



**KEW
HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY**

NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2023

A Very Happy New Year to all our members!

We have a pressing need for more committee members to help run the Society. It is not an onerous commitment and the more hands the lighter the work! If you are interested in gardening and are looking for a way to become more involved in the community, please consider joining our friendly group. Our activities, and particularly the Summer Show on the Green, raise money for local charities too, so it is a worthy undertaking! Just email Frances Goodwin on frgoodwin@hotmail.com for more information.



(We promise our meetings are not like this!)

Membership News from Carole Brougham

Currently we have nearly 200 members – and not all from Kew! Membership fees fell due on 1 January 2023 and thanks go to all of you who have paid so far. If your membership fee is not yet paid by Standing Order, please consider setting this up now, which is very easy to do if you bank online. Our bank account details are on the renewal form at the end of the newsletter. Otherwise, please send me the completed renewal form with your payment.

If you have any queries, I can be contacted on membership@kewhorticulturalsociety.org or 020 8948 7254.

Richard Ward reports on the Garden Museum and their Wardian Case

10 minutes' walk from Westminster Underground you will find the Garden Museum, developed within the historic Church of St. Mary-at-Lambeth and completed in 2017. Dedicated to the history of gardening, entry is £14 and there is a lovely cafe.

Members may or may not know about Wardian cases, invented by Nathaniel Bagshaw Ward. As it happens my late father was named Ralph Bagshaw Ward. Despite weeks of research during lockdown, my sister was unable to establish a family link. In 2020 at a family get-together, one of our party had already been in touch with the Museum to commission a replica Wardian case for display and we raised enough to put this into effect. And so, if you visit the Museum today, you will see 'our' Wardian case on display for posterity on the left of the entrance of this wonderful Museum. Enjoy.

Wardian cases were used to bring non-native plants successfully back to Britain, including Kew Gardens, from all over the world during the nineteenth century and beyond. For more information, see

[Wardian case - Wikipedia](#)

The Wardian Case by Luke Keogh (pubd 2022)



Forthcoming Events

THE AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Kew Horticultural Society to cover 2022 will be held on Monday 20th March 2023 at 6.30pm, in St Winefride's Church Hall. Free glass of wine on arrival and the AGM will be followed by a Plant Identification competition (a bottle to the winner) and a sale of Heritage Seeds.

Do come along and support the Society, and if you have any suggestions for the destination of our annual local charitable donations, please email Frances Goodwin on frgoodwin@hotmail.com.

Quiz Night at St Winefride's, Leyborne Park, Kew on Friday 24th February 2023, 7pm

Our popular Quiz Night will take place on Friday, 24th February. The questions will not be too hard...or too easy...or too obscure. There will be something for everyone whether a gardener or not. **Attached separately is a booking form** so please book early because the number of tables is strictly limited. Here are the details:

**First question at 7.30 pm sharp - doors open at 7 pm
Price: £60 for a table of six or £10 a ticket**

Why not persuade your friends to join you to make up a table of six? The ploughman's supper will be served half way through the Quiz and a choice of wines and soft drinks available with a donation. Join us for a fun evening!

KHS Summer Party at Priory Park Tennis Club – Sunday, 7th May 2023, 6pm – 8pm

Our annual summer party will be held on Sunday, 7th May, so will have a Coronation theme! Come along for a relaxing drink and nibbles, while looking at the plant sale, organised by Celia Fisher. (During the Spring, please pot up anything in your garden that might be suitable for the sale, and bring it along.)

£10 (food and first glass of wine included). Guests are of course more than welcome.

Further details and application form will be sent out nearer the time.

Kew Horticultural Society holiday to Somerset June 13th to June 17th 2023

The holiday is now fully booked.

Kew Horticultural Society Show 2023

The date for this year's Show is Saturday, 26th August, so put it in your diaries now! We will soon be thinking about the classes for this year and we would like to ask members for their input. Are there any new classes you would like to see at the Show? Is there a vegetable/flower gaining popularity for growing that we could include? Please do let us know! Any other comments about the Show would be gratefully received.



RICHARD WARD'S GARDENING TIPS

Please check our website for Richard's gardening tips each month. In case you have not yet seen January's, we print them here for you:

Happy New Year to all our supporters!

The late autumn rains, and frosts in December, have helped normalisation in the garden. Most deciduous plants have now lost all their leaves. Never hard prune evergreen shrubs in winter but rather in March, and again in mid-summer if you want to keep them in check, which allows them to green up again before winter. Whilst yews, laurels, hollies and olives will readily produce new shoots from old wood, always cut back to a side branch where possible; but most conifers won't take more than light clipping and don't re-grow from old wood.

