

The Benefits of being a Member of E&DHS

This is such a friendly Society, all new members are warmly welcomed and will soon feel they belong. There are interesting and varied talks at our monthly meetings, sometimes with the sale of plants direct from the speaker's own nursery, and always followed with a cup of tea/coffee and cake.

We enjoy the benefit of discounts at Holland's Garden Centre, and Suttons Seeds offer a 30% discount if the order is placed from their catalogue through the Society; email seedoffer@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk for details, or contact the Treasurer, listed below.

We have a seed swap at the AGM in November, just collect seed from your own garden and exchange it for seed from someone else's. For those who cannot collect seed, the surplus donated seed is sold to raise funds for the Society. Next year we are planning a similar seedling swap for the Spring. In addition, there is always a plant stall at the Show in August; prices are low too.

We enjoy an annual dinner and day visits to wonderful gardens by coach. We also have a 4-day holiday; this year we go to Dorset where our coach takes us to visit 8 public or private gardens. The atmosphere and company are so good, everyone enjoys themselves.

Our website, www.edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk, lists all the details of these and other activities. To join the Society, contact the membership secretary listed below.

QUIZ: NAME THE WILD FLOWERS / WEEDS

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|----|--------------------------------|
| 1 | PLEASE REMEMBER ME | 11 | SHABBY BIRD |
| 2 | SCOTTISH EMBLEM | 12 | YOU CAN MAKE A CHAIN WITH THIS |
| 3 | TRENDY CAT | 13 | FAST WATER SOURCE |
| 4 | OINTMENT FROM MOUNTAINOUS REGION | 14 | FLOCK TENDER'S POUCH |
| 5 | ACRID BUT NOT MUSTARD | 15 | PRISONER'S PLACE IN COURT |
| 6 | DAIRY DRINKING VESSEL | 16 | BOVINE TRIP |
| 7 | SECOND HALF OF A DRINK | 17 | THEY SEEK HIM HERE AND THERE |
| 8 | A FOUR LEAVED ONE IS LUCKY | 18 | PART OF FELINE'S BODY |
| 9 | MAD MAMMAL'S CHIME | 19 | CHEERY VOYAGER |
| 10 | ANNOY | 20 | EQUINE REAR |

Answers at the bottom of the page

See <http://www.edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk/newsletter.html> for June newsletter quiz answers

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
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QUIZ ANSWERS: (1) FORGET ME NOT, (2) THISTLE, (3) DANDELION, (4) HIMALAYAN BALSAM, (5) BITTERCRESS, (6) BUTTERCUP, (7) BURDOCK, (8) CLOVER, (9) HAREBELL, (10) NETTLE, (11) RAGGED ROBIN, (12) DAISY, (13) SPEEDWELL, (14) SHEPHERD'S PURSE, (15) DOCK, (16) COWSLIP, (17) SCARLET PIMPINELL, (18) CATS EAR, (19) TRAVELLERS JOY, (20) HORSETAIL.

Edgworth and District
Horticultural
Society



December 2010

Programme 2011

January 19 Talk
Flora & Scenery of New Zealand

February 16 Talk
Beehive Power

March 16 Talk
Unusual Hardy Plants

March 30
Annual Dinner

April 20 Talk
Herbs & Plant Magic

May 18 Talk
Fuchsias and cultivation

June 15 Evening Visit
Dorothy's Garden, Clayton-le-dale

July 2 Summer Outing
Powis Castle

July 20 Special Event
Christine Walkden

July 29 – Aug 1
Garden holiday in Dorset

Aug 20
Annual Show

Sept 10 Late Summer Visit
The Gardens of Ripley Castle

Sept 21 Talk
The Eclectic Victorian Garden

Oct 19 Talk
Growing with Nature

Nov 16
AGM, Seed Swap & Social Evening

Visits planned for 2011

Powis Castle

This world-famous garden shelters rare and tender plants. Laid out under the influence of Italian and French styles, the garden retains its original lead statues, an orangery and an aviary on the terraces. Perched on a rock above the garden terraces, the medieval castle contains one of the finest collections of paintings and furniture in Wales



Ripley Castle and Gardens

This historic attraction makes for a fascinating day out, set in a beautiful location, with memorable surroundings. Large herbaceous borders, ancient wisteria and clematis thrive on the high south-facing walls, kitchen garden, herbs and rare vegetables, ornamental lake, deer park and ancient beech and oak trees.



Dorothy's Garden, Clayton-le-Dale

A peaceful and colourful informal garden on edge of Ribbles Valley. Curvaceous beds, profusely planted, with unusual trees, perennial and tender plants. Vegetable and cutting garden with raised beds and fruit. Many areas to explore. Featured in 'Lancashire Telegraph', 'Clitheroe Advertiser' & on BBC Radio Lancashire



Dorset Holiday

3 nights at the 3* Sherbourne Hotel in Sherbourne, DB&B - Visiting Sudeley, Abbotsbury Gardens, Kingston Maurward, Mapperton Court, Mill House and the Old Rectory at Netherbury, Ilford manor near Bradford on Avon and a few others!

Having problems with horsetail weeds in your garden?

