

East Reading Horticultural Society

NEWSLETTER

July 2020

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



Please see the statement from our chairman, John Peacock, below.

SATURDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2020

ERHS Autumn Show

74 days to go from 1st July.

Covid-19 regulations and judges willing!

The show schedule is available now in the shed, or you can email ERHS@hotmail.co.uk to request a copy.

It is also on our web site to download.

2. TRADING MATTERS



The following are now available:

Stable Manure £3.30 ea

J.A.B. Multi-purpose Compost..... £4.10 ea

John Innes Seed compost, John Innes No.1,
No.2 and No.3 All at £4.00 ea

Westland Growbags £3.00 ea

3. MISCELLANEA

Next Committee Meeting:

Monday 10th August 2020.

New membership cards:

These are now available at the Trading Shed. In view of the current situation, Distributors are NOT being asked to collect membership renewals at present, as many have indicated they are not prepared to

collect renewal subscriptions until the lockdown is over and social distancing is no longer required.

For the time being, members are therefore being asked to renew their subscription at the Trading shed during times when the Shed is open for trading. The renewal process will be speeded up if a 2019/20 membership card is produced - renewal still costs £3. Regrettably, as the cards were printed before the lockdown, some of the information on the programme of events is no longer valid, but it is hoped that some of the events listed will be able to take place. As ever, please refer to the latest copy of the Newsletter for any updates to the situation.

Members may also renew by post by sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope [C6 size] to "ERHS Renewal", Malcolm Iosson, 56 Beech Lane, Earley, RG6 5QA, together with the £3 subscription fee [preferably by cheque, made payable to East Reading Horticultural Society.]

Please note that it is hoped to have paper copies of the Newsletters printed in the very near future; these will be issued to distributors in the normal way, together with a covering note for those distributors who do not have access to e-mail, and who remain unaware of the reopening of the trading shed. Paper copies of the newsletter will be available at the Trading Shed as usual.

Chairman's statement

All the committee of ERHS send the valued membership our very good wishes and we hope that everyone is safe and well as this unprecedented new lifestyle orders the new way we live.

Since the last newsletter, the trading shed has had very rewarding June trading on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings. We carefully operated these sessions; everyone was masked, cheques were written at a distance and we traded successfully. Our thanks are due to Jeff Gardner, Malcolm Iosson, Mike Smith and most particularly to Trevor Wilson who has been the assistant

steward every time the shed was open. His unstinting commitment has been tinged with great sadness as his brother was fatally injured in a road traffic accident recently. Everyone associated with ERHS sends Trevor and his family our warmest thoughts and good wishes.

Trading shed July opening times: Please note that the trading shed will only be open on Saturday and Sunday mornings 9:30 to 11 am during July. It will remain closed on Mondays until further notice. **Members are reminded that goods should be paid for by cheque.**

Future events:

Green Fair: We now know that the Green Fair on 1st August has been cancelled.

Autumn Show: The committee are currently discussing whether we can hold the show. There are safety and organisation details to resolve and we will announce our decision in the August newsletter.

Kew Christmas lights: We are signed up to the Kew Gardens group newsletter and, as soon as we know bookings can be made, we will book 57 tickets for a visit in December.

December Christmas Show: We are hoping that a clearer picture may be unveiled in the late Autumn so we can decide whether to arrange a Christmas Show or not.

Compost and stable yard manure: Thanks are due to Mike Fewtrell for ensuring that our stocks are in plentiful supply.

The committee send their very good wishes to all the membership and particularly thank those who have visited the shed and have spent 'loads of money'!!! Thank you.

Things to do this month



July is one of the warmest months in the calendar when gardens can be enjoyed for lazy summer reading, lunchtime barbecues and, as lockdown is eased, evening soirees. This is when you will want your garden to look it's best and, in order for it to do so, you need to be on high alert for weeds, pests and parched plants.

Plants and Flowers

Keep weeds at bay by weeding regularly, keep plants and flowers well-watered in the summer's heat, and deadhead any flowers that need it to keep those blooms coming.

Fruit

July should see the first crops of fruit plants and is when trees flourish. Protect them with netting to avoid all that hard work going to waste by them being devoured by cheeky birds or pesky snails. Apricots, peaches and nectarines should be ripe for the plucking in July.

Vegetables

Juicy courgettes should be ready to be harvested now - make sure you get to them before they turn into marrows.

Top five gardening tasks for July

- Keep your eye on wilting plants and flowers, particularly delicate climbers such as clematis and treat them accordingly.
- Pay attention to ponds and water features and clear any algae or debris that has built up in them.
- Get ahead of the game by ordering catalogues to peruse and plan for spring next year.
- Give your grass a good lawn feed to keep it lush and healthy looking.
- Don't forget about your houseplants - keep them well watered and make sure they are cared for if you go away on holiday.

4. WANTED/FOR SALE/FREE

Members' advertisements are free of charge. Just telephone or email the editor (see newsletter heading.) [The copy deadline for the next newsletter is Wednesday 29th July.](#)

Free to collector: A pair of interior glazed doors which might be useful as a makeshift cold frame cover. They each measure 84 x 25 inches. Please phone (0118) 926 2323.

Free to collector: Makita pole hedge trimmer PTR2500 with instruction manual. Serviced. Works well. Petrol motor. Collect from Wilderness Road. Please contact lan.hayward4@gmail.com .

Free to collector: An old, much repaired, but still functioning, wheelbarrow. 07794 233361.

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