Now is the time to check ties on trees, shrubs and climbers - when you can see the wood from the trees. Avoid using plastic or wire; green string is preferable and will generally break when constriction occurs. When staking trees, make sure the tie, with spacer, is near the top of the stake to prevent chafing.

In the November Tips I showed *Hylotelephium spectabile* (Sedum) in flower. Frosts quickly put paid to these, so cut them to within a couple of inches of the ground to free up basal growth. To propagate them easily you can dig up a whole clump during a mild spell this month and use a spade or saw to cut it into smaller clumps, and replant, maybe as a group, a foot apart.

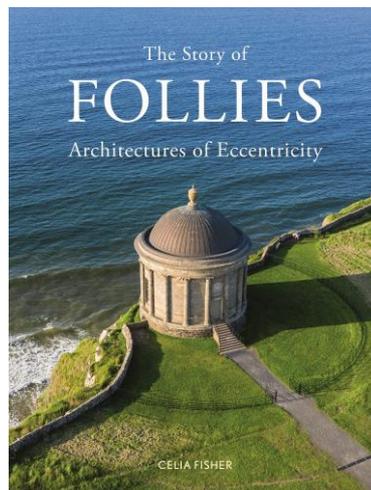
As a retrospective horticultural glance, I present you with a reminder of a few of the lovelies that I spotted for sale over the festive season. Ain't nature wonderful?!



THE STORY OF FOLLIES: Architectures of Eccentricity **by Celia Fisher**

Follies are intriguing! Celia Fisher's new book explores their history and social and political significance through the ages. It is beautifully illustrated with historical paintings, prints and contemporary photographs and is a wonderful guide to these quirky buildings. Highly recommended.

'A delight: a visual and historical smorgasbord of frivolous, fanciful and fantastic buildings, and the fascinating people who conceived them.' --Anna Keay OBE, director of the Landmark Trust



Finally, do take a look at our online presence. The KHS Instagram account has great photographs of trees, shrubs and flowers growing around Kew and in our members' own gardens, and of our KHS events and trips and is proving more and more popular. Hopefully you will join our Instagram as a "follower".

Website: [Kew Horticultural Society](https://www.kewhorticulturalsociety.org/)

[Kew Horticultural Society - Home](https://www.kewhorticulturalsociety.org/) | [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/kewhorticulturalsociety/)

[Kew Horticultural Society \(@kewhorticulturalsociety\)](https://www.kewhorticulturalsociety.org/) • [Instagram photos and videos](https://www.instagram.com/kewhorticulturalsociety/)

Happy Gardening to you all from the Editorial Team.

PS: The Rotary Club of Kew will be holding a Jazz Evening at the Maids of Honour on 8th February. Please see attached flier.



KEW HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY: One of the oldest horticultural societies in London. No gardening experience necessary. Lectures, events and outings throughout the year. Newsletters. Annual Summer Flower and Produce Show .(open to all).

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP - subscription per year £10 per household, £5 single adult, children free. The membership year is the same as the calendar year but members joining at the Annual Show or later in any year, are covered for the following year.

Your name(s).....

Address.....

Post code

Phone number.....

Email

Date.....

Please circle one of the following:

1. I enclose cash/cheque payable to Kew Horticultural Society for £5.00/£10 for my/our subscription.

Please return this form to our Membership Secretary, Carole Brougham, 58 Bushwood Road, Kew, TW9 3BW (020 8948 7254).

2. I have completed a standing order mandate (see below) for my/our bank/building society to pay my/our annual subscription(s) **and I will give/send it to my bank. Please do not send it to the Society.**

3. I bank online and have instructed my bank to pay KHS by Standing Order and am emailing this application form for your records.

If 2 or 3 apply, please email this form to membership@kewhorticulturalsociety.org for our records.

DATA PROTECTION: The KHS is operated in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations. By submitting this form you understand that KHS will hold and use your personal data for administrative purposes and to keep you informed of its activities. Our data protection policy under these regulations can be found in full on the KHS website.

Help is always welcome with social events/deliveries of newsletters/organization of the annual Show committee/miscellaneous – please indicate below any which interest you:

**KEW HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
Standing Order Mandate**

ToBank

Branch name.....

Branch address

Postcode

Name(s) in which your own account is held

1 2.....

Account number.....

Branch sort code.....

Please pay to Kew Horticultural Society the sum of £5/£10 immediately then on 3
January annually until further notice.

Branch sort code: 20 72 33 (Barclays Bank)

Account number 13756440

Signed.....