

Programme 2012

June 20 Talk

Hanging Baskets

July 18 Talk

Carnivorous Plants

July 21 – 24

Garden holiday in South Wales

Aug 18

Annual Show

Sept 19 Talk

Annuals for the garden

Sept 29 Late Summer Outing

National Memorial

**Arboretum,
Nr. Lichfield**

Oct 17 Talk

Vegetables, Living the Good Life

Nov 21

AGM, Seed Swap & Social Evening

Hanging Basket Competition

Are you ready to enter our FREE Hanging Basket Competition. It is limited to members who live in Edgworth, Entwistle, Chapeltown, Bromley Cross, Egerton, Harwood and Bradshaw, so apologies to our members who live further afield but judging would prove difficult as it will take place at members' homes. There has been a class for hanging baskets in the show in the past, but transporting them is always tricky so this is an alternative, but we need you to take part to make it work.

Photographs will be taken of all entries and displayed at the Show on 18th August when a winner will be announced and presented with a £5 voucher.

As well as encouraging practical gardening this will help to make our area more attractive, and hopefully create more interest in horticulture and the Society.

Baskets can be any shape, size or material and must be hung from a hook or bracket and designed and planted with flowers and/or foliage, by the member.

Application forms together with rules and guidance will be delivered to members with the Show Schedule.

Evening Visit to Waddow Lodge Garden

16 May 2013

Thirty seven members of the Society visited the garden of Peter Foley and Liz Dean at Waddington in the Ribble Valley. The weather was amazingly kind to us albeit cool, but dry and sunny.

Peter and Liz have extended the garden and revitalised the planting which contains herbaceous borders, a fruit and vegetable garden and an orchard, together with lawned areas and beds with heathers, roses and many unusual plants and shrubs. A woodland area at one end of the garden provides flowers and plants to encourage wildlife.

Everyone enjoyed the evening which was rounded off with tea, coffee and wonderful scones, from the tea rooms in Bolton-by-Bowland.

Late Summer Outing

National Memorial Arboretum

With some 50,000 trees already planted and 200 dedicated memorials, the Arboretum is a living tribute to the personal sacrifices made by this country's armed and civil services. The arboretum is situated on reclaimed gravel workings, and hosts an abundance of wild plants, woodland areas, grassland and wetland. Our visit is timed to enable us to appreciate the autumn colour, though we have no control over the present vagaries of our seasons.

You can just explore the site, but we have also arranged an optional introductory talk and guided tour (approx 1¼hours), including a 2-course lunch.

On leaving the arboretum, we have allowed time for a brief visit to Lichfield Cathedral.

To reserve a place, contact Phil Broughton (see P.4) or email:

outing@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

Our first Edgworth Show of which we have proof was in 1903. However, Horticultural Shows began around 200 years ago. The upper classes became very snooty about ordinary cottage garden plants and only wanted the exotic new varieties brought to Britain by plant explorers. As a result the new working classes of the Industrial Revolution developed a passion for the simple cottage garden plants.

Many of the weavers, miners and labourers from rural backgrounds in the Midlands, Lancashire, Yorkshire and Scotland came to the towns and cities to find work, and growing plants was a link to their past. The list was short, anemone, auricula, carnation, hyacinth, pinks, polyanthus and ranunculus. Tulips too when they became much cheaper in the 19th century. Their terraced houses were without gardens so all these plants were grown in pots and were called 'Florist's Flowers'. Florist Clubs sprang up where the men would meet to discuss cultivation of their chosen favourite. Women were never allowed and growing techniques were a jealously guarded secret. Florist Club Shows would be held regularly in local pubs or church halls and these were the origins of the Horticultural Exhibition. Chelsea, The RHS Spring Flower Show, National Dahlia Show, National Rose Society and all the other shows large and small around the country all sprang from these humble beginnings.

Lancashire mill-hands developed magnificent auriculas and their shows would be held regularly with fierce rivalry, secret techniques, specially bred plants and a desire to win first prize. Sounds familiar. By 1860 Florist Clubs had begun to wane and the middle classes took an interest in the Florist's Flowers for their new villas. The workers of the north east then started to grow leeks or gooseberries, thus beginning the trend which continues today with classes for the biggest, heaviest, etc.

Fortunately the class system has left horticulture and we now find all these plants look good whether in the grounds of a castle or a cottage

Maths Puzzle For Gardeners

If a tree produces an average of 52 nuts per branch, how many acorns would you expect to find on a gnarled but nevertheless healthy 100-year-old beech tree, with 39 fully grown branches?

Answer at the foot of the page

Seasonal eating: Pesto from Garden Herbs (mostly)

The proportions of herbs in pesto is a matter of taste. Most commercial pesto is made with basil, but parsley grows more successfully in this area, so you may wish to use more of it in your mix.

