



HPS
HARDY PLANT SOCIETY

**South Pennine
Newsletter**



SPRING 2024

Published by the South Pennine Group of the Hardy Plant Society

The Committee

Dot Witton (Chairman)

Judy Coulson (Secretary & Membership Secretary)

David Andrews (Honorary Treasurer and Coach Trips Organiser)

Don Witton (Garden Visits Organiser), Angela Andrews (Meet and Greet), Toni Frascina (Plant Sales Organiser, Instagram), Tricia Fraser (Website, Speakers), Jean Gater (Minutes Secretary and Plant Sales Publicity), Jayne Conquest (Conservation Plant Organiser), Linda Headford, Niall Clarke (Newsletter) and one vacancy.

Email spennine@hardy-plant.org.uk

Phone 0114 2351290

Contents

	Page
Chairman's Letter	3
Arts and Crafts Gardens meeting report	5
Garden Visits	6
A Garden visit No. 1 Highfield Road, Nuthall, Notts	7
Upcoming Talks	9
Sand Beds meeting report	11
Roundup	12
Plant Sales	13
The Non Hardy Plant Society	15
Snowdrop Day	17
Hepaticas	19
HPS Conservation Scheme	21

***Please send contributions and suggestions to Niall Clarke
niallclarke01@gmail.com***

Closing Date for the Autumn issue is 31 August 2024

Chairman's Letter

Hello everyone and welcome to the newly relaunched Newsletter put together by our very enthusiastic Newsletter editor Niall Clarke.

As you can see, the format has changed from previous editions and is now an online digital format keeping up with current trends. For the very few members who are not online, a paper copy will be sent.

The intention is to produce one every season, but that will depend on contributions from you, the membership. Snippets about plants, gardens, visits and any horticultural interests will be much appreciated by our editor. Don't forget photographs too!

The newsletter will include as usual, reviews of garden visits, coach trips and summaries of our monthly speakers. Tricia is to be praised for her selection of speakers so far this year!

Our meeting attendance is increasing and more importantly, membership numbers are up too. Currently we have 120 members.

Please don't forget that we have a website and Facebook all updated by Tricia, and Instagram run by Toni. Photographs are always welcomed by Tricia and Toni. We hope that by having an online presence, we will attract new members.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the next meeting.

Best Wishes

Dot Witton

Chairman, South Pennine HPS

The opinions expressed by the authors are their personal views and not specifically endorsed by the HPS South Pennine Group. The editor reserves the right to edit contributions as necessary.

Please ensure all photographs are credited. Unless otherwise stated, the contents of this newsletter are © Copyright The Hardy Plant Society, South Pennine Group.

Cover pictures by Toni Frascina. Left: a Hellebore grown from seed obtained from a member and right: Primula 'Carrigdale'.



Some seasonal plants, *Corydalis* 'Redstart' (left) and *Muscari armeniacum* 'Julie' (right).

***Below, a Lake District Garden with a National Collection
see page 19.***



Gardens of the Arts and Crafts

Richard Rallings, pictured here with Dot, ran Mynd Nurseries in *The Walled Garden* at Delbury Hall Estate in Shropshire until its closure last autumn. He is an expert in Arts and Crafts Gardens and on February 7th he gave us a talk about some of his favourite gardens of that period and style.



He covered over a dozen exemplary gardens including Munstead Wood, Hidecote Manor and Hestercombe and people such as Gertrude Jekyll and Edwin Lutyens. Two examples of what he covered are The Red House and Fishacre.

The Red House, in Bexleyheath, created by William Morris with iconic Arts and Crafts style interiors. The garden is linked to the house not by planting against the walls and certainly not by bi-fold doors but by interior patterns which reflect the garden outside be it fern patterns in a north facing room or rose designs in rooms with a sunnier aspect. Morris wrote about the garden:

‘Large or small, it [the garden] should look both orderly and rich...It should by no means imitate either the wilfulness or the wildness of Nature, but should look like a thing never to be seen except near a house. It should, in fact, look like a part of the house.’

