

Dates for the Diary

31st July
Friday

Please return grand draw ticket stubs, money & prize donations to:
Pat & Terry Horsley, 2 Daymerslea Close,
Walford Road. 01989 563105.

7th August
Friday

Help needed to set up the main hall for the show from 3pm onwards.

8th August
Saturday

80th Annual Flower, Fruit & Vegetable Show
At the Larruperz Centre show opens 2pm.

Entrance fee is £2 and will be opened by Terry Walton from Radio 2. Do come and support our big annual event. Tombola, plant stalls and superb homemade cakes and buns. Our 80th show promises to be one of the best ever. We do need more help to make sure it isn't the last one. Contact Phil or Elke Dennis on 07866 246240

15th September
Tuesday

Barnsdale after Geoff
by Nick Hamilton

Nick talks about the legacy of his father's famous garden. Tickets: £7 for members, and £8 for non-members from Margaret Willis 01989 564967. Those selling tickets: please try to sell as many as you can as we no longer have the financial support of the Royal Horticultural Society.

20th October
Tuesday

Murder, Magic and Plant Potions
by Marion Stainton.

From Arrow tip poison to witches flying ointment, Marion will give us a fascination alternative view to the plants we have in our gardens. Her garden at 'The Brooks' near Pontrilas in South Herefordshire will be open for the NGS on **Sunday 13th September 2015** from 2pm - 5.30pm.

18th November
Tuesday

Annual General Meeting -
The Larruperz Centre - starts at 7.30pm.

Followed by Entertainment.

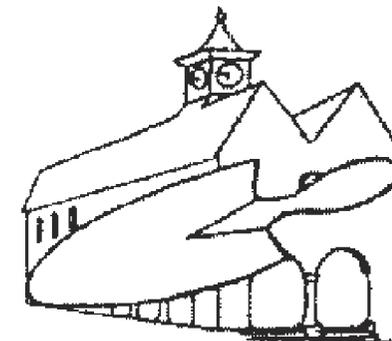
December

No Meeting



Ross-on-Wye

Horticultural Society
(Affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society)



Newsletter No. 70 July 2015

FRUIT FLOWER & VEGETABLE SHOW 2015 Saturday 8th August at the Larruperz Centre.

Plant Stall: Quality plants, fruit, vegetables and jams etc, are all needed for the plant stall.

Tombola: We need prizes (not necessarily gardening themed) for this .
Contact Eileen Richards **01989 563637**.

Tea Shop: Please donate your lovely cakes, biscuits, scones etc. Also we need helpers to serve and wash-up. **Contact** Elkie Dennis **07866 246240**.

Help us Set up the Hall

On Friday 7th August from 3.00pm onwards. -

Please note the starting time. Come along if you can please, even if it is only for an hour or so. Don't leave these tasks to the loyal few who turn up every year. Laying out the tables is quite a time consuming job, but with many willing hands the whole operation will be achieved much more quickly.

Help us Dismantle the Hall after the Show

Saturday evening from about 5pm onwards.

If you can help with this or any of the other show activities, please talk to one of the committee members. Your committee and others have been working very hard since January to put together our 80th Annual Show. It would be greatly appreciated if all members could give us the support needed to make this a successful event. Any help you can offer, no matter how small, will be most gratefully received.



2015 HOLIDAY - LOOKING BACK *by Heather Lovett*

The Gardens of Cheshire lived up to our expectations, and more. The excellent planning by Eileen Richards and the travel company and quiet efficiency of our coach driver made a full programme work well. Despite gentle drizzle, the **Dorothy Clive Garden** in North Staffordshire proved a good first stop. A 12 acre hillside garden with lots of contrasting areas, formal and informal, and lots of surprises, such as the laburnum walk which was at its best. This is somewhere I would be happy to revisit. Our first full day in Cheshire meant a trip to the celebrated **Tatton Park** at Knutsford, a National Trust property and home of the RHS Show. With extensive grounds and mansion to visit, one day was not enough! We had the dubious added attraction of an art installation in the house. I was not the only visitor to be mystified by its merits, but it got us talking. **Arley Hall** on our third day, is still a family home after 500 years. On the day of our visit, some parts were unavailable due to filming (a Coronation Street funeral in the chapel, I think) but that did not stop us seeing the gardens with their magnificent double herbaceous borders, an avenue of 14 holm oaks clipped to the shape of giant cylinders and other delights. **Ness Botanical Garden**, the legacy of cotton merchant Arthur Kilpin Bulley, founder of Bees Seeds and a passionate sponsor of plant-hunters to the Far East, was our destination on our penultimate day. While committed to landscaped beauty, it contrasted with the gardens which we had seen associated with family estates and still emphasises the original bias towards research, conservation and education. Our final afternoon was spent in **Chester**. What a splendid city! We took the opportunity to have a gentle and scenic boat cruise on the River Dee, sparkling in the sunshine.

By the time we began our homeward drive we had become steeped in horticultural therapy, refreshed and raring to see the fruits of others' toil. It was good, then, to call into **Wollerton Old Hall Garden**, the most recently established and perhaps most personal of all the gardens visited and which also featured in Gardeners World on 10th July. With a series of linked garden "rooms" filled with modern planting begun in 1984, these 4 acres have a special intimacy making them very popular on the days they are open to the public.

Thank you to our organisers, and to our friendly companions who made this holiday so pleasurable.

Heather & Graham Lovett.

I would like to thank all the members of the Society Holiday who contributed to the collection for me. I have put it towards the purchase of a timber bench for my garden. I have enjoyed sitting on it drinking my "Pimms" in the hot weather. I have received a very good response on the holiday and hear you are already asking where we are going next time. I shall have to think about that one. The travel agents told me they are already booking hotels for 2017! Thank you all once again.

Eileen Richards

THE SUMMER BUFFET LUNCH

This is becoming a fixture now, with the caterers from Broome Farm spoiling us once more with a range of savoury and sweet delicacies which were hard to resist. Wine and home-made elderflower cordial were dispensed by our barman, Martin Hewitt, and surprise live entertainment, tailored to the wedding anniversary of our excellent Chairman and Secretary, dispensed by a familiar guest from Llantwit Major, Penny Weedon, at her keyboard. Our sincere thanks to them. The success of this event was assured by a group of willing helpers in and around the hall and kitchen, and by the perfect summer weather.

NEXT YEAR'S BUFFET LUNCH
Saturday July 2nd - Dont Miss it!

FUTURE EVENTS

Heather has organised some visits for us to the following:

National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas, Staffordshire
on Wednesday 12th August.

The coach leaves the Larruperz Centre at 9.00am. We should be back before 6.00pm. It has been arranged that we can leave cars at the Larruperz all day and Heather will collect a modest charge for this when you park. Please confirm with Heather whether you are coming and have paid for the coach, or have cancelled. There may be spaces now due to some changes of plan, which will affect the final costing. Lunch is your choice at the Arboretum.

The Picton Garden: National Collection of Perennial Asters at Colwall
on Saturday 3rd October at 10.30am.

No transport has been arranged for this visit. Limited car parking means the party is restricted to 30, so it is first come, first served. Group entry rates are £3 each.

**ROSS
OPEN
GARDENS**

**Congratulations go to
Claire Dickson and her husband
for winning the prize given
by The Ross Garden Store
for the most enjoyed garden visited**