



EHS has recently affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society.

Our motivation is that our Society should support the RHS rather than for any benefit we get from it. That said, we have become part of the largest network of gardening clubs in the UK and affiliation offers some advantages:

- *The Garden* magazine each month - we plan to put this into The Barlow library
- A group visit annually to an RHS Garden for up to 55 of our members (if we can fit one into our busy programme!)
- Access to gardening advice from RHS experts
- Quarterly magazine and email bulletins with the latest community gardening news and information
- A register of speakers and judges
- Use of the RHS Affiliated Societies logo

As we learn more about them, we will work out the best way to pass on these and other benefits to our members.



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*Barlow bed in March 2014  
And in May 2014*

### EHS in the Community

The hard work of the EHS volunteers on the Barlow bed has shown real results this spring. There have been many admiring comments.

The colours of the crocus and snowdrops with a background of cornus in the Tebay bed glowed in the spring sunshine

Come along and help us to keep both these beds weed-free and looking beautiful.

The company's great and what a difference we can make to where we live!

Contact David Mason on 853698



*Tebay garden in March 2014*



### EHS on the Web

Take a look! It has galleries of pictures, upcoming events, EHS contacts and lots more.

## A Curious Visit to try

I am sitting peacefully in 11.3 acres within the



largest industrial park in Europe. The site originally was owned by a family, whose name is given to the local area. The boating lake, built by

the family, remains today. The family sold the park in the 1890's for development as an

industrial estate and their majestic house was demolished. Local communities continued to use the lake for recreational activities

until the 1930's. In 1973 Esso bought the site undertaking general maintenance to safeguard the land from pollution and stocked the lake with fish. In 1983 the land was sold to a local borough council for development as an ecology park. In 1998 the park was taken over by a regeneration charity (MSSTT). It was declared a local nature reserve in 2006.

Currently the site is open to the public and is supported by volunteers. There is an education centre with ICT suite, microscopes, conference rooms, free wifi, kitchen and toilets. There is a bird hide and pond dipping platforms. The grounds include a wetland dominated by the lake and six ponds. The woodland has deciduous and coniferous plantings with wildflower meadows.

*Any ideas as to where I am? (see page 4)*



## 2014 Talks - What's gone & what's to come

*We have started the year with 4 brilliant talks and in case you missed any, here is a short resumé.*

In January Richard Heyes took us step-by-step through the creation of Styal Prison's Silver Medal winning garden "**Breaking the Cycle**" at the 2013 Tatton Flower Show and the impact on the women inmates who he guided on the design and who did all the manual labour and planting.

In February, Matt & James from Greenhouse Sensation introduced us to the world of "**Hydroponics**" gardening. Over the last few years they have peppers, tomatoes, ginger, papaya, bananas and exotic plants growing at their Mawdesley base. Several of us have been tempted to give it a go this year. .

March: "Lilies, Hardy to Hybrid" - Matthew Smith of Brighter Blooms near Preston talked to us about Zantedeschia which include Arum & Calla Lilies ... and aren't lilies! In the wild in South Africa, Zantedeschia aethiopica is a fully hardy, bog and shade loving plant, but the hybrid plants are not as tolerant of wet or cold temperatures. We saw impressive images of many of Matthew's award winning Flower Show displays.

April: "Garden Styles for the future with a Chinese influence and minimalism" - Carl Brabin addressed the meeting with his usual enthusiasm and wit. We learned a lot about the history of garden design and though "future" and "Chinese influence" were strangely missing it was as always with Carl an entertaining evening!

*So don't miss these!*

June 18<sup>th</sup>: **Pruning Techniques** - Anthony Norman grows variegated and coloured foliage hardy nursery stock. Bringing plants to sell.

July 16<sup>th</sup>: Multiple RHS Gold Medallist, Kevin Pratt will be telling us about **Unusual Plants for our Area** (but obtainable)

September 17<sup>th</sup>: Multiple RHS Gold medallists Cath & Bob Sanderson talk on **Extending the Season** using perennials and complimentary combinations. Bringing plants to sell.

October 15<sup>th</sup>: **Cuttings from a Gardener's Diary** - Sam Youd is the renowned head gardener at Tatton Park, now retired

## Suttons Discounts for Members

Suttons Seeds continue to offer big discounts to us - continuing right through to their autumn catalogues (40% on seeds & 15% on plants/equipment). You may receive catalogues direct from Suttons or see things on their web site but to get the discount you must order via EHS (not via the Web or on a form in a catalogue) Everything is sent direct to you. Contact Amanda Mason on 853698 for our order form.

## This Year's Annual Show

This year, as usual, preparations for the Show started in February (that's if you don't count the meeting in September last year to review what went well and what could have been better!).

One of the first jobs is to decide what goes into the Schedule which has been kept largely unchanged from 2013. Adult **Floral Art** is all new and commemorates the start of WW1 with titles such as "Keep the Home Fires Burning" and "Peace in our Time". In **Cookery** who could resist Crunchy Top Lemon cake!

With three junior age ranges in each of **Floral Art, Cookery, Art, Craft, Photography** and **Gardening** there's lots to interest both boys and girls. So if you have children or grandchildren encourage them to enter and to experience the pleasure of seeing their work on display and the chance of a win. Isn't it great to see youngsters receiving a trophy at the prize giving?

