



Derbyshire Group

NEWSLETTER



Autumn 2021

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FROM THE CHAIR

How lovely it is to have resumed monthly indoor meetings from September after sacrificing them, plus the plant fair, day trips and holidays, to the dreadful Covid-19 virus. However, the gods were not on our side for this meeting, with speaker Don Witton trapped on the M1 due to an accident and unable to reach us. Nonetheless, with me absent due to health problems, I understand that Martin coped admirably, entertaining you for half an hour with an impromptu talk. I certainly would not have managed that. Thank you, and well done, Martin.

During our enforced lockdown, Celia and Ann coped brilliantly in organizing enjoyable Zoom talks, and we had some very good 'Zoom speakers', but I think that we all missed the warmth, atmosphere and camaraderie of 'live' meetings. There was extra work for treasurer Sallie too. Amongst other things she has had to refund all concerned for two planned cancelled day trips and pay plant sales monies on hand from pre Covid-closure meetings. Let us hope that there are no further impositions, of whatever nature, due to a sudden upsurge of the virus.

Ironically, the virus seems to have possibly caused more committee activity, by phone, Zoom and email, than normal, too. Decisions, decisions! To Zoom or not to Zoom, that was the question. Zoom meeting charge? When is it safe to resume indoor meetings? What precautions should we then take? All very difficult for a man who thought that Zoom was an ice lolly. I must give the committee members a pat on the back. They have made great efforts to make the best of a bad job.

Also, a big vote of thanks to Ian Evans for organizing an excellent day trip to the new HPS Bridgewater garden. He was so efficient that he managed to arrange the expected rainfall just as it was time to return and to also organize an appearance by the garden's designer, Tom Stuart-Smith, and curator, Matthew Pottage, in the jewel garden. The feedback I have received tells me that the garden is completely different to the other RHS gardens and that our visitors enjoyed some splendid planting and features, although the garden is still a work in progress. The downsides seem to have been the food (insufficient selection, pricy and variable quality) and the plant prices, a second mortgage job apparently, further evidenced by a boot that was not full of plants: indeed a rare occurrence! Nonetheless, a good time was had by all. Thank you for this trip, Ian, and for your next planned venture to Anglesey Abbey and Cambridge Botanic Garden in February: snow shovels optional, dear travellers.

Sadly, during our closure period, we have lost three members: our Conservation Officer Nigel Parkes-Rolfe, Rosie Harnon, and George Houlden. We remember them all with affection and value the time they have shared with us. Our thoughts are with their friends and family.

I have discovered a gardening website maintained by three knowledgeable sisters who write in the most humorous mock-competitive way of their gardening experiences. A weekly blog dispenses wit, wisdom, and advice on currently seasonal topics, and is something I really look forward to reading. You can subscribe to the free weekly blog via the website, the3growbags.com, where you can also view past blogs. How can you resist sampling it when you can enjoy comments like the one which describes transformation of *callicarpa bodinieri* from drab foliage to autumn purple berried brightness as “like changing from scullery maid to Cinderella in her brightest ballgown”, or the recommendation to try white autumn flowering Japanese anemone ‘Honorine Jobert’ rather than pink flowering Japanese anemones which, when grown alongside the fading yellows of *inula* and *rudbeckia*, make the border look like battenburg cake?

Keep smiling, keep gardening, and keep coming to our events.

Nigel Needham

TRIBUTE TO NIGEL PARKES-ROLFE

We were shocked and saddened to hear of the death in June of our Conservation Officer, Nigel Parkes-Rolfe, from pancreatic cancer, aged just 67.

Nigel had retired from a senior post at Derby City Council several years ago and in retirement enthusiastically embraced his existing and new interests with typical gusto, in particular gardening (with faithful companion cocker spaniel Buddy usually in close attendance when working in the garden), bridge and music. As in his work, Nigel’s enthusiasm resulted in study to enhance his knowledge of these subjects. We are chiefly aware of his gardening interests, of course. He was a diligent Conservation Officer for our group, happily putting in time and effort to ensure plant distribution to, and return and feedback from, our ‘conservation growers’, and a supportive general and committee member. His interest in many diverse plant groups also resulted in him becoming an active member of the HPS *galanthus*, and shade and woodland groups. Alpines were a particular interest and Nigel was a member of the Nottingham Alpine Garden Society group, and also of the Derby Alpine Garden Society group, of which he was a past chairman and vice chairman.

