



CGS

Lectures,
garden visits,
and events
in 2024



Courtesy of Charles Francis





Welcome to our 2024 Events Guide

Once again, we are pleased to offer a full schedule of events for the coming year. Thank you to all those involved in arranging this interesting array of activities for your enjoyment.

Planning for the Spring Flower Show is well underway with new Show Director, Mark Holman, progressing innovative ideas for building on the successes of previous years.

The costs of running the Show, however, are immense and we are grateful for the support of our generous sponsors.

Finally, I would like to thank our President, Andrew Leslie for having combined his role with that of Interim Chairman.

I am proud to take on the role of Chairman and look forward to working with Andrew, the Board of Trustees and CGS Committees to promote the work of the Society, meet its charitable aims and champion horticulture in Cornwall.

I hope to see many of you at our events in 2024.

Martin Petherick
Chairman



Notes for your Guidance

Lectures are free for members and there is no need to book. Non-members are welcome to attend to find out more about the Society and donations are gratefully received.

All our garden visits are now self-drive. Early booking is advised as places are limited and allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Waiting lists are kept in the event of cancellations.

Please secure your place/s by completing and submitting the appropriate booking form on our website. If you do not have access to a computer, please request a hard copy from the relevant organiser. See the CGS Organisers page for contact details.

January



Lecture

Tuesday 16th at 7.30pm

Online via Zoom

John Anderson – My Favourite Woodland Treasures

As Keeper of the Gardens at Windsor Great Park, which, annually, attract 1.75m visitors, John Anderson is responsible for The Savill Garden, Valley Gardens and the private garden at Frogmore House.

Having trained at the National Botanic Gardens in Dublin and the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew, John has utilised his skills and developed his plant knowledge as Head Gardener of Mount Usher Gardens in Ireland, at the National Trust for Scotland's Inverewe Gardens and at Exbury Gardens in Hampshire.

John enjoys travelling to India, Chile, Australia and South Africa to study plants in their natural habitats. He is a recipient of the RHS Veitch Memorial Medal – an international award that honours individuals for their exceptional involvement in the advancement of the science, art and practice of horticulture – for furthering many careers by sharing his expertise and serving on the RHS Woody Plant Committee since 2007, formerly as Vice Chair.

February



Lectures

Tuesday 13th at 7.30pm

The Alverton, Tregolls Road, Truro TR1 1ZQ

Johnny Walkers – Tulips: 1900 to the Present Day

Wednesday 14th at 2.30pm

St Mellion International Resort, Saltash PL12 6SD

Johnny Walkers – Daffodils: Commercial Production and Ways of Showing

The son of a Dutch bulb grower, Johnny gathered much knowledge by working with his father in the school holidays and at weekends.

He began his career as Technical and Quality Manager with the bulb co-operative, Lingarden. With growers spread across seven counties, Johnny advised them on the latest growing techniques and helped to develop a business that exported daffodils (including many tonnes from Cornwall) to Europe, Scandinavia and North America.

In 1986, Johnny established a mail order company focusing on unusual daffodils and other specialist bulbs. This was the start of his showing journey at RHS Chelsea and the North of England Horticultural Society's Harrogate Flower Show.

In 2016, Johnny was awarded the Peter Barr Memorial Cup for services to the daffodil industry. His lectures will cover more than a century of tulip growing in the eastern counties of the UK and what it takes to produce daffodils commercially.

February



Garden Visit

Sunday 18th

Trewidden House and Gardens, Buryas Bridge,
Penzance TR20 8TT

Magnolias, Camellias and a Sunday Roast

Join us for a unique opportunity to enjoy a delicious two-course lunch in the splendid surroundings of this Grade II listed manor house by kind courtesy of Alverne and Annabel Bolitho.

Created by the family in the 19th century, Trewidden Garden – one of the Great Gardens of Cornwall – hosts more than 300 magnolias (including five champion trees) and camellias, the National Collection of Rhododendron (Wilson 50 Azaleas), and a magnificent stand of tree ferns within an open cast tin mine.

We hope that the Trewidden Belle and other fine early-flowering magnolias will be in bloom when we visit, as well as earlier flowering camellias.

Head Gardener, Richard Morton, will lead us on tours of Trewidden's 15-acre garden and share the secrets of its horticultural heritage and his extensive knowledge.

The booking form will be available on our website in January 2024 or in hard copy upon request from Elizabeth Harris.



Trewidden House Dining Room/Courtesy of Bolitho Estates

March



Lectures

Tuesday 12th at 7.30pm

The Alverton, Tregolls Road, Truro TR1 1ZQ

Jeremy Wilson – A History of Tea

Wednesday 13th at 2.30pm

Penventon Park Hotel, West End, Redruth TR15 1TE

Jeremy Wilson – Camellias: How to Grow and Show

Having worked for more than 30 years in horticulture, Jeremy has a wealth of information to draw from for these lectures.