Richard’s favourite garden is Coleton Fishacre, near Dartmouth, the country home of the D’Oyly Carte family of Gilbert and Sullivan Fame. The 24 acre garden runs down a narrow valley toward the sea. The valley and the milder Devon climate enabled the D’Oyly Carte’s to experiment with exotic, less hardy and more tropical plants. The garden contains distinct spaces, typical of this style of garden, including a hot border, rills, streams and ponds leading down to the bottom of the garden where there is an informal woodland, thickly planted with rhododendrons, azaleas and camellias, sitting alongside exotics including bananas, ginger lilies and tree ferns.

Richard concluded with an amended version of William Morris’ famous motto :

‘Have nothing in your house or garden that you do not know to be useful or believe to be beautiful’

Garden Visits 2024

Don has organised these visits for 2024. To go on a visit just sign up at the monthly meeting before the visit date. If you are not at the meeting email Don on donshardyephorbias@btopenworld.com or phone 01909 771366

DATE AND TIME	GARDEN	INFORMATION	COST
Tuesday 23 rd April 10.30am	Thornbridge Hall Ashford in the Water DE45 1NZ	We last visited Thornbridge in the summer of 2016 and much has changed including a new entrance, car park and café. This is a self-guided tour of the 10 acre historic garden overlooking the rolling hills in the Peak District. Plants for sale and lunch can be taken in the café.	£8 RHS members free. Gardeners' World 2 for 1.
Wednesday 22 nd May 10.30am	Chatsworth Bakewell DE45 1PP	A follow up visit after our December meeting. This is a 1 hour guided tour of the garden which includes history as well as horticulture	Garden entry £14 + private tour £5 Car park free.
Thursday 13 th June 2pm	Members' Garden Whirlow	This garden backs on to Ecclesall Wood. The garden looks great in early June with flowering perennials, shrubs, a greenhouse and wildlife pond.	FREE (Donations for refreshments)
Wednesday 24 th July 2pm	Members' Garden Baslow	We last visited this garden in September 2016 when, despite the rain, the garden looked great. A summer visit is well overdue. The garden is a big corner plot with loads of summer floral interest and features.	FREE (Donation for refreshments)
Wednesday 28 th August 2pm	Yellow Book Garden 138 Greystones Road S11 7BR	A small suburban garden with a tropical feel. It is full of stunning late tender perennials. Large foliage, acers, pots and a riot of late colour.	£4 + donations for refreshments (All for NGS)
Tuesday 19 th September 10.30am	Morton Nursery Old Mansfield Road Retford DN22 8HE	Much has changed since we last visited this nursery in springtime. The display garden is much larger and has been opened for the NGS. Plant interest and floral colour was amazing when I visited last September. The nursery alone is well worth the trip.	£5 donated to local hospice which includes display garden and full refreshments in the potting shed.

No. 1 Highfield Road, Nuthall, Notts

Ian Greenwood

An Open Garden Scheme garden owned by Richard and Sue Bolt.

Visited on Friday 2nd February.

I visited this garden as part of the open Garden scheme last year, so knowing what to expect, like a whippet out of a trap, I made the trip from Chesterfield to Nuthall. Counting down to 10.00am there was a bit of a rush to get to the sales area. Prices ranged from £5 to £90 for these Galanthus treasures. The pots were in neat alphabetical order with the more rarified varieties to one side.

In the garden there are 300 Galanthus varieties and a further 400 in pots.



No. 1 Highfield Road, 700 Galanthus



Eranthus 'Orange Pips'



Unnamed Cyclamen hederifolium

The garden is well laid out and feels much bigger than it really is. Meandering paths lead to more formal areas. The soil is well nourished and there is not a weed in sight. There are trees, shrubs and perennials too. The cold weather had held things back but there were hints of things to come. There was a good selection of well chosen plants – Hepaticas, Hellebores, Eranthus, and Narcissus.

Eranthus Orange Pips' caught my eye and a Hellebore x Lemperii Liara with a strong pink backing to the petals.

One unnamed Cyclamen hederifolium made me swoon.