Nigel and his wife Sharon enthusiastically opened their garden in February, when many varieties of his beloved snowdrops, plus other plants, were on sale, and in spring when a whole host of plants were available, with all proceeds, totalling thousands of pounds over the years, going to charities, notably Macmillan Cancer Relief. It was a real treat to look

round the garden which Nigel had thoughtfully designed, being converted from 'just a lawn', and which contained a number of original ornaments. Naturally, there was an extensive range of plants to drool over, and Nigel freely gave cultural advice to visitors. In addition, Sharon's scrumptious homemade cakes rounded off a visit beautifully: no one seemed able to resist them.

Our group will greatly miss Nigel's presence and contribution. Committee members particularly will reflect on his friendliness, sound advice and opinions, and his strength of character in making a point, without rancour, if he thought that we were on the wrong wavelength.

Our thoughts and sympathy go to Sharon and sons Dan, Tim and family, who have the consolation of knowing that Nigel's deep faith sustained him so well during his illness. With typical thoughtfulness, Sharon listed some of the musical and gardening subjects which Nigel enjoyed on his funeral service sheet. The gardening subjects were cacti, snowdrops, trilliums, dwarf conifers, meconopsis, veratrum, bonsai and hepaticas. Sharon thought that they may be of interest to look up. You may care to do so and reflect on a valued friend and colleague.

Nigel Needham

EDITOR'S NOTES

Welcome to the autumn newsletter.

This newsletter is a little thinner than usual, which is probably a reflection of the extraordinary gardening year we have all been through.

Various lock-downs have prevented us from visiting places of interest and finding new and interesting plants to report on. The unusual weather in spring and early summer also played havoc with many of our gardening plans. As a result, there were fewer contributions from you.

One topic that has been very much in the media during 2021, and hopefully in our minds, is the impact we hardy planters have on the environment around us and the contributions we can all make to ensure a better future for our planet. I hope that this edition addresses some of the issues we face and offers the odd insight into how we can all make a tiny difference by changing our gardening habits.

For the next edition, please send your items to wiesehofer@btinternet.com

The copy deadline is 15 February 2022

COVER PICTURE:

Cyclamen coum

Cyclamen coum, the eastern sowbread, is a species of flowering plant in the family Primulaceae. It is a tuberous herbaceous perennial, growing to 5–8 cm, with rounded heart-shaped leaves and pink shell-shaped flowers with darker coloration at the base. Like many other plants in their native eastern Mediterranean climate, cyclamen naturally bloom in the fall, winter, and spring when the weather turns cool and damp. During the hot, dry summers, cyclamen become dormant; their foliage yellows and dies back and plants show no signs of growth. They store energy for the next flowering season in their round tubers. The key to keeping cyclamen happy and healthy is to replicate their natural environment as closely as possible. They thrive in cool temperatures that drop as low as 40 degrees F. at night and rise into the 60s during the day

Hardy cyclamen species and cultivars are ideal for naturalising under trees, on banks or in a shady border and planted in association with other early-flowering woodland plants such as snowdrops, winter aconites and primroses.

TRIPS – PAST AND FUTURE

Past : RHS Bridgewater

There have been contributions from 2 members, who took part in the visit to the new RHS garden at Bridgewater. They offer a different focus.

Ruth Sands writes....



I decided to try and use a mobility scooter for the first time. Pleasantly surprised at the ease of use, though it only had two speeds, slow and stop. We entered the gardens via a wide pathway with borders either side sparsely planted with pink cosmos. There were two gardens either side, a learning garden and a community garden, both furnished with wooden raised beds. Full marks for encouraging local gardeners to use it. We arrived at a small Victorian building, which was the

home of the previous head gardeners I believe. The small courtyard garden was charming, planted with bee friendly asters, Geraniums and sedums. From there we entered a small exotic garden which was colourful, then on to the main event, the

Paradise garden. The raised pond was lovely and we had missed the *Agapanthus* planted in huge pots around the edge. The planting of the small rectangular beds was seasonal, *Eupatorium* and *Selinum wallichianum*, dominating the scene. After a great many of these beds, as the place is huge, I'm afraid I found it rather monotonous, and wished for a complete change. This was provided right at the end with some low Mediterranean planting.

