

Plant Heritage



Surrey Group Lockdown Newsletter

June 2020



Dear All,

I do so hope that you and your families are all keeping well and that your gardens are not too confused by our wonderfully changeable maritime climate. In May, you could have been excused for thinking we had been towed out towards the equator. Yet now we are back in much more typical early June weather; grey, damp and a bit nippy!

In an effort to keep our spirits up, we are running the **Flower of The Month Competition** again. To enter please send me a picture of a flower, fruit or seed head from your garden, greenhouse or conservatory to brighten up our lives. Don't forget it's one entry per person please. Email your photo to me by clicking this link: Surreyph@gmail.com (rather than replying to this email). The closing date for entries is Friday June 19th, so get snapping. Please make sure that your email includes your name and the name of your plant entry, if known. I shall, once again, compile all the entries received and they'll be published along with the results on our website [Plant Heritage - Surrey Group](#) (Click on 'Read more' to view our complete page).

My thanks go to everyone who submitted a photo in May and I hope that like me, you enjoyed seeing the results which are on our website [May 2020 Photo Competition](#) Congratulations once again to Gillian for her beautiful winning entry.

Wendy Bentall has decided to close her Gate Sale of plants for Plant Heritage having raised a whopping £5,500. I am sure you will all join me in thanking Wendy for all her hard work and congratulating her for a most amazing and inspiring success.



If you have not seen it in the press, the RHS have now announced that all their shows for September have been cancelled including the postponed Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival. It is deeply disappointing that these shows, and all the hard work that goes into them, have been cancelled for this year. Let us all hope that next year will see a welcome return of these and other similar events.

David has continued his series of photos on our Facebook page, 'A Flower A Day (...keeps the Covid away)'. We now have over 350 Facebook friends across the world.

With group meetings and talks temporarily cancelled, our Central Office staff have been busy arranging virtual events for us all to attend. After the successful 'Inspiring Irises' talk in May, the next is this Thursday 11th June at 6:30pm and entitled [Ravishing Roses](#). Michael Marriott, Head Rosarian at David Austin Roses, will talk about the history of this National Collection of English roses, and how to show them off in the garden. Catherine Penny will reveal her journey of discovery about her National Collection of Pemberton & Bentall roses. In addition, Henry Robinson will tell us about his National Collection of rambling roses at Moor Wood.

If you missed the Iris talk and would like to 'catch-up', please contact Central Office who I understand have a 'secret' link to the talk. It was recorded for posterity and can be viewed again for a small donation.

Finally, if you missed it during virtual Chelsea week, [Virtual Chelsea Plant Heritage](#) is Plant Heritage's own exhibit for the virtual show.

So my very best wishes to you and all your families, I look forward to seeing your entries to our June competition.

I wish you all Happy Growing,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David" in a cursive style, with a long, sweeping underline.