



KEW
HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2021

Spring is here!



Violets



A carpet of cyclamen



Japanese Quince

Report on the AGM

The AGM was held via Zoom on 29th March 2021, and covered both 2019, for which the AGM had to be cancelled due to the pandemic, and 2020. Twenty-five people attended.

In 2019, a full range of members' events was provided but in 2020 it was only possible to hold the popular quiz evening before Covid19 shut everything down. The Society had kept in touch with members during 2020 through regular newsletters and emails, sending information about plants, gardening supplies, interesting websites and talks of a horticultural nature.

The Show Co-Ordinators, Alison Greenwood and Amanda Botta, are waiting to hear Richmond Council's decision on whether the Show could go ahead on the Green at the end of August, but we are all hopeful. Please see later in the Newsletter for an exciting full report!

It was agreed by the meeting to donate some small sums to local charities, in view of the exceptional circumstances. The charities suggested were the Kew Gardens School of Horticulture (£150), the Kew Pond (£150) and the Mayor of Richmond's current charity, Dose of Nature, which is based in Kew and addresses the issues of mental health by connecting people with nature (£350).

We are delighted to welcome Susan Roberts onto the committee. If anyone else is interested in joining our friendly group, please just email Frances Goodwin at frgoodwin@hotmail.com

Forthcoming Events

Kew Sunday Market – 6th June

On **Sunday 6th June**, the KHS will have a stall at the Sunday Market. We shall be enticing new members to the Society, publicising the Summer Show and selling some flowering plants at a very reasonable price! Please do come and say hello on the day.

Proposed Trip to Wales - June 25th 2021

Those of us hoping to go on the South Wales coach trip which was cancelled last year are wondering whether it will happen this year, departing on June 25. Everyone booked on the trip should have received a communication from Travel Editions recently with the latest information. In case you missed this in your 'in box', below is a copy of the letter. It looks hopeful but a final decision will be made four weeks before scheduled departure when the balance would have to be paid.

“You are due to travel with us on the Gardens of South & West Wales with Kew Horticultural Society departing in June and your final balance payment is due in the next few weeks. (If you have already paid your balance then we will be in touch in the next few weeks and please bear with us).

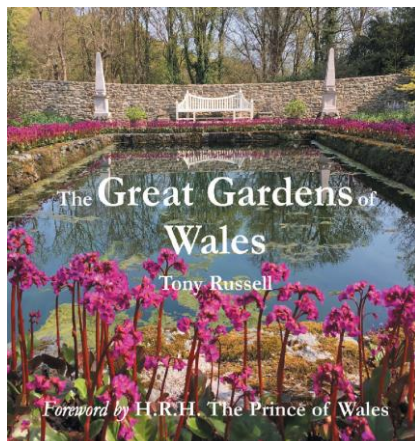
Due to the continuing situation, we have cancelled all tours until 17th May, and we will be looking at the rest of May and June shortly and will update in due course, which tours we think are safe and feasible to operate and measures to be implemented to ensure our clients' wellbeing. We are very hopeful that several tours including the one you are booked on will be able to run.

With that in mind we would like to take the pressure off yourselves and have decided you do not need to pay your balance at the balance due date and once we establish whether each tour will operate, we will be in contact approximately 4 weeks before departure for final payment.

We appreciate your patience in these difficult times, and we will be back in touch as soon as we have any further information.

Reservations Department, Travel Editions Group Ltd

3 Young's Buildings, London EC1V 9DB
020 7251 0045



And, just to remind you about Tony Russell's

The Great Gardens of Wales

with a foreword by

HRH The Prince of Wales.

To purchase copies, personally signed by the author, visit
www.gardenstovisit.net



Horticultural Show – August 28th 2021



Plans for bringing the 76th Kew Horticultural Show back to the Green this year are in full swing. The Council has agreed in principle to public events happening again this year, and although they are still not yet able to confirm definitely, we are optimistic and are making preparations assuming the Show will go ahead on 28th August 2021.

Although we are a new team in terms of the Show's organisation, we are certainly not 'new' to the KHS Show, and have all enjoyed attending it with our families and friends for over twenty years, and in some cases over forty! Having 'supported' our children with their miniature gardens, agonised over our garden posies, and been rather proud of our prize-winning pears and highly recommended Victoria sponges, we are now thrilled to be involved in the organisation of such a wonderful community event. This year will feel particularly special, bringing the Show back to the Green, after two smaller, although highly successful, shows at St Anne's Church, and then sadly no show at all last year. We are keen for it to be as close as possible to how we remember it in the past....lovely, just as it always was.

We have gathered together a fabulous group of people, and although it may be a new team we are hugely supported by the experience and wisdom of many from the KHS who have had key roles in the past and are generous with their guidance.

Being keen to attract more families, there will be some family-orientated fun...old-fashioned games etc alongside stalls that we know and love and a few new ones with a horticultural theme. We want to encourage new people who haven't known the wonder that is the Horticultural Show.