I did like the closely cropped lawn with irregular planting of large Yew blobs, and the wild area around the pond, which you could relax by, while eating your lunch. We were lucky enough to see a Kestrel hovering.



By the time we had reached the welcome garden I was desperately in need of a leg and back stretch. Luckily my companion's feet were hurting by then, so we did a quick swap. The pathways were all very accessible for the scooter, but I felt that the glasshouses would be a bit much, as they were crowded.

I would suggest that if you are thinking of visiting, take your own refreshments, as the queues were long and tedious, and meant that we had no time to visit the vegetable garden.

A visit in a few years' time would hopefully give the garden time to mature and change.

Steve and Jenny Gascoigne write

The coach left Alfreton at 8.30 on a warm cloudy morning with forecasts of thundery showers- true hardy plant visit conditions.

We were met at the Welcome Building and given an introductory talk by a staff member, who issued us with a map. The Welcome Building houses the shop, plant centre and restaurant, which offered good food at reasonable prices, though we queued for about 20 minutes. But it was 1.00 pm lunch time!



On exiting the Welcome Building, the wide, long walk goes in a straight line with accurately trimmed half-ball yews on a manicured lawn on the right. Given the age of the garden, I did wonder whether they were that shape when they were planted. To the right of this is the Worsley Welcome Garden, which is a maze of beds filled with grasses and herbaceous perennials such as *Lythrum Salicaria*/ Purple Loosestrife, *Rodgersia Pinnata*, *Verbena Bonariensis* (which is used

throughout the gardens) and underplanted with geranium, foxgloves and Columbine. To provide height, 2-metre high beech trees were dotted throughout the beds.

To the left of the long walk a path leads to the Community Grow, Community Wellbeing and a small Learning garden, which is used by local children.

The community grow garden consists of a series of hexagonal planting boxes at different heights and is designed to encourage the development of different plant growing skills.



The Community Wellbeing garden aims to give a quiet and reflective space with its meandering paths round circular beds and seats shaded by trees. The planting is simple and muted, and the surrounding beech hedge adds to the sense of seclusion.

The 11-acre Weston Walled Garden is divided to create the Kitchen Garden and the Paradise Gardens, with the kitchen gardens providing vegetables and fruit, interspersed with flowers to aid pollination and pest control. The walls are planted to showcase different forms of training fruit trees.

The Paradise Garden has a central Lily Pond, fed by a rill that runs east-west from a square bubble pool at each end. The beds contained late flowering herbaceous plants such as asters, rudbeckias and helenium and were underplanted with salvia, achillea and grasses. The walls have again been planted, but with more exotic fruit such as figs, pomegranate and cape honeysuckle (*tecoma capensis* - below)



On the outside of the North Wall are the old potting sheds, now given over to visual displays, and also the trial gardens. These identify the best varieties of a plant- in this case hydrangeas-, and confer the RHS Merit awards. The area outside the West Wall contains the rather splendid, gothic head gardener's cottage and a small bee and butterfly garden to provide year-round food for insects..

To the east of the Walled Garden a path leads through open woodland to the Chinese Streamside Garden (still in its infancy) and Ellesmere Lake, which is also still a work in progress. This whole area is still being developed.

From Ellesmere Lake there is an easy slope leading back to the Welcome Centre.

We departed home at 3 pm.

Our thanks to Ian, and I am sure Anne, for another well organised visit. We all left Alfreton a bit tired but have thoroughly enjoyed talking to friends missed for too long, masks and all.

Future: Visit to Anglesey Abbey and Cambridge University Botanic Garden

Wednesday 9 February 2022

Both the above gardens have wonderful winter gardens, and this will be a chance to see both at their best on the same trip. It is now 12 years since the Society visited these gardens and both have developed a lot since then. If you would like to come on this trip please contact Ian and indicate whether you are a member of the National Trust. The cost for Trust members will be £30 and for non-members £45. These prices are based upon at least 40 passengers, and preference will be given to members of the Society.

