that afternoon I would welcome them. The likely route home is the M25 and M1, but the A1(M) or M11 are other options.

Having decided on the gardens, the next thing is to contact them and to arrange prices and times, and it is important to ensure that the price will still apply at the time of the trip. The National Trust is notorious for upping its prices in February each year! It is also important check that there is adequate access for a large coach; we almost had a problem last year when one of the gardens decided at the last minute that a large coach would have difficulty getting down the lane to it, and we had to pay extra for a minibus to ferry us in! Good hard-standing for the coach to park is also important, because the driver won't want the embarrassment of getting stuck in the mud if we have wet weather! Routes to the gardens have to be decided and agreed with Roberts, and I make a note of distances between gardens, any low bridges or sharp bends in narrow lanes, and I put the telephone numbers of the gardens into my phone so that we can tell them when we are approaching, or if we are likely to be late. Garden owners are a valuable source of information on local roads (and roadworks!).

As we are usually over-subscribed we have to organise a draw. For many years it was a first-come first served approach, but this system was open to abuse as some people were putting friends on the list as well as themselves, so that those who do jobs for the society, food, coffee, raffles, entrance and sales often missed out.

Finally, we collect information on the gardens for circulation round the coach during the journey, and I have to think of some good stories to tell, as this also seems to have become a tradition!

2021 Long weekend in Hereford and Monmouth

staying at the Green Dragon Hotel in Hereford, from Friday, 25 June, to Monday, 28 June, 2021 (3 nights).



Next year the long weekend trip will be at the end of June. I am, of course assuming that Covid 19 will by then be just nightmare memory! As usual we will leave from the Alfreton Travelodge at 8 am.

DAY ONE Pick-up at the **Alfreton Travelodge** at 8.00 am. We will travel to Powis Castle near Welshpool, which is a well-known National Trust property. The theatrical Italianate terraces and giant sculpted yew hedges are world-famous, but there is much more to see. A restaurant is available for lunch.

We continue to the **Green Dragon Hotel**, which has a history going back 900 years – one of the oldest hotels in Britain. It has recently been refurbished to a high standard.

DAY TWO This morning we visit **Bryan's Ground** at Presteigne, which has been developed by David Wheeler and Simon Dorrell since 1993. They are publishers of the journal Hortus and have created 3 acres of intimate, interlocking gardens which have been voted one of the top ten “dreamy” gardens. It also has a “sulking house”.

We transfer to **Hergest Croft** at Kington where lunch is available. The garden has been in the Banks family for many generations; Elizabeth Banks was RHS President 2010 – 2013. The garden has two national collections, of maples and of birch.

DAY THREE



This morning we visit **High Glanau Manor**, which has a listed Arts and Crafts garden laid out in 1922 by H Avray Tipping, who was an editor of Country Life magazine and a friend of Gertrude Jekyll, Harold Peto and Edward Lutyens. He designed the walled garden at Chequers, among others and lived at High Glanau Manor until his death in 1933, where

he designed the house and garden as an architectural whole. The views over the Brecon Beacons are spectacular.

We move on to **Dewstow**, which is a very unusual garden in that it was created on two levels, with tunnels and grottoes. It was recently rediscovered and much restoration work has been done over the past few years, work which is still in progress. We can get some light lunch here.

We complete the day with a visit to **Veddow** gardens, which is the home of Anne Wareham who is an influential gardener and writer. She was a judge on the TV series Britain's Best Home and Garden and has published a book “the Bad-Tempered Gardener”.

DAY FOUR

This morning we will visit **Hampton Court Gardens** near Leominster. It is not to be confused with the somewhat larger palace in London! The Society made a visit here in 2005 when it was owned by an American couple. It was a spectacular garden but the new owners have made substantial changes, and those who remember it from 2005 will certainly not be bored! We can get lunch here before travelling on to **Mynd Hardy Plants**, which is a nursery within the walled garden of Delbury Hall in Diddlebury. The nursery has a wide range of hardy perennials, particularly of asters, hardy geraniums, hemerocallis and pentstemons. The nursery featured on BBC Gardeners World in 2015.

The price for the trip will be £384 per person with a £60 single supplement. The hotel will be half board as usual. Insurance can be provided by Roberts Travel Group from £25 per person. All tips are included. As in previous years, in order to allow room for the many plants that you will buy, we will not be able to transport mobility scooters to and

from Hereford. However, scooters can be hired in the area, for delivery to the hotel for use on Saturday and Sunday.

Ian Evans tel: **01332 558194** mob: **07890347446**

e-mail: c.i.l.evans@gmail.com

A garden for contemplation – Hildegard Wiesehöfer

Almost exactly 10 years ago, when faced with the devastating news that I had a rare form of terminal cancer, I created this 'garden room' for quiet contemplation. The aim was to provide a quiet space with only few distractions and a minimal number of plants and colour at any time of the year. In autumn the sedums and Japanese anemone have their turn. We were also able to divert a natural spring from our upper garden, so that there is a background sound of water. We opened the garden in aid of the McMillan cancer trust, who part-funded my successful medical trial.



Don't forget.....Between now and next March is the best time to divide your herbaceous perennials

THE HARDY PLANT SOCIETY DERBYSHIRE GROUP							
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31/7/20							
RECEIPTS					Y.E. 31/7/20		Y.E. 31/7/19
Annual subscriptions					512.00		564.00
Meetings fees					645.00		796.00
Plant sales (695.10 - 463.40)					231.70		485.07
Other receipts					2,867.89		6,911.42
TOTAL RECEIPTS					4,256.59		8,756.49

EXPENDITURE						
Speakers fees & expenses				1,815.00		1,401.00
Hall hire: monthly meetings				205.00		343.00
Hall hire: plant fair				0.00		59.00
Other expenditure				2,721.73		6,850.89
TOTAL EXPENDITURE				4,741.73		8,653.89
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR				(485.14)		102.60
BALANCE SHEET						
Cash in hand				70.00		90.00
Current Account (Santander)				10.85		2,414.88
Deposit Account (Mansfield BS)				10,820.16		9,500.27
- Uncleared cheques issued				0.00		(649.00)
+ Credit unbanked at year end				0.00		30.00
ACCUMULATED YEAR END FUNDS				10,901.01		11,386.15
Financed by:-						
Opening accumulated funds				11,386.15		11,283.55
Deficit for year				(485.14)		102.60
ACCUMULATED YEAR END FUNDS				10,901.01		11,386.15
I have examined the books and records of the HPS Derbyshire Group and believe this Statement of Accounts to be in accordance with the information supplied.						
Examiner:				Date:		
These accounts are presented in a truncated format in order that you are aware of our financial position for the year ended 31 July 2020. Copies of the usual detailed accounts that are distributed at the AGM are available from Sallie Vardy by request.						