

# *Newsletter*

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## *Diary of Events - Summer 2019*

Saturday April 6th	<i>AGM - Agenda enclosed. Talk - Chris Birchall – The spring flowering of Crete. Plants for Sale from Tale Valley Nursery.</i>
Saturday May 25 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Members Plant Sale at Lesser Town Hall, Cowbridge.</i>
Thursday June 27 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Coach Trip to West Wales, Treffgarne Hall near Haverfordwest and Llwyngarreg near Whitland.</i>
Saturday August 17 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Coach Trip to Walled Garden Nursery near Malmesbury and Miserden Manor near Stroud.</i>
Sunday September 1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Members garden visit to Sue Duffield at Ashdown, Welsh St Donats.</i>

### **Arrangements for Coach Trips.**

Bookings for coach trips can be made at meetings or by contacting Catherine Ramsay

Email: [trips@southwaleshps.org.uk](mailto:trips@southwaleshps.org.uk)

A deposit of £15 per person per day trip is required to secure a place.

If you cannot go on the trip after all, please telephone Catherine straight away, to give someone else a chance of the place. Members should bring packed lunches and refreshments unless otherwise stated.

### **The AGM and talk.**

This will be held at Williams Memorial Hall, Main Road, Coychurch, Bridgend, CF35 5HB at 2pm. Members are welcome to meet for lunch at the White Horse in Coychurch prior to indoor meetings and where it's often an opportunity to meet the afternoon's speaker. However in order to ensure we can sit together please let the Chair know by email ([chair@southwaleshps.org.uk](mailto:chair@southwaleshps.org.uk)) by no later than the Tuesday before the meeting. In this case Tuesday April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup>.**

**Talk - Chris Birchall - The Spring Flowering of Crete**

Chris trained in horticulture at Cannington College in Somerset and subsequent employment included Parks Superintendent at East Devon Council and Superintendent at RHS Rosemoor before becoming self-employed and setting up Tale Valley Nursery with his wife Lorraine. The nursery specialises in dwarf bulbs, shade perennials and alpine plants. They have won RHS gold medals at Cardiff, Chelsea, BBC Gardeners' World, Malvern and Hampton Court Flower Shows for their displays.



**Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Members Plant Sale at Lesser Town Hall, Cowbridge.**

This is an important fund-raising event for the Group – bring plants or cakes if you can, but otherwise just be tempted by the plants and enjoy the refreshments.

Doors open 9.00am for donations of plants and cakes, at 9.30am for group members and 10.00am for general public. Sale ends at 12.30 midday.

**Thursday June 27<sup>th</sup>.**

**Coach Trip to West Wales, Treffgarne Hall near Haverfordwest and Llwyngarreg near Whitland.**

We are heading west so an earlier start this time for the Cardiff West and Sarn pick-ups and a more leisurely start for our western members. We will be visiting 2 gardens that are open under the NGS and by appointment. In the morning we will visit **Treffgarne Hall** near Haverfordwest which has a stunning hilltop location with panoramic views and a 4 acre garden planted for year round interest. In the afternoon we will visit **Llwyngarreg**, near Whitland, a garden started in 2000 from a 2 acre field and now reaching maturity, containing many rarities, with a 40m perennial border, a woodland area, wildlife ponds, gravel terraces and a sunken garden with exotics. There will be tea/coffee with biscuits in the morning and tea/coffee and cake in the afternoon. As usual bring your packed lunch. The cost of the trip will be approximately £29 depending on numbers.

<https://www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/20382/>

<https://www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/19755/>

<http://www.llwyngarreg.co.uk/>



**Saturday August 17<sup>th</sup>.**

**Coach Trip to Walled Garden Nursery near Malmesbury and Miserden Manor near Stroud.**

First we will stop at the **Walled Garden Nursery**, a small nursery near Malmesbury which specialises in Clematis and other climbers, with some shrubs and perennials. There are no toilet facilities so we will make a brief comfort stop at the nearest services beforehand. There are no teas available so bring a flask or pick up a drink at the services. In the afternoon we will visit the gardens of **Miserden Manor** near Stroud which has a walled garden, a notable topiary yew walk designed by Lutyens and mixed borders with roses, clematis, shrubs and perennials. There are spectacular views over a deer park and the rolling Cotswold hills beyond. It also has a nursery with an extensive range of plants. There will be a 'cream tea' available with scone, cream and jam and tea/coffee before departure. As usual bring a packed lunch to eat on the coach.