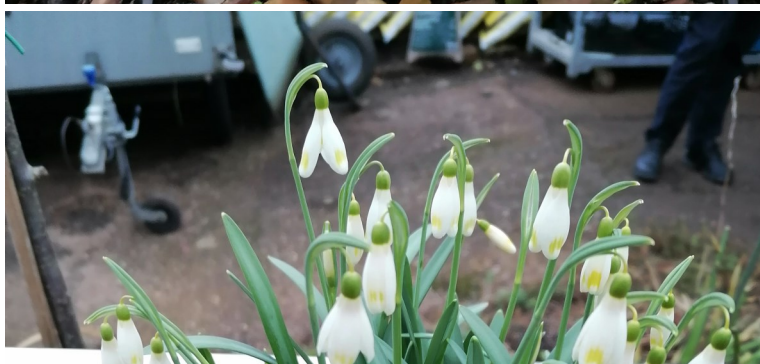
Dotted around the garden are raised sand beds with individual pots of snowdrops, some for propagation, some for growing on and some for display

On the patio was a bench with a collection given by the late Ray Cob. The bench displays were a good idea saving back ache whilst giving a chance of looking at the flowers close up and also presumably prevent varieties getting mixed up (Squirrels permitting). Three

snowdrops I most admired were Bitter Lemons, Elwesii Mustachio and Sandersii Howick.



The infrastructure of the garden – greenhouses, propagation areas, and polytunnels, although not viewable looked very impressive as was a sophisticated water catchment system that intrigued me. A very impressive garden overall and the bacon sandwich, almond and bitter cherry cake with a lovely cup of tea went down a treat on a cold February morning. No doubt there will be much more to see on later openings of this garden.



Galanthus 'Bitter Lemons' (top)

Galanthus 'Sandersii Howick' (bottom)

Upcoming Talks

Tricia Fraser

All our talks take place in Greenhill Methodist Church Hall , School Lane, Greenhill, Sheffield S8 7RL and start at 7.30 pm unless otherwise stated.

3rd April 2024 7:30pm

The Day of The Day Lily – Paula Dyason

Strictly Daylilies is owned and run by Paula and Chris Dyason in the village of Histon, just north of Cambridge in the UK. Paula is the International Chair of the American Hemerocallis Society and has qualified as an American Hemerocallis Society Garden Judge, the only one outside North America. She is a regular attendee at AHS Conventions in the US. She is also one of the members of the Royal Horticultural Society Forum for evaluating Hemerocallis for AGMs in the UK.

1st May 2024 7:30pm

Plants, Borders and Gardens – Timothy Walker

Timothy is a lecturer in Plant Sciences at Somerville College, Oxford, and has similar positions at Pembroke College and Hertford College. He has been Director University of Oxford Botanic Garden & Harcourt Arboretum. This is a very personal view of modern English gardening and gardens, looking at some plants from all over the World that deserve to be more widely grown in our gardens. This is followed by a look at some ways of putting plants together to create borders and finishes with a consideration of what makes plants & borders into a garden.

5th June 2024 7:30pm

See Through Plants – Turn Your Garden into a Painting – Maureen Sawyer

Maureen is a gardener and practising artist and designer who divides her time between the development of the garden at Southlands in Stretford, Manchester which she and Duncan Watmough have been working since they purchased the site in 1990. Maureen's mixed media art works are inspired by the garden. The garden is a long narrow plot (365' x 25-30') in a suburban location. It contains a Courtyard, Mediterranean garden, a Shade garden linked to the Kitchen Garden by a Gravel walk, Pond Garden and Woodland garden.

3rd July 2024 7:30pm

Plants of the Season—Paul Green

Talk with live plant material by Paul Green of Greens Leaves, <http://greensleavesnursery.com/index.html> a Gloucestershire based nursery specialising in rarer plants from around the world. Paul gave a very well received talk to us in May 2022

⇒ **Continued...**

4th September 2024 7.30pm

Death in the Garden

Tales of sinister plants that may be in your garden, a talk by Michael Brown a garden historian who has studied how plants were used in daily life through history.

South Pennine Group's 30th Anniversary

2025 is the 30th anniversary of our group. To celebrate this milestone the committee has agreed to increase spending on speakers in 2025, so I'm busy booking speakers we haven't heard before or ones who need overnight accommodation because of distance travelled. So far Troy Scott-Smith, John Grimshaw, Ken Thompson and Pip Smith are booked. If any members have suggestions for a speaker we should consider booking then please let me know.

Help Wanted to find new speakers

Once I have identified suitable speakers, the booking process is simple. What takes time is searching for new speakers so I'm asking members if any of you can help me do this. You need a bit of free time and access to internet and email. I find ideas from other HPS groups' programmes via their websites and also use (and maintain) the HPS speakers list. Plant nursery websites are another potential source of speakers (our February speaker came to us this way), but searching all these takes time. If any member can provide me with some help with this I'd be grateful.

Please email me at triciaf2808@gmail.com if you can assist.



Andrew Ward gave our March talk, a brief write up is on the next page.

Sand Beds

Dr Andrew Ward owns *Norwell Nurseries* near Newark. They specialise in rare and unusual herbaceous perennials, bulbs and grasses.

He has spoken to us in the past and he returned on March 7th to tell us about his sand beds.

Although situated in a lovely little village, the nursery and garden are on a heavy clay soil and Andrew told us he was getting tired of losing so many plants during the winter in the cold, water-logged soil. In 2018 he decided to experiment with sand beds. These beds consist of nothing but 300mm or more of sharp sand in contact with the soil beneath. The soil surface is prepared by clearing it of grass and perennial weeds. The sharp sand is ordinary builders' sand which apparently is reliably washed (check the quality standard it is prepared to) and significantly cheaper than horticultural grit. The beds slope to the south to get as much of the sun as possible and follow the contours of the ground.

Before planting, he washes all the soil off the roots to encourage the plants to send roots out wide and deep into the sand. Plants are planted out as seedlings, plugs and more mature plants. He uses mycorrhizal fungi to help plants establish.

At first, he experimented with annuals but now has well established perennials which are self-seeding. He estimates that the drainage the sand provides is equivalent to an additional 4 or 5^oC of hardiness. In addition the grit sand is a deterrent for slugs and snails.

The beds are topped dressed with Growmore in the spring or autumn (depending on the flowing season of the material) but no mulch is applied.

He now has something like 1,500 different varieties growing in twenty eight beds.

The talk was illustrated with photographs of many the wonderful plants he grows. Pictured right is what he said is perhaps his favourite ***Phlox bifida* 'Ralph Haywood'** - photograph from the Norwell Nursery website <https://www.norwellnurseries.co.uk/plants>.



Roundup

Hooton's Walled Nursery

A new nursery has opened, located on Doncaster Rd, Hooton Roberts, Rotherham, S65 4PF.

Hooton's Walled Nursery is set within a Eighteenth Century walled garden and is run by Dean Charlton (who trained at Great Dixter) and his father Glen. To quote their website

'We are a small independent nursery and garden housed within the old sandstone walls of a former kitchen garden, nestled in the beautiful Hooton Roberts village, in Rotherham. Hooton Walled Nursery promises to be a place to inspire, both gardener and amateur alike, looking to buy hardy, garden worthy perennials. As you walk through our living catalogue of plants, placed in rows of stock beds you can visually see they are growing in Rotherham and have the highest success of going in your garden.... We aim to restore this heritage site back to it's former glory.'

The annual Tulip Festival at Burnby Hall Gardens, Pocklington near York runs from April 27th to May 11th

Plant Hunters' Fairs

These are a great way of seeing what several nurseries have to offer all in one place, typically in a lovely location worth visiting on its own account. You can find them all at

<https://www.planthuntersfairs.co.uk>

Those closer to home include:

- ◆ Southwell Minster, NG25 0HD on April 17th and August 4th
- ◆ Donington Le Heath 1620's House and Garden April 21st and July 28th
- ◆ Carsington Water Ashbourne, DE6 1ST on May 25th and August 18th
- ◆ Thoresby Park Newark NG22 9EQ July 6th

Plant sales

Toni Frascina

Whatever the weather here's a weather forecast you can rely on. The sun is guaranteed to shine on the third weekend of May, when we have the first of our plant sales. I've been organising the sale for a number of years and can honestly say that you are more likely to need a straw hat and factor 30 than a brolly.

So why do we have the plant sales every May and September? Well, the cost of running the society includes hire of hall, speakers and refreshments. This runs to a lot more than our local membership fees of £5 per annum, so in common with all other local HPS groups we raise money by doing something we are good at – growing and selling plants.