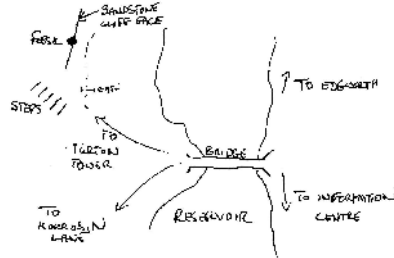
If you have an infestation of horsetails in your garden, you will know how difficult it is to eradicate them. Their tough exteriors and underground stolons make it very difficult to eradicate them. If you dig them up but leave a few bits in the soil, they will multiply.



Spot the fossil

A few years back (in fact 320 million years back) in the Edgworth and Bromley Cross area the position would have been worse as giant plants of the horsetail family covered the area, and you can actually go and see one of the fossils of this plant in the Jumbles Quarry area from a viewing platform.

The tree was of the genus *Calamites*. The trees which grew to a height of 30 - 40 metres (try digging those out!) were in forested swamps located in a huge river delta. If you look down the edges of the fossil you can see that the bark has been carbonised or turned into a very thin coal seam!



The map shows you the location of the fossil. Take strong shoes as the path is muddy.



Christine Walkden

The highlight of our programme this year is Christine Walkden who has agreed to come and talk to us despite her very busy working life.

Christine was born in Rishton, Lancashire and had her first allotment at the age of 10. Her first job was with a local parks department before going to Lancashire College of Agriculture. Following this was work at two experimental horticultural stations in Warwickshire and in Yorkshire. Christine then worked at The Royal Botanic Gardens Kew based at Wakehurst Place, looking after the growing side of the seed physiology unit before moving to North Wales to work for Dobies, Carter, Cuthbert and Dom Seedsmen. After another move to the Rhondda Valley to set up a training workshop for the Manpower Services Commission, it was back to college at Pershore then onto Writtle College near Chelmsford before becoming a lecturer in Horticulture in Enfield. Next came a move to the Baby Bio Company pbi where she was Advisory Manager for the garden products division.

She now works freelance as a plantswoman, horticulturist, lecturer, radio presenter, television presenter and writer. She is probably best known for her role as the resident gardening expert on BBC1's 'The One Show'. Her passion for gardening was demonstrated in her six part programme on BBC2, entitled 'Christine's Garden'. She is now a regular panellist on Gardener's Question Time.

She has written several books including 'The Secret Diary of a Garden Lover' and 'A Year in Christine's Garden'. In addition she has written many articles for specialist societies such as the Alpine Garden Society and the Hardy Plant Society. Currently she writes regularly for Jersey Choice Plants and the Quality Garden Tools website.

As well as working for many Horticultural Colleges and professional trade organisations, she has led both garden tours and field trips throughout the world. She is a keen photographer and illustrates her lectures with her own work and holds an extensive library of wildflower and garden slides from around the world.

In September 2010 she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate Degree for her services to Horticulture.

Sale of Ken Nelson's cacti

Ken Nelson, one of our former members who died in 2007 left a greenhouse full of magnificent cacti to his wife Joyce. Joyce is still a member of the Society.

Ken was one of the founder members of the present Society and was a keen exhibitor in the Annual Shows. His dahlias and cacti were always excellent and his name appeared year after year on trophies and cups that he won. Additionally he exhibited his daffodils at the Harrogate Spring Show with great success.

Growing plants at his home in the elevated position near the Entwistle reservoir must have been difficult but this did not deter Ken (or indeed his wife Joyce with her gladioli).

Ken's interest in cacti started as a child. His first cactus was grown on the window sill at his parents' house and indeed he still had that same cactus when he died at the age of 74.

Joyce recently arranged to sell his cacti through an auction in May run by the Manchester Cacti Society. His original plant now 59 years old was amongst them. All of the plants were sold and they raised £2059.

This is a wonderful legacy of the man.

Grand Auction of Cactus and Succulent plants.

This auction will be held on Saturday May 1st 2010 at St Thomas More Church Hall, Kirkway, Alkington, Middleton, Manchester M24 1PP. The auction is due to commence at 1pm. The collection being auctioned is a large one with many splendid plants. This has been occasioned by the death of the owner. It is a splendid collection with a host of mature plants the like of which do not become available all that often. To get a flavour of the plants available Chris Leather has set up a web site showing well over 100 of the plants including a few general views that will allow you to savour the size and extent of the collection.

Advertisement by the Manchester Cactus Society for Ken's Plants

Seasonal Eating: Vegetable Casserole with Dumplings

1 tblsp. oil
1 onion (chopped)
1 clove garlic
¼ lb. mushrooms (whole if small)
¾ pt vegetable stock
seasoning
3 or 4 of the following vegetables (sliced carrot, parsnips, cubed sweet potato, turnip, Jerusalem artichoke, peppers, courgette etc.)

Dumplings:
4 oz. S.R. flour
¾ oz. butter or marg.
mixed fresh herbs
(parsley, thyme, rosemary etc)
milk to mix

- Cook onion over low heat till soft, add garlic & mushrooms and cook 1 minute.
- Add vegetables, seasoning and stock, bring to boil and simmer 5 minutes.
- Make dumplings - rub butter into flour, add herbs and enough milk to make stiff dough.
- Divide dough into 8 pieces and form balls.
- Place dough balls on top of vegetable casserole.
- Cook in oven 20 mins at 180 C or gas 4.
(can also be made with chopped tomatoes in place of stock)



The website mentioned in the advertisement above can be found at <http://manchestercactus.co.uk/Archives.aspx>