Ingredients

Adjust the proportions according to what you have available

- 5 cups packed basil and/or fresh parsley
 - 4 large garlic cloves – or more/less to taste
 - 150gm pine nuts
 - 150gm fresh Parmesan or the cheaper Grana Padano
 - 150ml olive oil
 - 70ml melted butter
 - salt to taste (Parmesan is saltier than Grana Padano)
 - juice of 1 lemon
- You may find it easier to divide the ingredients into batches, depending on the size of your food processor / blender. Grind the ingredients in a food processor / blender in the following order: nuts, olive oil when the nuts start to stick together, garlic, melted butter, lemon juice, herbs, cheese, salt. Blend until the pesto is a thick, slightly chunky paste.
- To store, put a spoonful into each depression in an ice cube tray and freeze. The frozen cubes can then be stored in a plastic bag in the freezer. Take 1 or 2 cubes out and defrost them when you want pesto on your pasta.

Insect Attracting Annuals And Perennials

Once upon a time, and not in a galaxy far away, gardeners' first reaction on catching anything moving over flowers and vegetables was to grab a spray and kill it. In these more enlightened times, most of us realise that many of the creatures buzzing and crawling round the garden are actually beneficial – they are predators of the aphids and caterpillars that do such a lot of damage, and often they are pollinators essential to fruit production. It's in our interest to attract such insects by providing conditions that encourage them to visit and breed in our gardens, for it is often the immature progeny that are the most voracious destroyers of what we call pests and they call food. One of the most important ways is to grow plants that act as attractants to such beneficial insects. A selection of easily grown ones is given below, but for a complete list of beneficial plants for such insects, organised by season, check out the excellent list on the RHS site on:

http://www.rhs.org.uk/Gardening/Sustainable-gardening/pdfs/RHS_Pollinators_PlantList_V1

Annuals

Plant Name	Common Name	Attracts
<i>Calendula officinalis</i>	Pot Marigold	bees, butterflies and hoverflies.
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	Cornflower	Bees, common blue butterfly
<i>Cosmos bipinnatus</i>	Cosmos	Parasitic mini-wasps, lacewings, hoverflies, bees
<i>Limnanthes douglasii</i>	Poached egg plant	Hoverflies and bees. Aphids love it, and attract insect eating birds and predators such as lacewings
<i>Lobularia maritima</i>	Sweet Alyssum	hoverflies and parasitic mini-wasps
<i>Tagetes sp</i>	Marigold	Butterflies and hoverflies
<i>Zinnia elegans</i>	Zinnia	Parasitic wasps, hoverflies, butterflies

Perennials and Biennials

Plant Name	Common Name	Attracts
<i>Achillea sp</i>	Yarrow	ladybirds, hoverflies and parasitic mini-wasps.
<i>Anthemis tinctoria</i>	Golden marguerite, Yellow Chamomile	Early summer butterflies, hoverflies, ladybirds, lacewings and parasitic wasps.
<i>Aurinia saxatilis</i>	Golden Alyssum	Ladybirds, hoverflies
<i>Centaurea sp</i>	knapweed	Lacewings, ladybirds, hoverflies, bees, butterflies
<i>Digitalis sp</i>	Foxgloves	Bumblebees, butterfly and moth larvae
<i>Monarda sp</i>	Bergamot, bee balm	Bees,
<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	Evening primrose	Bees, butterflies
<i>Salvia sp.</i>	Sage, Salvia	Decorative salvia as well as culinary sage are very attractive to bees and butterflies
<i>Verbena bonariensis</i>	Verbena	Butterflies love the long-lasting flowers. Provides shelter for overwintering insects

It's Showtime again!

Every year we try to put a theme into the Show, which reflects some local or national event, and this year is no exception. It's a big year for national events and we have reflected that with a Diamond Jubilee logo and the Open and Junior classes for Floral Art being given Jubilee and Olympics themes. So, let your enthusiasm generated by these events translate into great ideas for Floral Art exhibits and provide a bumper display. It would be wonderful to get a record number of entries from Juniors so, parents and grandparents, please rally to the call.



At the other end of the spectrum, we have included an Austerity item in cookery, for a bit of fun. You have the opportunity to use your skills and ingenuity to bake a cake with ingredients costing less than £1, so why not have a go.

Details can be found in the Schedule, with all the regular items, plus several new ones, including homemade wine, and **the important times to remember for submission of your entries are 7.30 to 8.20 pm on Friday, 17th August and 9.00 to 11.40 am on Saturday, 18th August.**

One of last year's big successes was the Gazebo at the front of The Barlow, which was packed with Plants for Sale. To help boost this year's stock, packets of seed were given, on request, to members to sow and nurture plants to bring along for sale. If you agreed to do this, please don't forget to bring them on Saturday morning. Just because you didn't volunteer to do this, any plants you have spare or want to divide and bring from your own garden, will be most welcome.

Finally, don't forget to turn up, with friends and family at **2.30 to 4.00pm on Saturday, 18th August** for a great afternoon out.

For more information about the society, go to:

www.edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk

or contact:

Chairman	Barry Scanlon	01204 853152	chairman@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk
Treasurer	Phil Broughton	01204 300541	treasurer@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk
Secretary	Irene Spencer	01204 307897	secretary@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk
Events	Pat Whalley	01204 853444	events@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk
Membership	Carol Murphy	01204 307364	membership@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk
Show	David Spencer	01204 307897	show@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk
Outings			outing@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk