

East Reading Horticultural Society

NEWSLETTER

June 2019

Trading shed: Sat, Sun, Mon (Tue if Mon is a bank holiday) 09:30 to 11:00.

Wed evenings - April and May only - 18:30 to 19:30. Mobile number: 0738 463 2903.

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 you with the lifting.

Web: 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.}



1. PROGRAMME EVENTS



(a) SATURDAY 29TH JUNE 2019

Summer Show. Calling all members: There is just under a month left before our showpiece day to celebrate all we achieve in our gardens, our allotments, our kitchens and in our crafty workspaces. Please read, or get, the schedule online or collect a paper copy from the shed and enter at least one of the classes on offer. It is a great community occasion for everyone to take part on this special day. You could enter a cherished houseplant or a single rose or a knitted dishcloth or show a black and white photograph. You might also be able to exhibit championship winning potatoes or onions.

There are classes for all levels of expertise and the chance to show off something that you have made or grown or created is a wonderful experience, so do consider being an active participant in our Summer Show.

Even if you don't feel you can exhibit on this occasion, do please come along between 3 and 4:30 p.m. to see what others have produced - you may well be encouraged to have a go next time (in our Christmas show on Wednesday 11th December.) Light refreshments will be available and there will be a raffle.

2. TRADING MATTERS



The following items are available now:

Grow Bags (Clover)£2.60
New Horizon 60 litre£6.95
J. Innes Compost 25 litre - 1, 2 & 3..£3.65
J. Arthur Bowers Multipurpose Compost
50 litre£4.00
Bark Chips 75 litre£6.60
Rose Food 3 Kg£2.80
Spring/Summer Lawn Feed 3 Kg.....£3.20

Onion Sets & Shallots will be on sale at the end of August: Red Winter, Autumn Champion (Shakespeare), Senshyu, Eschalote Grise

3. MISCELLANEA

(a) Next Committee Meeting:

7:30 p.m. - Monday 10th June, 2019, chez our treasurer Jeff Gardner.

(b) The Marlborough Bee Roadzz project

You are invited to the Oakwood Centre, Woodley (RG5 4JZ) on Monday June 3rd, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. to find out about the Marlborough Bee Roadzz project and plans to start a similar project locally. The event is invitation only and not open to the public, so please email carolyn_davies@hotmail.com to let them know if you would like to attend. There is no charge - but you are asked to please bring lots of enthusiasm, suggestions and questions!

The idea is to utilise spaces within a seven mile stretch to create hubs of pollinator-

friendly trees, bushes and flowers and to join others to replicate these 'petals' across the country.

(I have a document that explains more and can be emailed to you on request - the email address is in the newsletter heading. {Ed.})

(c) Shed stewards and assistants for June

1 st	Mike Fewtrell	Sarah Rose
2 nd	Mike Smith	Ann Leslie
8 th	Gwen Barton	Alan Waite
9 th	Jeff Gardner	David Hughes
15 th	t.b.c.	Ann Leslie
16 th	Malcolm Iosson	Ray Posselwhite
22 nd	John Peacock	Carole Peacock
23 rd	Neal Stockwell	Webster Stockwell
29 th	Don Maclean	Mary Buck
30 th	Phil Rogers	Sue Jones

(d) Summer Show - 29th June

29 days to prepare from 1st June.

Go on! Have a go! Even I have managed to get the odd prize at shows and I'm a pathetic gardener! (Ed.)

Schedules are available at the trading shed, may be requested by email or downloaded from our website (addresses above.)

(d) Things to do in June



Garden care

It is still possible to reseed or over-seed bare or thin areas on an existing lawn, but the seed and young grass will need regular watering during dry weather.

Lawn weeds such as daisies, dandelions, plantain and white clover should be treated with Weedol lawn weed killer. This will kill the weeds and allow the grass to thrive and spread.

Mulch around newly-planted and established trees, shrubs, roses and perennials to help prevent moisture loss and suppress weeds; use composted bark or bark chippings.

Outdoor plants

Sow seeds of winter and spring bedding plants such as forget-me-nots, wallflowers, Brompton stocks and winter pansies.

Plant out summer bedding plants, ensuring the plants are well watered in, and kept moist during dry weather.

Remove dead and fading roses to encourage them to produce more flowers. Bush, climbing roses and modern shrub roses should flower again this season. Feed them with a rose food at the manufacturer's recommended rates.

Tie in climbing and rambling roses as near to horizontal as possible. This restricts sap flow, stimulating more side shoots along the stems, and producing many more flowers.

If you didn't plant up half hardy annuals and tender perennials last month, you can plant them up now that the danger of frosts has passed. A vast range of plants is available for instant colour.

Fruit & vegetables

Plant out frost-tender vegetables, including outdoor tomatoes and cucumbers. Keep young plants well-watered and watch out for any signs of slug damage.

Prune plums, peaches, nectarines and fruiting cherries. Pruning this month limits the risk of silver leaf and bacterial canker.

Continue pulling sticks of rhubarb until the end of the month, then let the plants grow naturally to recover their strength. Giving them a feed of Vitax Q4 or a mulch of manure will ensure a good crop next year.

Plant out runner bean plants or direct sow seed. Put up the support canes before planting and protect young plants from slug damage.

Fruit trees naturally shed surplus fruit this month, hence the term 'June drop'. Unless the crop is sparse, it helps to carefully thin fruits even further, so that the remaining ones grow larger and are of better quality.

4. WANTED/FOR SALE/FREE

Members' advertisements are free of charge. Just telephone or email the editor (see newsletter heading.)

For Sale: Chicken coop [dismantled] £20. Also 3 chicken feeders £10 [bargain!] Please call (0118) 969 1370.

Free to collector: 2 white garden tables, one 6ft long and the other a gate leg table which when closed is 7" wide - plus a parasol. Please phone (0118) 966 3816.

Wanted: Someone to tidy up a garden that is a bit out of control, and more than the owners can manage, and then to take over ongoing maintenance. If you can help, or suggest a solution, please ring (0118) 926 5069. Silverdale Road area.

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