This year Tony Murphy has taken on the task of co-ordinating the Show and its preparation. As the day approaches many helpers are needed, largely from amongst our members. There are many ways to help:

- distributing flyers to houses in your area in the week before the Show
- providing a cake for sale in the café
- stewarding on the day (morning and /or afternoon)
- helping in the café in the afternoon
- helping to clear up at the end of Saturday or on Sunday morning
- providing well grown plants for the plant stall (bring these on the day, there's no need to let us know - see above right)

To help, please let us know at the June or July meeting; email [show@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk](mailto:show@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk) or phone Tony on 01204 307364

## Friends of the Barlow

The Barlow is our home in Edgworth and needs expensive roof repairs. Look out for applications to become a "Friend" and help raise vital cash.

## Annual Show Plant Stall - plants wanted

The plant stall is popular with both members and visitors. If you are able to donate just one plant (or even more) it's really appreciated and will contribute to the variety on sale and the attractiveness of the stall which as usual will be prominently in front of the Institute.

The stall is an important part of the Show and makes a real contribution to its costs.

Common & less common perennials, house plants, spring or autumn bedding etc. etc.- please give what you can to make an attractive mix of plants on sale. The plants could be off-shoots, cuttings or divisions of plants in your house and garden or perhaps a surplus grown from seed.

Well grown plants in pots sell well. Plants in flower draw in the crowds. Please, nothing bare rooted in carrier bags and while we can identify many plants, a label or paper with plant name / variety is a big help.

Bring plants to The Barlow On Friday night 7:30 to 8:20 or Saturday morning before the Show

If you would like to donate some plants but have problems bringing them, contact a committee member or email:

[plantstall@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk](mailto:plantstall@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk)

We'll try to help but it's a very busy time for the whole committee so please bring them if possible!

## Garden Visits are very popular

Our **Evening Visit** in May was to The Ridges Gardens near Anglezarke. 45 of us explored the 3.5 acres of mainly woodland garden with many mature trees and British wildflowers in the woods plus formal lawns, herbaceous borders and a walled orchard. The Handkerchief Tree was in full fig and the clematis were beautiful. Plants are for sale. Our website has its location and opening days.

Our summer outing to **Plas Cadnant** on Anglesey has a long waiting list and our September 6<sup>th</sup> outing to **Scampston Walled Garden** near Malton in Yorkshire was half filled at our April meeting. See our web site for details then email [outing@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk](mailto:outing@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk) or phone Phil on 01204 300541 to reserve a place.

## Where am I? (from page 2)

Trafford Ecology Park, Lake Road, Trafford Park  
M17 1TU 0161 222 1000.

Once the home of the De Trafford family

An aerial view taken before the park reverted to nature now with woodland and wild birds on the clean lake.



The Park is owned by Groundwork Manchester, Salford, Stockport, Tameside and Trafford. (MSSTT). Contact them for opening times. There is on-site car parking  
email [msstt@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:msstt@groundwork.org.uk)  
[www.groundwork.org.uk/msstt](http://www.groundwork.org.uk/msstt)



Volunteers are needed to help with many aspects of keeping the Society ticking over - can you offer help with any of these tasks? Cakes and teas for meetings and for the Show; maintenance of the

Tebay and Barlow gardens (usually once a year); providing information for the website or short write-ups and photographs of Society visits or the holiday; contributions, articles, tips or features for the newsletters. You don't need technical skills - hand written or email notes are very welcome. Perhaps you see other aspects of the Society to which you could contribute. Speak to Phil on 01204 300541 or email [chairman@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk](mailto:chairman@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk)

## Gardening tips

Have you done the Chelsea Chop yet? Shorten a third to a half of the stems for a longer flowering season - those uncut flower earlier, cut flower later.

Early flowering perennials - cut down when flowering is over and achieve a tidier garden with space to pop in annuals and maybe a second flush of blooms later depending on the season we get.

At Turton Tower Kitchen garden the volunteers introduced local kids to planting strawberries and trailing plants into pallets stood vertically with the back and sides covered with membrane. Fun for the kids and what a success! The restored garden is well worth a visit - or go along on Saturdays or Tuesdays 10 -1pm to join in and dig for Turton!



## The 2014 AGM

It seems hardly any time since our last AGM and while not wanting the summer to end before it starts, November 19<sup>th</sup> will be here all too soon. (At least the weeds will have slowed down!)

As usual we will have a social evening and supper but there a couple of things which need to be mentioned

### Constitution Update

A revision of the constitution was approved by the committee in May. There are no major changes involved but practice has diverged from it in areas such as the maximum committee size so we felt it was time to bring it into line and to take this opportunity to make some clarifications. It will be an extra item on the Agenda, to be formally adopted. The revised constitution is available to all members on the Society's web site at <http://www.edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk/revised-constitution> or by email [webmaster@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk](mailto:webmaster@edgworth-horticultural-society.co.uk) on request. A hard copy will also be on the notice board at the front of the hall in the Barlow at all meetings prior to the AGM.

### Seed Swap

Because of our special celebration last year, we overlooked the annual seed swap - but not this year! Please harvest seeds and store in paper envelopes ready to swap on the night. Label them with - name; variety (if known); annual, biennial, perennial; conditions they like; height and spread plus any other information you consider useful. You are given a token for each packet you donate to be `spent` on one of your choice from the table. Any remaining are then sold to members.