

SOUTH HEREFORDSHIRE GARDENING CLUB

Chair: Christine Flint

Admin Secretary:

Jo Dawson

3 New School Road, Gilwern

Abergavenny, NP7 0AX

01873 269075

<http://www.southherefordshire-gardeningclub.org.uk/>

July 2018 Newsletter

Dear Members,

Welcome to summer newsletter with information about our September outing, meetings for later in the year, the plans for our 2019 Summer Holiday together with news about your committee.

Firstly your committee, unfortunately Katrina has had to leave the committee to allow her more time and flexibility for her art work and will be very sorely missed. I would like to take this opportunity thank her for both her time and hard work. In the short term I will be taking over booking our speakers for the remainder of 2019 but we really need someone to step up and replace Katrina as soon as possible.

Also Jo is very unfortunately having to step back somewhat from her sterling work of the past few years in both finding gardens and then booking them so that we have been able to visit some really good private gardens, as well as enjoy some lovely cake. So we are also looking for someone to organise an outing or two for 2019. It could be that a couple of people could each sort out one outing so that together with the late June holiday we would have plenty to do during the summer. This would not need to be a full time committee role but would need good email co-ordination with the rest of us. Please please please could you consider if you can find time to help us run the group either for booking speakers or sorting out a garden visit.

We have had some lovely garden visits already this year, I have particularly enjoyed Ty Boda with lots of interest, wonderful setting and lovely views and also Byecroft, owned by one of our previous speakers, Sue Russell. This was a very good smaller scale garden which included a superbly planted pergola full of roses and clematis. Many thanks to Jo for all her efforts so that we could enjoy these gardens together. There are pictures on our website.

Our late summer outing is on Thursday September 6th and Jo has organised an afternoon outing to The Garden of the Wind which has a spectacular setting as well as being a modern garden using swathes of herbaceous plants and grasses, surrounding stone built farmhouse and barns with stunning views of the Black Mountains. Special features: rose border, hornbeam alley, formal parterre and

bespoke water rill and fountains, William Pye water feature, architecturally designed greenhouse complex, vegetable gardens. Carved lettering and sculpture throughout, garden covering about 4 acres. Booking form on the website.

Our first talk back is on Saturday October 6th in Walford Village Hall as usual. Our speaker is Michael Brown with the interesting subject of Poisonous plants, Myths, Magic, Passion and Murder. Be warned, many of these plants may be growing in your garden.

The 2019 Holiday has us leaving from Ross-on-Wye in the morning of Sunday June 23rd, returning late afternoon on Thursday June 27th, our base will be The Winchester Hotel and Spa in Winchester. As usual single rooms are limited so please book early if you would prefer one, the booking forms will be available for the October meeting together with a full itinerary as Jo plans to book the gardens during August. At the moment some of the highlights are planned to be Sir Harold Hillier Gardens near Romsey, Mottisfont which is famous for its roses as well as the Abbotsbury Sub-Tropical Gardens on the way home. These are the large, better known gardens but there is also a very interesting selection of visits to smaller private gardens being arranged as we have done in previous holidays. There will be a free morning in Winchester as well as some time to visit Limington on the Wednesday.

The price for the four nights to include the hotel, some lunches and teas as well as all the gardens is provisionally £539.80p for people sharing a twin room and £595.80 for those in a single room. The hotel price is fixed but we know from experience that some of the garden prices will rise slightly. There will be a reduction for National Trust members as in previous years.