His career has spanned growing bedding plants and field-grown trees to crops and weeds for chemical testing. He has also worked for English Heritage and the University of Cambridge as a gardener, and as Head Gardener for a number of private estates.

Jeremy took over Strete Gate Camellias in a picturesque spot near Dartmouth in South Devon, overlooking the sea, in 2011 and now propagates and sells in excess of 500 different camellias to garden centres and other retail outlets.

He is a regular exhibitor at RHS shows where he has previously been awarded a Gold medal. He is preparing to attend the RHS Chelsea Flower Show in 2024 and will be revealing some tricks of the trade to help us exhibit our camellias at the CGS Spring Flower Show.

Some of our Eminent Speakers



John Anderson - January



Johnny Walkers - February



Jeremy Wilson - March

April



CGS Spring Flower Show

Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th

The Royal Cornwall Showground, Wadebridge
PL27 7JE

An immersive Show Garden, a Grow Your Own space and Tipi Talks by local luminaries and national names are just some of the vibrant new features that will complement the dazzling displays and exquisite exhibits at our 2024 Spring Flower Show.

Described by The Telegraph as the 'Chelsea of the West' and by Gardens Illustrated as 'one of the best flower and garden shows,' our festival of flowers, sponsored by Cornish Lithium, champions Cornwall's rich horticultural heritage and early spring on an unprecedented scale.

Whether you are eager to enter the Competitive Classes, happy to help with the set-up and staging of the event or wish to experience all that the Show has to offer with family and friends, we encourage you to support our annual showcase, which raises vital funds for the Society's charitable endeavours.

Tickets are £10 in advance or £12 on the gate. Admission is free for under 16s and well-behaved dogs on leads are welcome.

To book, head to www.cornwallgardensociety.org.uk/spring-flower-show/show-tickets/



Cornwall Garden Society

Spring Flower Show 2024

Saturday 6th April, 10am - 5pm

Sunday 7th April, 10am - 4pm

The Royal Cornwall Showground,
Wadebridge

Advance Tickets: £10
(or £12 on the gate)

[cornwallgardensociety.org.uk/
spring-flower-show](https://cornwallgardensociety.org.uk/spring-flower-show)

May



Garden Visit

Wednesday 1st

**Trewithen House and Gardens, Grampound Road,
Truro TR2 4DD**

One of the Great Gardens of Cornwall, Trewithen is renowned for its Georgian house, which is set in 30 acres of wood and parkland filled with an historic collection of specimen rhododendrons, camellias and magnolias.

The house and gardens have undergone significant restoration with new areas opened to the public in recent years.

This event will consist of three segments: a private tour of the gardens with Head Gardener, Gary Long; a guided visit inside Trewithen House with its Great Saloon, which looks out on to the spectacular South Lawn and is an outstanding example of the Rococo style that was so popular in the mid-18th century, and some free time for your quiet exploration of the grounds.

Places are limited due to visitor number limits in the house.

The booking form will be available on our website in February 2024 or in hard copy upon request from Michele Richards.



Courtesy of Trewithen House and Gardens/Gary Long

May



Garden Visit

Thursday 23rd

**Lower Penbothidnow, Constantine and Caervallack,
St Martin, The Lizard**

Lower Penbothidnow is an undulating garden, which includes an interesting series of 'rooms' with clipped hedges in a walled garden, a wildflower meadow, a woodland walk and terraces below the house.

There is also a tree fern 'pit', numerous seating areas, mature trees, shrubs interspersed with sculptures and herbaceous planting.

Developed over two decades by artist, Louise and architect, Matt, who is also a cob specialist, the garden at Caervallack features cob-constructed walls and garden buildings as well as 'rooms' with unusual plant combinations.

With lots of low clipped hedges around beds planted by Louise who is an herbaceous fanatic, a wildflower meadow, a woodland walk, a cob-walled garden, a wisteria walk and a bridge over to a wilderness garden, there is much to enjoy in this tranquil setting.

The booking form will be available on our website in February 2024 or in hard copy upon request from Ian Buckingham.



Courtesy of Caervallack/Ian Buckingham

June



Garden Visit

Friday 14th

Marsh Villa, Par and Bodmin Nursery

A hidden gem in the heart of Par, Marsh Villa is a magical three acres of water and woodland garden, which lies in a former tidal creek and is rich in variety and conservation significance.

Planting began in 1988 with a shelter belt and now consists of a series of distinct areas with a large pond, surrounded by mature herbaceous borders and beautiful mixed beds amongst a charming network of waterways that drain the Treemill marsh levels.