If anyone is interested in proposing a stall, please do get in touch.

We look forward, with our fingers crossed, to seeing you all on the Green on the 28th August.

Alison and Mandy



Flowering at the moment in Kew Gardens are carpets of Camassias. Originally from North America they have found their way to Kew. Nearby are patches of fritillaries, almost over now but unique with their checkerboard pattern. Turn right as you enter the Gardens via Brentford Gate and keep walking!



Richard Ward's Gardening Tips

We hope that you have been enjoying Richard's column which is being posted monthly at the moment on our website and on our Facebook page. If you haven't yet seen it, do take a look – Richard is keeping us on our gardening toes! Here is a sample from his April advice:

'Areas for vegetable growing should have been cultivated during March-unless you are a 'no dig' exponent.....I was able to rotovate mine in early March and got off to a good start with sowing radishes, spinach, rainbow chard and peas..... Most other vegetable seeds should be sown this month; but don't be tempted to plant out cucurbits, tomatoes and other veg. that can't withstand frosts until late May. I protect and harden mine off in an old cold frame partly helped by recycled windows! (See below.)

I got a bit side-tracked this spring by delving into seed sowing by the moon's phases! (lunarium.co.uk?) and I might put some of it into practice. Check it out, it'll drive you keen gardeners crazy! Tell us your experiences on Facebook.....

Last week, a Peacock butterfly paid a visit to my small garden pond made out of an old upturned velux window... part of the magic of nature. Enjoy.'



Membership News from Carole Brougham

As I reported to the AGM in March, membership currently stands at 192 members. 80 members pay by standing order and we also now have members paying by bank transfers. There remain 18 members including other halves who are not on email and so require reminders and newsletters to be sent by post. We hand deliver as many as possible to save postage too. Although the Society encourages those members who have not yet paid their subscriptions to do so, it has been decided, in view of the exceptional circumstances we find ourselves in, not to remove anyone from the members' list this year.

However, if you are not sure if you paid your subscription and would like to, please contact me at membership@kewhorticulturalsociety.org or on 020 89487254.



Ornamental Cherry

News from the RHS

Benefits for Affiliated Societies

There are almost 3000 gardening groups affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society including Kew Horticultural Society, and you may wonder about the benefits.

KHS mostly takes advantage of help they provide for Horticultural Shows such as a free Banksian medal and certificate which is awarded to the 'Best in Show' exhibit. Special stationery such as the Entry Cards is also purchased from the RHS. Perhaps the most useful service they provide is the competitively priced specialist insurance which is needed for the Show.

In addition they offer:

- A list of speakers and judges.
- One free monthly copy of The Garden Magazine.
- One free annual visit for up to 55 members to an RHS garden. In 2019 we took advantage of this and had a coach trip to Wisley. Unfortunately, Hyde Hall is rather far for a similar day trip.

Finally, there are three offers of which we could perhaps occasionally take advantage, but we need a volunteer to administer them. If anyone would be interested in doing this please contact Jenny Long at jenny.long1@icloud.com

1. Free gardening advice from RHS experts over the phone. We haven't so far joined this scheme and to do so would need to nominate a Science & Advice Liaison Contact (SALC).
2. RHS Garden Reduced Price Entry Cards. These cost £10 each (purchased by the KHS) and allow up to two people a 30% reduction on the normal adult entry rate to any of the RHS Gardens. This would need to be administered by a volunteer.
3. Reduced rate RHS Flower Show tickets (excluding RHS Chelsea Flower Show).



Forget-me-nots at Short Lots



Tulips 'Apricot Beauty'

Other Local Events

CHARITY PLANT SALE on 8th May

Ann Sandall is holding a plant sale at 38 Leyborne Park on Saturday 8th May from 10-1pm in aid of Kew WI's chosen charity Refuge, which runs the Safe Houses in Chiswick.

There will be dahlias, a few peonies, succulents, houseplants, hardy chrysanthemums, pineapple lilies, herbaceous this and that for sun and shade and large and small spaces.

Please wear a mask, socially distance and bring your own shopping bag.

SECONDHAND BOOK SALE on 26th June

The Rotary Club of Kew Gardens is having a fund-raising secondhand book sale on Saturday 26th June on the front driveway at 62 Mortlake Road/junction Beechwood Avenue, Kew TW9 4AT 10-4.

Cash donations for all books. 100% proceeds to our Charity fund. Please donate/bring your old books any time from Sunday 20th June and put them on our tables under gazebos; or bring them on the day.

Halletts Estate Agents are match-funding all sales up to £200.
Queries to Rotarian Richard Ward on 02088786696.

Happy Gardening to you all from the Editorial Team

Website: [Kew Horticultural Society](#)

[Kew Horticultural Society - Home](#) | [Facebook](#)

[Kew Horticultural Society \(@kewhorticulturalsociety\)](#) • [Instagram photos and videos](#)



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 £5 per year per adult, children free. The membership year is the same as the calendar 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.

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.

**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.....