The cost of the trip will be approximately £30 depending on numbers.

<http://www.clematis-nursery.co.uk/>

<https://www.miserden.org/garden/>



**Sunday, September 1st from 2 pm  
Members Garden Visit.**

Sue Duffield's garden at Ashdown, Welsh St. Donats CF71 7SS

Sue welcomes us to visit and tells us "The garden is about 0.3 of an acre and is mostly flat. There is a large lawn, trees, flower beds with shrubs and perennials, 2 greenhouses, a fruit cage and a wildlife pond under construction. I have a large collection of pelargoniums including many unusual species pelargoniums a lot of these are in pots on the patio. There is a collection of Aeoniums and other exotics."



Directions to Ashdown:

If approaching from the West, drive on A48 past Cowbridge and after leaving the 50 miles/hour section you will pass a large Aerial Mast on your left hand side. After approx. 1.5 miles turn left, signposted to Welsh St Donats.

If approaching from the East drive on the A48 through St Nicholas and Bonvilston, after leaving Bonvilston, you will pass two pubs on the left The Old Post and The Aubrey Arms, after about 0.5 mile, road bears left, and on the bend there is a right turn to Welsh St Donats (signposted), turn right.

Keep on this road – watch out for sharpish left bend road appears to go straight on- you follow road around to the left. Very quickly you will be in the village – as you approach the village there is a bus shelter on the left of the road and two roads on the right. Take the second right towards the church, Ashdown is second on the right.

Limited Parking, Graham will be on the gate to assist.

## **Local Group News.**

**Website** - The Group now has a web site at <http://www.southwaleshps.org.uk>. It's still at an early stage but we'll be adding to it over the summer. It will contain details of meetings, events, coach trips and other useful information.

**Weekend Away 2020** - As yet our weekend away for 2020 has not been organised. Watch for details in the next newsletter.

## **Plant Fairs/Sales in date order.**

Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 10-4 St Peters Community Gardens, Fairwater, Cardiff, CF5 3DW

Friday to Sunday April 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> RHS Cardiff ShowEaster

Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> 10-4 Kings Road Yard, Pontcanna, Cardiff, CF11 9DF

Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> 10.30-3.30, Physic Garden Plant Sale at Old Hall Gardens, Cowbridge, CF71 7AH

Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> 10-4, St Peters Community Gardens, Fairwater, Cardiff, CF5 3DW

Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 10-2, Insole Court Gardens, Cardiff, CF5 2LN

Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> 10-4 Kings Road Yard, Pontcanna, Cardiff, CF11 9DF

Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup> 10-4, St Peters Community Gardens, Fairwater, Cardiff, CF5 3DW

Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> 9-12.30pm, Insole Court Gardens, Cardiff, CF5 2LN

Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup> 10-4 Kings Road Yard, Pontcanna, Cardiff, CF11 9DF

Saturday, 29 June & Sunday, 30 June 10-4, St Peters Community Gardens, Fairwater, Cardiff, CF5 3DW

Sunday 22 September, 10-4 Kings Road Yard, Pontcanna, Cardiff, CF11 9DF

## **Some NGS Gardens this summer.**

Sat May 18th, 8th June, Sunday 7th July Mon 26th August all from 11am to 4pm.

– Bordervale Plants Ystradowen, Cowbridge. CF71 7SX (Claire Jenkins).

Sat/Sun June 8th & 9th from 11am to 5 pm. Gwaelog Village Gardens, Garth mountainside.

Sunday June 16th from 2 – 5.30 pm Overton and Port Eynon gardens.

Both have 2 gardens to view. All in the NGS yellow book.