The trip will leave from the Alfreton Travelodge at 8 am and will return with the intention of arriving at 7 pm. The target is to reach Anglesey Abbey by around 10.30 am and Cambridge Botanic Garden by 1.30 pm, and to leave Cambridge by 4 pm. There are good cafes at both gardens so you can choose where to eat.

Payment should be made to Ian Evans either at the next meeting by cash or cheque or contact Ian to reserve a place. Cheques are payable to Derbyshire Hardy Plant Society. If numbers exceed the coach capacity (53) preference will be given to those who have paid. More information is available from Ian Evans.



Ian Evans

Tel: 07890 347 446

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

HPS SPEAKERS/ DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

All take place at Shirland Village Hall at 2 pm on the 3rd Saturday of the month

November 20th - Neil Huntley (Hartside Nursery Garden)

Roscoeas and other Woodland Garden Plants

Hartside Nursery is family run, established in 1975. They specialise in propagating, growing, and selling some of the rarely offered hardy plants from around the world.

The wide range of old and new species and varieties includes Alpines, Primulas, Spring and Autumn Flowering Gentians, Rock Garden Plants, Dwarf Conifers, Dwarf Rhododendrons, and Hardy Ferns. They exhibit at various flower shows including Chelsea.

December 11th - Don Witton **Calendar of Colour**

We are pleased to welcome a firm favourite of ours, Don Witton, from Sheffield. The holder of the National Collection of Hardy Euphorbias, he will present his new humorous talk 'Calendar of Colour'.

January 15th - David Charlton **Cyclamen in the Wild and in Cultivation**

David specialises in Alpine flora. He is secretary of Derby Branch of the Alpine Garden Society. He wins gold medals for his Alpine exhibits and is often asked to judge competitions. Wildlife and the natural environment are David's passions. He leads walks in the Dolomites, Pyrenees and Picos de Europa for Colletts holiday company. With Cliff Booker he has published pocket field guides to flowers in these mountains. He has co-authored with Cliff Booker two pocket field guides to alpine flowers -

"Mountain Flowers - The Dolomites" and "The Pyrenees and Picos".

February 19th – Pam Tatam (Hall Farm Garden, Gainsborough) **Combinations, Underwear and a few Suspenders**

Pam and Mark Tatam own Hall Farm Garden near Gainsborough. The 3-acre site includes a sunken garden, a pond, and a walled gravel garden. There is a flower meadow, woodland walk, and at the bottom of the garden a medieval moat. In between these areas there is a plethora of trees, shrubs, roses and perennials. Pam and Mark open their garden for events and the NGS.

March 19th - Vicky Fox (Plantagogo) **A Passion for Heucheras**

Vicky and Richard Fox established Jubilee Cottage Nursery in 1990. By 2000 they were specialising in Heucheras, Heucherellas and Tiarellas and have continued collecting these species ever since.

To promote their new website, Plantagogo, they started attending flower shows. In 2007 they were showing their plants in Floral Marquees. Their first Chelsea gold medal was

won in 2009 and in the same year both of their National Collections of Heucherellas and of Heucheras were approved.

This was followed by approval of their National Collection of Tiarellas two years later. Vicky and Richard continue to show plants and gain many prestigious medals.

David Andrews writes

Looking round our garden it's good to see a few things in flower now we are into autumn.

Our Hydrangea Villosa was decimated by the late frost, in fact we did think it may have died it looked so withered and brown, but eventually green shoots appeared although we didn't expect to see any flowers this year but, as the photo shows it is now in full flower although much later than normal.



The Salvia Confertiflora was purchased from Hollies Farm Plant Centre.

The plant in the photo is a cutting from the original. It has rusty red / orange spiky flowers. This plant is growing in a pot and was overwintered in the greenhouse.



Two other cuttings planted in the border were not hardy enough to survive the winter.

Purchased a few years ago at a Plant Fair as Chrysanthemum Uliginosum , however it is now called Leucanthemella serotina (quite confusing).

