

We are really pleased to resume distribution of our Spring Newsletter – it does feel as though we are getting back to normal (well almost!) especially as Spring is here and all that that entails for gardeners. Below are details of the DHS programme through to the autumn: speakers' evenings, two flower shows, our plant sale, an outing and our coffee morning get together. So out with the diary and jot down the dates. We do hope that more of you will come along to support us, particularly at our fund-raising events; as you can appreciate our running costs are rising even more this year! Check out our website for comprehensive information on everything.

*Don't forget that visitors are always very welcome at all our events.*

**WEDNESDAY 6 April – NEVER A DULL MOMENT – with Simon White from Peter Beales Roses**

**NOTE:** this is the very **LAST DATE** for submitting your Spring Show entry forms to Colin Biggins by **5 pm**; however, he is happy to collect them at this meeting so bring your form with you.

**SATURDAY 9 APRIL SPRING SHOW in the Assembly Rooms**

You will all have received the schedule so there's still time to look at it again and see what you can enter – there really is something for everyone. Why not have a go this year – all the classes are open to all ages. If you are unable to enter, please support the Society by coming along at 2 pm for tea and a chat; as usual there will be some plants for sale as well as our popular raffle. Admission is free for members and children; for non-members it's £1 which also includes tea.

**WEDNESDAY 4 MAY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 7.00 for 7.30 pm**

Last year's AGM minutes, Agenda and Accounts will be sent to you to give you time to read them through beforehand. This is a good opportunity for you to air your views or suggestions about the Society – we do need your feedback!

In accordance with DHS rules, your subscription is **due at the AGM** (it's still only £8), so please be prepared to give your cheques/cash to Betty and collect your 2022/23 Membership card at the same time. Heather Morris was co-opted onto the Committee last summer; however, we still have one vacancy which we **MUST** fill if we are to run the Society successfully. **Do** think about this – if you are interested then give Colin Biggins a ring on 322565 – he will be happy to give you more information. Formal nominations are needed so please complete the attached slip and let Elizabeth Ellis have it a week **before** the AGM.

The meeting doesn't usually take long and afterwards **David Knight** will talk to us on **THE CPRE (THE COUNTRYSIDE CHARITY, was formerly the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England)**. Wine and juice will be available at the break between the AGM and David Knight's talk. There will be the usual raffle and 'garden magazine swap'.

**SATURDAY 14 MAY ANNUAL PLANT SALE in front of the church 9.00 am till about 11.30 am**

We are pleased to have *Mission Bake* joining us again with their cake stall. If you are dividing up your perennials to improve their vigour or you have some spare veg plants or annuals then please pot some up for our Sale, but do remember to add a label - 'mystery' plants don't always sell well! Anything else that can be planted is always welcome!! The proceeds are needed to subsidise our outings and other events, so do come along and grab a bargain as more plants appear all morning. Don't forget those delicious cakes as well!

**WEDNESDAY 1 JUNE – GROWING LAVENDER ON THE BANKS OF THE STOUR Speaker from Stour Valley Organic Lavender Company**

This is our last Speakers' evening before the summer, so do come along and find out how these beautiful plants are grown not too far away from Dedham. There will be the usual raffle, refreshments and garden magazine swap as well as the opportunity to purchase your outing tickets.

*Continued*

**THURSDAY 23 JUNE COFFEE MORNING: 10.30 – 12 noon** This year Val and John Hayden at Heath House, The Heath, CO7 6BT (look for the giant fir cone in the front garden) are opening their lovely large enclosed garden for us. There are lawned areas, well-kept borders with hardy perennials, mature trees and shrubs to enjoy. It's also accessible for anyone with limited mobility. Just the place to sit and enjoy coffee, cake and a chat. Parking should be OK but more on that later on. The cost for coffee or tea, home-made cakes and biscuits throughout the morning is **£5**. There will be the usual raffle and plants for sale. **WHY NOT BRING ALONG A FRIEND?**

**THURSDAY 30 JUNE Outing to Fullers Mill Garden, West Stowe, Bury St. Edmunds**

**The coach departs Royal Square at 9.30 am** and will take us to “a waterside gem in the heart of Suffolk”

This is a 7-acre *Perennial Garden* for year-round interest. As they say ... “You can explore the magical gardens around the Mill Pond which is planted with massed primulas, the majestic displays of lilies in the Top Garden, the Strip with its bed of sun-loving plants and views across the lake. Then there's the Low Garden where the mix of shady areas and sunny glades offer ideal conditions for a whole range of charming woodland plants”. If you Google 'Fullers Mill Garden' you will find various websites giving more information, the history of the garden and lots of pictures.

We have been able to negotiate an all-in price of £28 for members and £30 for guests. Although this is slightly more than usual you will get a lot for your money: coach fare, tea/coffee on arrival, entry to the garden with a guided tour from the Head Gardener and a two-course **buffet lunch**. [*Provision will be made for vegetarians and those needing gluten free.*] Refreshments can be purchased in their café and plants propagated from the garden are also available.

We hope to leave there at around **4 pm**; see also our own website for the full itinerary.

Tickets will be available from **6 April** and at **all** the above events but they **MUST be purchased in advance from Colin Biggins (323565)**. The last date for buying your ticket will be **16 June** when we have to let the Mill know how many people to expect.

**And don't forget: SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER, is the AUTUMN SHOW in the Assembly Rooms**

**HAPPY GARDENING EVERYONE**

**DEDHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

**To: The Secretary, DHS, Barnacles, Wick Road, Langham CO4 5PG (tel: 231164)**

I wish to nominate .....

as a Committee Member of Dedham Horticultural Society

Signed (*proposer*) .....

Signed (*nominee*) .....



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