

TALKING PLANTS PROGRAMME 2019

Tuesday 28 May 2019 at 11 am.

Frances Druce invites us to her garden near Lindfield

Frances says, " The garden at Copyhold Hollow muddled along in a mist of ignorance and little time for gardening for several years. Then followed attendance at Brinsbury doing the RHS General Certificate which provided a solid basis on which to grow. The topography cried out for rhododendrons, so I planted a few. Paths went in where I tended to walk which involved carrying 10 tons of sandstone gravel up the slope each winter for three years. So, the garden was not "designed" but just came into being.

It is in a hollow, opening out to the north, with steep slopes leading up to woodland. The area around the house is flat for those who do not care to climb the slopes and has a cottage garden feel to it. Stumpery, soft fruit and vegetable plot (grown mostly for the benefit of the wildlife!) pond and bog garden complete the site."

Wednesday 5th June 2019 at 11 am.

Carole and Ian Woodland invite us to their garden in Bexhill.

Carole says, " Our garden is on the south coast 400 yards from the sea, with salt laden winds at times. Three feet below the surface of our garden is yellow sand, which does present challenges. In summer it does not retain moisture and in winter the sand does not retain heat.

Planting is a matter of seeing which plants will survive in these conditions, but in the sixteen years we have been here we have managed to build up an extensive range of plants and trees.

The rear garden is about 130 x 60ft and this includes a gazebo, a summerhouse, a knot garden, a seaside garden, yellow borders a hot border, a white border, herb area, two water features, a fruit-cage and a vegetable plot."

Thursday 25th July 2019 at 11am.

Pauline Bastick invites us to her garden in Crowborough.

Pauline says, " A fairly large and established rear garden which I have adapted and updated since moving here six years ago. It is still work in progress as I learn to cope with the extremes of gardening conditions in Crowborough. There are flower and vegetable areas in addition to a pond and rockery. Please be aware that there are bee hives in the garden."

Sunday 29th September 2019 at 11 am.

Celia Withers invites us to her garden at Flansham near Bognor Regis.

Celia says, " Although there is still some renovation work to do, after three years of hacking back overgrown areas, the garden is better than it has been for some time! It is just under ½ acre, with mixed planting, including a number of shade beds, perennial beds in sun, some fruit bushes and a large pond much used by local wildlife."

TO BOOK, as usual, please contact Lesley Wembridge (her details are on the back of the newsletter). If you are not on e-mail, you will need to send her a stamped addressed envelope, so that she can send you instructions in time for your visit. Please also remember that if you book for a friend you will need to give their name and they must be a member too.

We would like to thank our very welcoming hosts this year, Janet Daly, Mary Hember, Aideen Jones and Pauline Clarke. We had lovely sunny days for each of the visits. Sadly, our visit to Jan Salter's garden in February was cancelled as it was under several inches of snow!

If you would like to get to know more people in the Sussex HPS, then please consider volunteering to host a TP yourself. It's a great way to make lasting friends. It's not like a formal garden visit, just a few people round for coffee and a chat about plants and gardening. Please contact Jane Collins (details also on the back of the newsletter) if you might be interested.