The daisy white flowers are about 2 inches across with a green / yellow eye, it grows quite tall , this one is about grow.
“.



five feet, so requires a good space to grow. Could be one for Ann's " Alba Group

GARDENING FOR BIO-DIVERSITY AND HEALTH

There can't be anyone not aware of the impact that global warming and climate change are predicted to have on the future of our planet and of the need to examine our consumption practices. This of course also affects our gardening habits – when, where and how we plant, and of course what we plant.

Meteorologists anticipate that rainy summers will become more common, meaning that plants with flowers that can withstand rainfall will become more important. They also predict that downpours will become heavier, causing flash flooding. This makes life exceptionally hard for all insects and will further threaten the bio-diversity necessary for a healthy environment. Bees are particularly affected because sudden bursts of rain hammering down on delicate petals can destroy flowers, leaving bees hungry.

The entomologist Philip Donkersley explained how during a normal summer bee numbers increase throughout the year because of the increasing number and diversity of blossoms. But an extended period of rain at the height of summer can wipe out many of the flowers at exactly the time when bee colonies are largest. Smaller bees, such as the honeybees, also struggle to fly in the rain, so wet summers limit the time they spend foraging. And when bees struggle, they are likely to get sick. Bee keepers have already noted a huge reduction in honey produced this year. Ivy, heather, rosebay willow herb, dandelions and lavender are worth encouraging to keep bees in nectar through even the soggiest of summers. On the plus side, less hardy perennial plants may happily survive the predicted milder winters in the UK.

Many have argued for the last two decades that we should stop using peat in compost, but the climate-change crisis has highlighted the role that peat plays in adding carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. The Committee on Climate Change



estimates around 39 tonnes of carbon dioxide have been released from every hectare of lowland peat that has been drained and fertilised every year, while a further 18.5 to 23 million tonnes are released from other peatlands in the UK. Peat bogs are also an invaluable habitat for flora and fauna, supporting many rare and vulnerable native species not found anywhere else. Peat extraction wipes out the entire eco-system and although habitat regeneration schemes are now being attempted, there is no guarantee these will succeed. Peat bogs also create natural flood defences, soaking up excess rainfall and releasing it slowly. It is therefore important to find an alternative planting medium.

To help our environment further, we may have to rethink our gardening practices, paying more attention to companion planting to deal with pests and diseases, and using home-made fertilisers such as nettle or comfrey feed, rather than relying on shop-bought



solutions.

We might also need to find creative repurposing solutions to reduce our environmental impact. I have recently discovered the practice of using

woody material to create Hugel-beet gardening, which is burying rotting wood or woody plant material under a layer of soil on which to plant. The gradual decomposition helps retain moisture whilst simultaneously providing nutrients for fungi and microbes to flourish. This is much preferable to burning.



Using branches to create supports for climbers can also be an attractive alternative, as this example on the right from the Bridgewater RHS garden shows.

Rewilding and wildlife gardening are also very much on many people's mind. Indeed many county councils have embraced this and have reduced the amount and timing of mowing verges. When choosing hardy perennials, we might consider this as a factor.

Don't be too hasty to cut things back. Instead, leave herbaceous stems, grasses and climbers untouched to provide overwintering shelter for insects and cover for small birds to creep about. Birds will also harvest any late seeds and berries, such as those from Ivy, as winter deepens. You might even find a hedgehog hibernating under a pile of grass stems.

Many creatures hibernate and compost bins are a favourite spot. Try not to disturb the heap through the winter month. Instead, start a new one if you need to.

Books for further information:

Jane More, 2021, *Planting for Wildlife: A grower's guide to rewilding your garden*

Frances Tophill, *Rewild Your Garden: Create a Haven for Birds, Bees and Butterflies*

Piet Oudolf 2019, *Planting the Natural Garden*

The following presentation might also be of interest to you:

The Sheffield School approach to sustainable planting –

Tuesday 7th December – 7pm (GMT) **£10.00**

Speakers: Nigel Dunnett
and James Hitchmough

The talk with Q&A will last approximately 60
– 90 minutes.

Details of how to access the talk will be sent
in the purchase confirmation email.