We have a pretty loyal following for our sales, with about 500 people on our email list receiving news from Jean Gater of when the sales take place. Jean also does a lot of work placing adverts in local press and shops. Plus we get a lot of passing trade from visitors to the Sheffield Botanical Gardens, especially in good weather. We open the gates to customers at 11am and there is usually a queue of at least 60 people, so the first hour of trading can be a bit of a scrum.

There are about 25 members who grow plants for the sale, with another dozen or so who come along to help out – advising customers, taking money, serving drinks, restocking etc. etc. Its good fun and a great way to chat to other members, get to know them a little better. Its also lovely talking to customers, many of whom are complete plantaholics (takes on to know one) and will often wander around the sale talking to us for literally hours. Some come twice in one day, others come Saturday and Sunday. Some buy one plant, others buy 30 or 40.

So why are we so popular? Well, all our plants are grown locally in the local climate, the growers are at the sale and can advise on how to grow a particular plant, and we are relatively cheap. At £3 or £4 for a decent perennial, we are about half the going rate of commercial stock.

The format of the sale has changed very little over the years, it runs like a well oiled machine, but we now have a few of challenges. One is theft – sadly at least one of our growers lost plants that weren't paid for last September so I'm going to try instigating a strict one way system this year. A second challenge is that even though we are taking slightly more money every year, the actual number of plants we sell is declining slightly. Is this because we've put our prices up in response to the cost of production? Compost, seed, labels and pots all cost more that they did before COVID. Or is it that our customers count the pennies more carefully than they used to? The final challenge is maintaining a healthy number of growers. Because of various changes in circumstances we have lost several of our stalwarts in recent years.

So, how can you help?

Grow – you'll receive a percentage of the sale price of any plants you sell (66%), so if your skills lie in propagation, join the growers. We sell any plants – veg, annuals, shrubs, climbers, perennials, houseplants. In September we also have a range of home grown fruit which proves very popular. You can bring along any number of plants from 2 to 600. For more information on labelling, pricing etc, please get in touch.



Volunteer – if you can make a decent cup of tea, have some knowledge about how to grow plants in general or a specific type of plant, like chatting to people etc. you'd be welcome to help out on sale days.

Provide inspiration – if you can think of an idea on how to improve the way the sales are organised, please let me know.

Buy - come along and purchase something from the sale, bring friends, family, neighbours with their bank cards.

Advertise –flyers with the plant sale details are handed out at our meeting before the sale, so if you use local social media of whatever flavour, e.g. A neighbourhood WhatsApp group, or a Facebook plant sharing page, take a photo of the flyer and post it or forward it on email to all your gardening chums.

My contact details are below along with the dates for 2024. Any comments or questions let me know or grab me at a meeting. Please note, because of the number of scam calls going around, if you ring my mobile and I don't recognise it I won't pick up, but just leave me a message and I'll get back to you—tonifrascina@outlook.com, 07403095597

Plant Sales 2024

May – Sat/Sun 18th/19th

Sept – Sun 22nd

The Non Hardy Plant Society

Ian Greenwood

*In another life – as a member of The Society for the Study of Ancient Egypt
Two Worlds Collide.*

Gardeners in Egypt tend to be of the slash and burn variety. If employed they have to be seen to have been working hard, so there's lots of hard cutting back with axes, machetes and anything else that wreaks havoc. Still, the people are lovely. On our trip to Alexandria our hotel was attached to an international horse stables. The grounds, once owned by the deposed King Farouk, were tidily kept, clipped bushes and lawns with a few flowering plants. I was asked by one of the gardeners to sit and take geranium cuttings (*Page 16, top left*) which are then just pushed into the soil. I tried to explain in short sentences, sign language and mime about the usefulness of manure in soil improvement and the fact that there was a large supply that could be put to good use. This was met with a puzzled stare. On a walk into the local village I noted two plants of interest: an arum with glossy green leaves and brown striped flowers (*Page 16 top right*) an Arisaema? and a spiky flowered plant with soft hairy deep green leaves Papaver? They appeared to be local weeds (*Page 16 bottom left*). Seeing my interest in plants a local fellow gardener invited me to view his walled garden. Densely planted mainly with vegetables. There were onions, basil, parsley, tomatoes and greens, but also a banana and a collection of scented leaved geraniums. His enthusiasm was infectious, he urged me to taste each edible leaf. What a lovely man (*Page 16 bottom right*) One of the pleasures of Egypt is how local people want to share with you.



