

## CHOLESBURY CUM ST LEONARDS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY CHAIRMAN'S NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2017

Our coach trip this year is to Meadow Farm Garden and Nursery, Feckenham and Coughton Court, Alcester. Rob and Diane Cole moved to Meadow Farm from Birmingham in 1998 to seek a more rural way of life. To enable them to continue running their plant growing business from this new location they set about building a new ¾ acre nursery in part of their 2 acre meadow, before turning their attention to creating a garden in the one acre plot to the rear of the house. Today the garden is laid out as a blend of formal and informal areas, including a natural stream, paved and seating areas, vistas and enclosed spaces, a scree bed and wide borders of herbaceous planting. The nursery specialises in herbaceous perennials which are propagated and grown on site. The nursery is not usually open to the public. Coffee and homemade cake will be served during the morning.

Coughton Court, Alcester is a National Trust property which has spectacular award-winning gardens. Highlights include the walled garden, lake, knot garden, vegetable garden, orchard and bog garden. The gardens were designed to complement the house, with the courtyard garden based on Elizabethan knot gardens to echo the Tudor gatehouse. In contrast to this formality the walled garden was designed as a series of 'garden rooms'. Each space was given a different theme or colour including the hot and cool Borders and the spectacular rose labyrinth with over 200 different varieties of roses.

The cost of the outing will be:

Hort Soc and NT members: £21.00

Non Hort Soc and NT members: £23.00

Hort Soc but Not NT members: £31.00

Neither members of Hort Soc nor NT: £33.00

Diana Mills is now taking bookings on [dimills24@gmail.com](mailto:dimills24@gmail.com) or telephone 01296 624993.

Friday 31 March 19.30 – 21.30 in Cholesbury Village Hall	"Arts and Crafts Gardens" by Kate Harwood. Entry £4.00 per person to include the talk, ploughman's supper and first glass of wine or soft drink.
Wednesday 21 June 8.30 to 18.30	Coach trip Meadow Farm Garden and Nursery, Feckenham and NT Coughton Court, Alcester.
Thursday 29 June from 6.00 to 7.30 Hastoe Open Gardens	<b>MEMBERS ONLY:</b> Sheila Weiner, Hawthorn Barn and Alan and Sandra Freeman at White Gate Cottage, Browns Lane have invited us to enjoy a glass of wine or fruit juice whilst exploring their gardens. Sheila has a charming courtyard garden, and the Freemans have a large country garden with something for everyone. Donations will be collected for a local charity.
Friday 28 July from 6.00 to 8.00 in Cholesbury Village Hal	Take the Fear out of Showing "pop in workshop". All your show questions will be answered, with tips and advice on how to win that coveted first prize!
Saturday 2 September	Horticultural, Cookery, Handicraft and Flower Show at Hawridge and Cholesbury C of E School. Doors open for setting up entries: 8.30 Show opens at 2.30 for visitors to enjoy home-made teas and a raffle. Schedule and entry form on <a href="http://www.cholesbury.com">www.cholesbury.com</a> .
Friday 17 November from 7.30 to 9.30 in Cholesbury Village Hall	A very short AGM followed by supper and a Quiz. Entry: £4.00 per person.

Further information about all these events will be sent by email and notices will appear on the village noticeboards. Any queries contact Diana Garner on [montana@cholesbury.net](mailto:montana@cholesbury.net) or 01494 758347. New members always welcome.