Description



For some years the Sheffield School of Landscape Architecture has pioneered the promotion of sustainable design and planting. Two of its leading figures are Nigel Dunnett and James Hitchmough, both renowned for a series of internationally important projects, not least the London Olympic Park, in which a sustainable meadow style planting of perennials is showcased.

Their talk focuses on a selection of their projects, bringing to life the plants and

landscapes and championing the sustainability which they believe should underpin everyone's gardening today.

About Nigel and James

Nigel Dunnett is Professor of Planting Design and Urban Horticulture in the Department of Landscape Architecture at the University of Sheffield, and is one of the world's leading voices on innovative approaches to planting design. He is a plantsman, designer and



pioneer of the new ecological approach to planting gardens and public spaces. His work revolves around the integration of ecology and horticulture to achieve low-input, high-impact landscapes that are dynamic, diverse, and tuned to nature.

James Hitchmough is Professor of Horticultural Ecology in the Department of Landscape



Architecture at the University of Sheffield. Along with his colleague Nigel Dunnett he has developed the 'Sheffield School' of planting design, typified by workable, sustainable solutions for public space, with high public appeal, and rich in biodiversity.

Both Nigel and James have authored a number of books and lecture regularly to audiences around the world. The link is: <https://ngs.org.uk/shop/online-events/online-talks/the-sheffield-school-approach-to-sustainable-planting/>

EUPATORIUM: THE BEE AND BUTTERFLY MAGNET - NIGEL NEEDHAM

This photograph, taken in our garden in August, shows eupatorium, which was a bit of a 'star' for us this summer. It has been a delight, not only for its flowers, but for the endless supply of bees it has attracted. Butterflies like it too, but they seem to have been in short supply with us this year. I am not sure of our source, but suspect it was grown from seed acquired from the HPS seed distribution scheme and is probably eupatorium purpureum.



It may be something of a 'marmite plant': some people think that its flowers are not very bright or showy. I disagree, however. On closer inspection the flowers (technically corymbs which are flower clusters on many individual stalks which form a flat or slightly domed head) are impressive, in my opinion, and a clump of the plant gives a good block of colour. We have several clumps, the largest of which stand over six feet tall (the largest clump being in the wetter

part of the garden; they tend to grow near water in the wild). They may splay slightly but can be supported if necessary. I think that ours look quite stately. The purple/pink flowers turn 'fluffy' as they age, but this is not a problem for me; beauty is in the eye of the beholder. The purplish stems and lance-shaped, serrated leaves which grow 6 – 8 inches long are reasonably pleasing to the eye too.

You may know eupatorium as Joe Pye weed, being thought to be named after a native American (Jopi) although this is not certain. A Google search, however, told me that it is also known as Boneset, Thoroughwort or Snakeroot in North America, to which it is native. My 'research' also found that it is a member of the asteraceae family, and, to my amazement, has 30 – 60 species depending on the classification system, and that there are annual, herbaceous perennial, sub-shrubs, and evergreen shrub forms. Overall, a fascinating plant providing good late summer colour to the back of the border. What's not to like?

PROPOSED NEW CONSTITUTION OF THE HPS DERBYSHIRE GROUP

1. STATUS AND RELATIONSHIP

A group of members of the Hardy Plant Society (registered Charity No: 208080, hereinafter “the HPS”) and registered with the HPS. The Group is a body independent of the HPS, save for registration with the Society. As such, it has no power or authority to bind the HPS or to enter into any contract on behalf of the Society except as may be expressly authorised by the HPS Trustees from time to time. For the avoidance of doubt, it should be noted that the Group is not a registered charity.

2. NAME

The name of the Group shall be Hardy Plant Society Derbyshire Group and this title shall be dependent upon continuing registration with the HPS. If registration is withdrawn, the Group shall delete the name ‘Hardy Plant Society’ from its title immediately.

3. REGISTRATION TO THE HARDY PLANT SOCIETY

The Group shall, at all times, comply with the registration requirements as notified from time to time by the HPS.

4. OBJECTS

To further the objects of the HPS on a local basis.

5. MEMBERS

Only fully paid-up members of the HPS may become members of the Group. Each member shall be entitled to one vote at any General Meeting. Each member shall receive a copy of the Group Constitution.