The Non Hardy Plant Society

Photographs by the author



Alpine Garden Society Snowdrop Day

Niall Clarke

The AGS Snowdrop Day was held at Lilleshall National Conference Centre, Shropshire on Saturday February 3rd. This was our second year attending, like seeing snowdrops themselves appear in the garden, an event like this is an invigorating and positive way to start the year.

Janet Benjafield is the RHS Yearbook section editor for snowdrops. Her talk ‘To Blewbury and Beyond’ looked at the stories around some snowdrop discoveries. It was in part a homage to Alan Street a good friend of hers. A galanthophile and nurseryman at Avon Bulbs who died in 2022. We heard about the discovery of *Galanthus nivalis* ‘Blewbury Tart’ by Alan in an Oxfordshire church yard, a double flowered snowdrop with deep green segments like mini rosettes. *G. nivalis* ‘Alan's Treat’ a slender snowdrop with all six segments as outer segments with green tips. The story being Alan gave it away suggesting it could then be named after him by the recipient. Some chance finds can take upwards of six years from being found to being available commercially, a deliberate cross to develop a particular feature can take the best part of twenty. This explains why some of the bulbs on sale at the event were c.£100 each with the average being about £15-£20 each.



Melvyn Jope is President of the Cyclamen Society, a respected breeder of snowdrops and an expert on the flowers of Greece. His talk 'Galanthus and companion plants in Greece' was in two parts: spring in the North of Greece around Mt Falakro, between the Thracian Sea and the Bulgarian boarder and autumn in the southern Peloponnese. Around Falakro, he spoke about walking through woodland with wild garlic and snowdrops growing together with the scent of the garlic and the sound of the cuckoo and nightingale. A clue perhaps for cultivation, we saw snowdrops emerging through the previous year's bracken, battered down by snow just recently melted; seedpods resting on the bracken. Elsewhere in the area we saw snowdrops alongside scilla, hellebores, ranunculus, primroses, crocus and pulsatilla. Moving south to Lakonia in the southern Peloponnese and moving forward to autumn the companion planting included a wide variety of exciting looking fungi, demonstrating that Galanthus like their feet wet when flowering. There were lovely assemblages of snowdrops with *Cyclamen hederifolium*. Melvyn reflected that some years you can see a magnificent display and in others quite poor and asked if snowdrops simply take a year off for one reason or another.

The final speaker **Anne Repnow** confided she once paid £500 for a bulb on the basis that a shroud does not have pockets! Anne is an author and designer who lives near Heidelberg. Her garden contains twelve Galanthus species and about five hundred cultivars. She has snowdrops in flower outdoors from autumn through to April without any protection other than the occasional slug pellet. Her autumn choice was *G. reginae-olgae* 'Blanc de Chine' which I would describe as a delicate pretty looking white snowdrop with the outer three segments distinctly longer than the inner ones. For Christmas and January we had *G. elwesii* 'Mrs Macnamara' which has a very distinct dark green ^ mark on the inner segments. Among the main season, i.e. February, examples one that really stood out for me was *G. plicatus* 'Golden Fleece'. Six equal sized segments (with tips of egg - yellow) drooping from a golden ovary hanging from a golden peduncle. At about £150 a bulb I suppose it would need to be spectacular. For March to April, we were back to traditional white snowdrops with *G. plicatus* 'Brian Hewitt.' On the thorny question of when to split snowdrops, Anne's suggestion was 'when their noses are just above the ground' – the rationale being they were in positive growing mode at that stage and best able to recover from the shock of being moved. Many snowdrops do not like being moved and some can stay in a clump for decades.

