

Henleaze Garden Club – Programme for 2017

Speakers and Day Visits

Wed 4 Jan: Nathalie Mignotte - 'Islamic Gardens'. Nathalie will explain the history and design of these beautiful, tranquil gardens which are meant to be visions of paradise.

Wed 1 Feb: Sue Fisher - 'Making the Most of a Small Garden'. Design tips, plant suggestions and growing advice to inspire gardeners on how to get maximum value from the smallest space.

Wed 1 Mar: James Alexander Sinclair - 'A Life in Five Gardens'. James is a garden designer, award-winning writer, compelling speaker, frequent broadcaster and member of the RHS Council.

Wed 5 Apr: Ken Thompson - 'Some Modern Gardening Myths'. Ken is a biologist with a keen interest in the science of gardening. He writes (5 garden books so far) and lectures extensively.

Wed 3 May: Gill Hazell - 'Sweet Peas'. The colours, the heavenly scent - who doesn't love these pretty summer flowers? Learn more from this local expert.

Wed 7 Jun: Troy Scott Smith - 'Sissinghurst – 'Revitalising Vita'. Head Gardener at Sissinghurst. Troy has taken on a 7 year project to restore the Garden to its original form.

Tues 13 Jun: Day visit to Winterbourne House, Edgbaston (Birmingham University Botanic Gardens). Seven acres of Grade II listed, Gertrude Jekyll inspired gardens, with John Nettlefold's imaginatively restored 1903 Arts & Crafts house and the wisteria-clad Terrace tearoom.

Wed 28 Jun: Day visit to Marwood Hill Garden, Barnstaple. Covering 20 acres with 3 beautiful lakes. The bog garden provides a stream of colour as primulas are succeeded by irises and astilbes, complemented by hydrangeas on the hillside. Visit the award winning Garden Tea Room.

Thurs 6 Jul: Afternoon visit to Stoberry House, near Wells. With breathtaking views over Wells, this six acre garden provides a stunning combination of vistas, accented with ponds, sculpture, a sunken garden, potager, lime walk, herbaceous borders, roses, fernery, and salvias

Wed 6 Sep: Marion Dale - 'Wicked Plants'. A look at some of our garden plants that can kill, intoxicate, irritate or otherwise offend! Which ones are hiding in your garden?

Wed 4 October: Anna Pavord - 'Garden Style'. Anna writes and talks on all aspects of gardens, plants and famous gardeners. This talk will give a fresh perspective on garden design and style.

Wed 1 Nov: Mark Diacono - 'The New Kitchen Garden'. Mark was the head gardener at River Cottage. He will cover vegetables, fruit, herbs and spices and how to grow them anywhere, including the flower beds.

Wed 6 Dec: Club Christmas Event: Michael Jones - 'Mistletoe, Myth and Legend'. Michael is a parasitic plant expert, who will reveal that there is more to mistletoe than its role at Christmas!

Residential Trips

Two residential trips are planned for 2017, as detailed below. These are dependent on there being enough participants, but based on the high level of interest, both trips are likely to go ahead.

Fri 19 to Sun 21 May: 'Welsh Borders'. Staying in Hereford. The gardens visited will include Stockton Bury (Leominster), Powis Castle with its amazing terraces and historic castle, Glansevern Hall on the Severn, and Montpelier Cottage (home of garden designer, Noel Kingsbury).

Mon 10 to Thu 13 July: 'Kent and Sussex'. Staying in East Grinstead. The highlights are Wakehurst Place (managed by Kew Gardens), Sissinghurst, Christopher Lloyd's Great Dixter, Tom Hart Dyke's World Garden of Plants at Lullingstone Castle and Nyman's Garden.

Garden Parties

Following the success of the three Garden Parties held this summer, we will hold Parties again in 2017, in late July/early August. These will take place in members' gardens, and are social events that provide the opportunity to look round a garden, meet other members and give feedback on the Club to members of the Organising Team. Teas are served and plants are for sale.