6. SUBSCRIPTIONS

All members shall pay an annual sum as recommended by the Committee and approved at a general meeting of members which shall become due on the 1st January in each year or such other date as members agree at an Annual General Meeting.

7. FINANCE

a) Funds belonging to the Group shall be deposited in an authorised banking account held in the name of the Group.

b) Cheques drawn on the account shall be signed in accordance with a resolution approved by the Group Committee.

c) The financial year of the Group shall end on 31st. July in each year or such other date as members agree at an Annual General Meeting

d) Annual accounts shall be prepared and examined by an independent person (who may be a member of the Group) and submitted for the approval of members at the Annual General Meeting.

8. OFFICERS AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- a) The following honorary Officers of the Group shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting: Chairman, {Vice-Chairman}, Secretary and Treasurer.
- b) In addition there will be a maximum of four other elected committee members.
- c) The persons so elected shall form the Management Committee of the Group.
- d) All Officers and other members of the Committee shall seek re-election annually:
- i) The Chairman shall be eligible for re-election each year, subject to serving a maximum of three years (extendable, if necessary, to a maximum of five consecutive years).
- ii) The other Officers of the Group are eligible for re-election annually.
- iii) Other members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election each year for a maximum of three years continuous service, after which they shall resign and not be eligible for re-election until a further period of twelve months has elapsed.
- e) Nominations for Officers and members of the Committee must be received by the Secretary in writing, together with confirmation of the Nominees' consent, not less than 14 days before the appointed date for the Annual General Meeting
- f) A quorum for Committee meetings shall be not less than 3 elected members of whom one must be an elected Officer.
- g) The Committee has the power to co-opt new members to serve until the following AGM when they may stand for election.

9. GENERAL MEETINGS (Annual or Extraordinary)

- a) At least 21 days notice of any General Meeting shall be given to all members specifying the business of the meeting.
- b) At General Meetings, decisions shall be by simple majority with the Chairman having a casting vote.
- c) A quorum at General Meetings shall be 10% of the current paid-up membership.
- d) An Annual General Meeting of all paid-up members of the Group shall be held once in each calendar year, within three months of the end of the financial year to transact the following business:
 - i) To receive and adopt the Minutes of the last AGM.
 - ii) To receive the annual reports from Officers of the Group.

- iii) To receive and adopt the Annual Accounts of the preceding financial year.
- iv) To transact any other business of which at least 21 days notice has been given.
- v) To deal with any special matter which the Committee may wish to bring before the members and to receive suggestions from the members for consideration by the Committee.
- vi) To elect the Officers and other Committee members.
- vii) To elect an auditor/examiner.
- e) An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Group may be called at any time and shall be called within 40 days of receipt by the Secretary of a requisition, in writing, signed by not less than 15 members stating the purpose for which the meeting is requested and setting out the resolutions which are to be proposed thereat. No other business shall be transacted at the meeting.

10. ALTERATIONS TO THE GROUP CONSTITUTION

- a) The Constitution may be altered only at a General Meeting of the Group of which due notice has been given and which specifies the proposed alterations and of which a copy has been supplied to the HPS Group Co-ordinator for approval by the Trustees.
- b) A motion to amend the Constitution shall require a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast.

11. DISSOLUTION

- a) A motion to dissolve the Group shall require a General Meeting of which not less than 21 days notice shall have been given to all members. Such motion shall incorporate specific proposals for the distribution of the surplus assets of the Group after settlement of all liabilities. Such distribution shall be to an appropriate group as approved by Group members.
- b) A motion to dissolve the Group shall require a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast.

NB: This proposed constitution has been created to meet the new 'model' suggested by the national society. Changes to the existing one are minimal. The existing constitution is on the HPS Derbyshire website if you wish to identify the changes.