Bodmin Nursery is one of the biggest and best growing nurseries in the south west; however, it has a secret history dating back some 900 years.

Owners, Mark and Linda Lawlor, will guide us through its past and present, and reveal what it takes to be a commercial nursery business in 2024.

The booking form will be available on our website in March 2024 or in hard copy upon request from Michele Richards.



Courtesy of Marsh Villa/Michele Richards

July



Garden Visit

Thursday 18th

Garlenick Manor, Grampound and Mitchell Fruit Garden, Mitchell

Garlenick Manor is of late 17th century origin but its splendid walled garden dates from the 1600s.

The manor was rebuilt in 1812 following a fire but after World War I, the house and gardens fell into disrepair until rescued by the current owners in 1962.

With a vision to restore the gardens to their original plan, extensive landscaping and planting, including an avenue of *Dicksonia*, has recently occurred under the watchful eye of designer, Michael Harvey, who will conduct our tour.

Mitchell Fruit Garden was founded in 1977 when hedges were planted as windbreaks and a remote-controlled underground irrigation system and reservoir were installed. It has evolved into a successful business, supplying retail and wholesale outlets with a variety of soft fruits and a 'Pick Your Own'.

The booking form will be available on our website in March 2024 or in hard copy upon request from Elizabeth Harris.



Courtesy of Garlenick Manor/Elizabeth Harris

September



Garden Visit

Thursday 19th

**Hillside, St Buryan; Regent Terrace, Penzance;
Boscrowan, Heamoor and The Steward's House
Garden, St Michael's Mount with Garden Designer,
Michael Harvey and Lunch**

Created by Michael Harvey, these gardens highlight the importance of good structural design in smaller spaces.

Situated on a steep slope, Hillside includes four terraces, which are ingeniously interlinked by granite steps. Aeoniums and other succulents adorn the walls whilst the borders are planted with geraniums, tulbaghia, cinerarias, fuchsias and euphorbias.

The gardens at Regent Terrace echo the architecture of its Grade II listed townhouse with paving and planting to reflect its semi-circular stair bays and bow windows.

The redesigned front garden at Boscrowan incorporates terracing, checkerboard paving and growing squares with yew domes.

The Steward's House Garden is a peaceful courtyard with formal beds and herringbone brick paving that features a new sculpture, entitled 'St Michael', created by Tom Leaper and commissioned by Lord and Lady St Levan.

The booking form will be available on our website in June 2024 or in hard copy upon request from Elizabeth Harris.



Courtesy of Hillside/Elizabeth Harris

October



CGS Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 8th at 7pm

The Alverton, Tregolls Road, Truro TR1 1ZQ

We have confirmed the following dates and venues for our October, November and December lectures but are still working on which speakers they will feature as we have been without a Lecture Organiser. Please watch out for announcements on our website, by email and across our social media channels nearer the time.

October

Tuesday 8th at 7.30pm (after AGM)

The Alverton, Tregolls Road, Truro TR1 1ZQ

Wednesday 9th at 2.30pm

Penventon Park Hotel, West End, Redruth TR15 1TE

November

Tuesday 12th at 7.30pm

The Alverton, Tregolls Road, Truro TR1 1ZQ

Wednesday 13th at 2.30pm

St Mellion International Resort, Saltash PL12 6SD

December

Tuesday 10th at 7.30pm

The Alverton, Tregolls Road, Truro TR1 1ZQ

Wednesday 11th at 2.30pm

Penventon Park Hotel, West End, Redruth TR15 1TE

CGS Organisers



Lectures:

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Judith Hancock

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Vice-Presidents:

Peter Bickford-Smith

Bryan Coode

Jenifer Hilliard

Ronald Scamp

Roger Trenoweth

Pat Ward



Courtesy of Ian Kingsnorth



To book your places on our garden visits, please visit cornwallgardensociety.org.uk/events or contact the relevant organiser as indicated.

To join the CGS, please contact Jilly Easterby, Membership Secretary on 07743 164434 or membership@cornwallgardensociety.org.uk

You can also like us on Facebook at facebook.com/CornwallGardenSociety, follow @CwllGardenSoc on X and @CornwallGardenSociety on Instagram, or visit cornwallgardensociety.org.uk

Cornwall Garden Society

Affiliated to The Royal Horticultural Society

Patron: HRH The former Prince of Wales

Charity No: 1094859 Company No: 4504080

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Many thanks to all those who have supplied information and photographs for our 2024 Events Guide, which are reproduced with their kind permission.

All information is correct at time of going to press. Please refer to www.cornwallgardensociety.org.uk/events and our social media accounts for updates.