**ELTHAM AND AVERY HILL GARDENS SOCIETY**

**Web: eahgs.org.**

**AUGUST 2018 NEWSLETTER**

The love of gardening is a seed once sown that never dies but grows to the enduring happiness that the love of gardening gives.

Gertrude Jekyll 1843-1932

She was a British garden designer, artist and writer. She created over 499 gardens in the United Kingdom, Europe and the USA. She contributed to Country Life, the Garden and other magazines.

At the time of writing this Newsletter my garden resembles the Serengeti. It amazes me how the weeds continue to flourish. I did have a fine crop of carrots in a potato bag but the foliage was starting to burn. Tempted I pulled one to try. If I closed my eyes I would not have known I was eating a carrot. Oh, for a of spell of rain!

**Mike Hill, Show Secretary** writes

It’s not very long until our annual show on Saturday 8th September. This year has been difficult for growers, with prolonged cold in Spring and now excessive heat and drought. However, every year Society members exceed expectations in the face of adverse conditions to produce a plethora of fine horticultural exhibits. I hope this year will be no different. It’s amazing what you can find to exhibit if you look. It doesn’t have to be perfect. If you’ve grown it yourself you should be proud of it. Be brave and enter it in the Show.

The Show Schedule will be on the website and you should receive your hard copy very soon. The schedule is very similar to previous years. One new category will be “an item of horticultural interest”. This can be anything; a plant, a tool, photograph, odd shape (rude) vegetable. Surprise us.

**TRADING**: Pat and Dave Middleton

Trading is doing reasonably well but we would still like to see more plot holders using the shop. We are well stocked with multi-purpose, fertilisers, bagged farmyard manure (which is also a soil improver) grow bags, liquid seaweed and tomato feed (please bring your own container) slug pellets etc, all at very competitive prices. The shop is open at the moment -09.30 – 12noon every Sunday. **PLEASE SUPPORT THE SHOP**

**SITE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

The gent’s toilet has now been repaired.

Some of the vacant plots now have new tenants but there are still, when writing this, 8 vacant plots.

**Just a couple of reminders**:

Please ensure that the paths around and between your plots are cut and maintained at all times. A plot holder had an accident at the site a few years ago resulting in him having to

give up his plot because of the injury. Access is required at all times around and between plots so please trim any branches, foliage etc that over-hangs paths between plots.

Any items – grass, weeds, pruned foliage, rubbish, rubble etc must NOT be dumped on vacant plots or on paths around and between plots, or on the borders running down the main paths i.e. central path or path running down by the Green Chain Walk. Please dispose of your own rubbish and not leave it or other to deal with.

**SPRING OUTING to Wakehurst Place and Gardens, 6th June 2018**

Wakehurst Place and Gardens in West Sussex are used and managed by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and cover 500 acres of beautiful walled and water gardens, woodland and wetland conservation areas. It is also the home of Kew Gardens' Millennium Seed Bank project and it was fascinating to see Kew's scientists preparing seeds for classification and storage in the vast temperature-controlled vaults. Once again, we were lucky to have a glorious summer's day with trouble free travel there and back. Thanks to Richard for organising such a lovely day out and we are already looking forward to next year's trip.

**Forthcoming Event**

Anthony Noel, a noted garden designer particularly interested in small gardens and allotments, will be giving a talk entitled Great Little Gardens to our Society at 7.30pm on Thursday 18 October 2018 at St Mary's Centre in Eltham High Street. Anthony Noel lectures nationally and internationally and is the author of two books and many magazine features.  More details of the talk will be on our website in due course.

**MEMBERSHIP**

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

I should like to join/re-join the Eltham and Avery Hill Gardens Society. (It is not necessary to be a plot holder to join the Society). Subscriptions to be sent to Roger Brown, 74 Crown Woods Way, Eltham SE9 2NN

Herewith my membership fee for the next 12 months:

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms……………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

Address……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….

Postcode……………………

e-mail address …………………………………………………………………………………………………

I enclose a remittance of £4 (£2 for senior citizens) with cheques payable to Eltham and Avery Hill Gardens Society, together with an s.a.e for reply. I also wish to make a voluntary contribution towards the cost of the Newsletters and Show Schedule and so enclose £…… with my subscription. Please send me a membership card and arrange for the delivery of Newsletters.

(By completing this form, I agree to receive digital communications from the Society, such as Newsletters)

*Please note that your personal details will be held on the Society Register, but in conformity with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018, we undertake never to pass these on to any third party, nor use them for any purpose other than for legitimate Eltham and Avery Hill; Gardens Society business*