THE HARDY PLANT SOCIETY DERBYSHIRE GROUP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday 20th November 2021 at 3.30pm in Shirland Village Hall, Shirland, DE55 6BB

This follows the 2pm talk by Neil Huntley 'Roscoeas and other Woodland Garden Plants'

Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence
2. To approve the minutes of the AGM held on 19th October 2019 and discuss any matters arising.
3. Treasurer's Annual Report and the Accounts for the year ended 31st July 2021.
4. Chairman's Annual Report
5. To Approve the Updated Constitution
6. Election of Officers - Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and up to four General Committee Members.
7. To appoint an Auditor
8. Any other Business

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

The persons elected shall form the Management Committee of the Group, and shall be responsible for the activities, programme and all day-to-day administration of the Group. The Committee shall have the right to co-opt additional members to serve until the following Annual General Meeting.

The Chairman shall be eligible for re-election each year, subject to serving a maximum of three years but shall not be eligible for re-election as Chairman, until a further period of twelve months has elapsed. NB: the three year period is extendable to five years under the proposed new constitution.

General Members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election each year, for not more than three years continuous service, after which they shall resign, and not be eligible for re-election until a further period of twelve months, has elapsed.

The Secretary and the Treasurer shall retire each year but shall be eligible for re-election.

Nominations for Officers and members of the Committee (form follows below) must be received by the Secretary in writing, together with confirmation of the Nominees' consent, not less than 14 days before the appointed date of the AGM.

Officers standing for re-election

Chairman: Nigel Needham

Secretary: Celia Weaver

Treasurer:

Committee Members standing for election or re-election:

Martin Brown, Ann Franks, Mike Vardy, Hildegard Wiesehofer

Auditor: David Andrews

NOMINATION FORM:

THE HARDY PLANT SOCIETY DERBYSHIRE GROUP NOMINATION FORM

For officers and Members of the Committee for election at AGM on Saturday 20th November 2021.

PERSON NOMINATED _____ Date _____

For OFFICE: Chairman / Secretary / Treasurer / Committee Member

NOMINATED BY _____ Name _____

Signature

NOMINEE'S CONSENT TO ACT _____ Signature

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31/7/21

THE HARDY PLANT SOCIETY DERBYSHIRE GROUP

RECEIPTS	Y.E. 31/7/21	Y.E. 31/7/20
Annual subscriptions	8.00	512.00
Meetings fees	0.00	645.00
Raffle proceeds	0.00	414.15
Coach trip	0.00	1,263.25
Coach trip	1,038.00	0.00
Book, card, etc. sales	160.00	510.55
Plant sales	0.00	231.70
Refund holiday surplus	0.00	558.00
Donations	50.00	0.00

Miscellaneous income	0.00	2.05
Bank interest	89.39	119.89
TOTAL RECEIPTS	1,345.39	4,256.59

EXPENDITURE

Speakers fees & expenses	764.00	1,815.00
Hall hire: monthly meetings	0.00	205.00
Refreshments	0.00	169.90
Coach trip	0.00	1,263.25
Coach trip Vehicle hire deposit	675.00	0.00
Book, card, etc., purchases	0.00	476.53
Raffle prizes	0.00	92.12
Printing & photocopying	128.57	365.15
Postage, stationery & telephone	95.64	21.82
Website	212.46	186.48
Appreciations	20.00	25.48
RHS insurance	75.00	75.00
RHS subscription	35.00	35.00
Committee expenses	0.00	11.00
Zoom fees	71.95	0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	2,077.62	4,741.73

SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR	-732.23	-485.14
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BALANCE SHEET

Cash in hand	70.00	70.00
Current Account (Santander)	812.32	10.85
Deposit Account (Mansfield BS)	9,409.55	10,820.16
- Uncleared cheques issued	-123.09	0.00
+ Uncredited lodgements	0.00	0.00

ACCUMULATED YEAR END FUNDS	10,168.78	10,901.01
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Financed by:-

Opening accumulated funds	10,901.01	11,386.15
Surplus (deficit) for year	-732.23	-485.14

ACCUMULATED YEAR END FUNDS	10,168.78	10,901.01
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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:

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

Stop Press.....

We have enough people signed up for the trip to Anglesey and can go ahead. We still have several spaces on the coach, however, so if you have friends, relations, etc who would like to go, please get them to contact me.

Please now make payments to me, with cheques payable to Derbyshire Hardy Plant Society or by cash at the next meeting. It is £30 for members of the National Trust and £45 for non-members of the NT.

Ian Evans

Tel: 07890 347 446

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