

East Reading Horticultural Society

NEWSLETTER

June 2025

The trading shed opens: Sat and Sun 09:30 to 11:00 (but only Sat in July & August),
and Wednesdays in April and May from 18:30 to 19:30.

Note: Shed helpers are not all young, big and strong so, if you need to get heavy items,
please try to bring someone with you to help with the lifting.

Shed mobile number: 0738 463 2903. Web site: www.erhs.org.uk

Facebook Group: "East Reading Horticultural Society"

Editor: Tel: 07794 233361, Email: ERHS@hotmail.co.uk

{Get your newsletter early (and in colour): Ask to be added to the ERHS email list,
but please include your membership card number.}



PROGRAMME EVENTS



TUESDAY 24TH JUNE 2025

Trip to National Trust Mottisfont Abbey:

We have a full coach and the visit goes ahead.
Thank you to members for supporting this visit. If you have any problems on the day,
please ring John Peacock before 8:30 am on
(0118) 986 7303.

The coach will leave from the bus stop lay-by,
opposite Suttons bowling club car park (RG6
5HQ), at 9:30. Please be ready to board by
9:20. We expect to return there by 5 pm.

If you are an NT member, please remember to
bring your membership card.

Also, wear comfortable walking shoes and
bring your delicious picnic. There are outlets
on site for teas and coffees.

Hopefully the weather will be kind!

Thank you ... John Peacock

Summer Show Saturday 19th July

*The show schedule has been emailed to all members on
our email list. It is also downloadable from our website or
can be requested by email (see the newsletter heading).*

There are a few in the trading shed as well.

49 growing days from 1st June.

With some rain in the forecast for 6 days before the
end of May, there is some hope for our gardens and
allotments. 2 of my 3 water butts are empty and
there are rumours of hosepipe bans. Keep your
fingers crossed! More of us may feel encouraged to
enter the cookery and/or homecraft classes (Ed.).

*There are 56 classes, something for everyone:
flowers (16), vegetables (10), fruit (6),
floral art (5), cookery (9), homecraft (10).*

Other scheduled events 2025-2026

Tue 16 Sept Talk "British hardy orchids"

Tue 21 Oct Talk "Why we need pollinators"

Tue 18 Nov Talk "Essential oils and plant-based
wellness"

Tue 9 Dec Christmas social

Tue 20 Jan Talk "Longstock Park Water Garden"

Tue 17 Feb 84th Annual General Meeting

Tue 17 Mar Talk "Humble hedges - many benefits"

TRADING MATTERS

We still have some begonia, lily and dahlia left.

Our supplier of manure is struggling to keep up
with demand but, luckily for us, we can manage
delivery at 7am whereas most other concerns
don't open until later. As a result, they can
deliver to us early and then get back to do lorry
loads elsewhere. So, many thanks to those
unloaders willing to turn up at 7am to shift 200
bags in 15 minutes and then go home for coffee
or bed! Trevor Wilson

MISCELLANEA

Next Committee Meeting:

7:30 p.m. on Monday 9th June at the Crescent Resource
Centre. (Warbler Drive, Earley, RG6 4HB)

Membership Renewals

To all members who have already renewed their
membership, many thanks from the Committee,
as it is the Society membership that keeps us
going!

If you have not yet renewed your membership,
this will be your last newsletter - so don't miss
out: renew your membership! This is best done
at the Trading Shed during normal opening
hours, and costs only £3 for the whole year. You
will need a current membership card [labelled
"2025/26", with green print on white card] to
purchase goods at the Trading Shed.

If you renew after the end of June, you will
need to complete a new membership form, as
our Privacy Policy requires that all personal
data of non-members is deleted from our
records by the end of June each year.

Shed stewards and assistants this month.

1 st	Torkill Fozzard	Tracy Minell
7 th	Don Maclean	Tracy Collins
8 th	Jeff Gardner	Phil Horsburgh
14 th	Kay Bridges	Colin Green
15 th	Malcolm Iosson	Peter Lynch
21 st	David Hughes	Peter Scott
22 nd	Phil Rogers	Alan Waite
28 th	John Peacock	Carole Peacock
29 th	Kay Bridges	Ray Posselwhite

Survey

Thanks to those of you who have submitted completed survey forms. Once we have digested these, we'll let you know any outcomes in a future newsletter.

Things to do this month



General

- Summer perennials such as Rudbeckia, Digitalis and Hosta provide a riot of colour and will bloom for years to come, saving you replanting your garden each year. Digitalis is an herbaceous perennial, commonly known as the Foxglove. It's a popular plant, loved for its tall spires of bell-shaped flowers in a variety of colours. They create a lovely show at the back of a border. Check that your plants are the perennial variety as some are biennials.
- Plant shrubs such as Buddleia and Lavender to attract butterflies and bees to your garden, these are robust and reliable shrubs which are ideal for containers too, and add a splash of purple.
- Cut back any remaining leaves from Spring flowering bulbs, once they have started to turn yellow and die back. Deadhead any Summer bedding plants to encourage more flowers.
- Nothing tastes as good as home-grown salad, fruit and vegetables and it's not too late to grow your own. Many varieties can be grown in containers, and if you are growing from seed, sow some every few weeks to guarantee

crops throughout the season. If the weather is hot and dry move containers to a shady spot.

- Make sure you stake any plants, such as Sweet Peas, that are likely to flop as they grow taller. Use garden sticks, canes or plant supports to keep them looking good. Tie climbing plants such as Clematis, Wisteria and Jasmine as they grow, spreading the plants across the trellis, obelisk or arbour.

Lawn

- If the hot, dry days continue, raise the blades on your lawn mower to allow the grass to feed on its roots. Never remove more than one third of the grass length on any one occasion. It's time to edge your lawn, to define the shape and stop grass creeping into your borders.

Indoor Gardening

- Microgreens and salad leaves grow quickly and are perfect for growing if space is short. Any shallow container with drainage holes will be fine, keep the compost moist but not too wet, watering in the morning. Make sure to water well on hot, sunny days.
- If your houseplants are producing offsets, now is the time to separate them and pot up individually.

Wildlife

- Look after the bugs in your garden this summer with a bug hotel! You can build your own with bits and pieces around your garden or treat yourself to one from a garden centre. They are great for any garden and can be fitted to a wall or fence. Check out the residents - you could get ladybirds, hoverflies or earwigs.
- Make sure that your bird bath or bowl is kept topped up, especially in hot weather, and enjoy watching the birds come for a drink or refreshing dip.

WANTED / FOR SALE / FREE

Members' advertisements are free of charge. Just telephone or email the editor (see newsletter heading). [Copy deadline for the next newsletter: Sunday 29th June.](#)

Nothing received this month.

Unless otherwise stated, where items are free, a donation to the Air Ambulance (when you next visit the trading shed) would be appreciated.

Kindly
Printed by



MAIDEN ERLEGH
SCHOOL