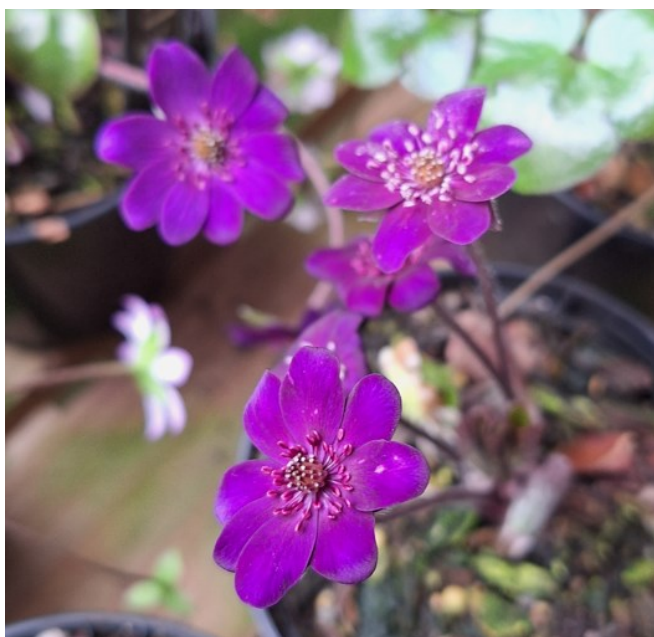
So, what did we buy? Pictured on Page 17, on the left, top is G. elwesii 'Hercule' with G. 'Byfield Special' beneath – both tall at around 15cm. On the right top to bottom G x valentinei 'Orleton', G. 'Hoverfly' and G. nivalis 'Oirliche Elf' all quite short compact varieties.

Hepaticas

Hepatica is a genus of herbaceous perennial in the Ranunculaceae Family. Although there are only twelve species, over one thousand hybrids and cultivars are known.

None are native to the UK but as with our snowdrops, where they are natives, they are a herald of spring. They are found in all of the northern hemisphere continents and like cool temperate, shady (preferably deciduous) woodland where they won't dry out. It is hardly surprising, therefore, that the National Collection is held near Silverdale in the Lake District where 80" of rain per annum is typical. On March 17th The Alpine Garden Society held a day of Hepatica lectures and a visit to the National Collection, held by Glen Shapiro. She is happy for these photographs of her collection to be published here. Any

naming errors are the responsibility of the Editor.



Top Left: H. x 'Hazlewood Froggies Extra Pale'

Bottom Left: H. japonica 'Spooky Beauty'

Top Right: H. japonica forma magma



Left: A corner of Glenn's Garden with Hepatica naturalised in ideal conditions

Below: *H. x schlyteri* 'Cobalt Blue'

Right top: *H. Japonica* 'Yahiko'

Right bottom: *H. Hepatica transsilvanica* 'Super Nova'



HPS Conservation Scheme update

Jayne Conquest

Thank you to all Members who took part in the scheme last year, donating plants for the conservation table at our monthly meeting and for the national exchange in September. Within our group thirty five plants were propagated and taken by other members to grow on and eight more members took part in the scheme.

We will be having a Conservation Scheme table at our monthly meetings and now is the ideal time to propagate plants. A member of the scheme has completed the chart on Page 22 showing the best methods to propagate conservation plants.

Updates from the national meeting in September

Chrysanthemum 'Dulwich pink', C. 'E. H. Wilson' and C. 'Beechcroft' are all listed by more than four nurseries and so will be moved to the Reserve List.

Phlox is the most requested plant group in the Conservation Scheme and in our group but very few came back to the national exchange meeting. We did reserve a few this year from the national exchange but some were of poor quality and unlikely to survive unfortunately. So if you have a plant could you try and propagate at least one plant to bring back to the exchange.

There had been a query about the identity of Phlox 'Lady Clare' that a member had got from the exchange meetings. She felt it was more like Phlox 'Bosvigo Pink'. A member, who grows both of these plants, said that P. 'Lady Clare' has larger flowers, pink with a darker pink centre and sweetly scented, whereas P. 'Bosvigo Pink' flowers are pink with a lighter pink centre.

Eurybia 'Len Speller' is a new plant in the scheme, we had two back in September. I am going to propagate them and some will be available to members later in year.

The new Conservation Page on the HPS website has information about the plants in the scheme and better photos showing the flowers of the plants. If you would like any of the plant in the scheme, let me know and I can put it on the South Pennine wish list. Plants on the wish list which members have had in the past are Iris 'Stephen Wilcox' (Sib), Erysimum cheiri 'Bloody Warrior', Persicaria runcinata 'Needham's form' and Zantedeschia 'Glencoe' so, if you have any of these and are able to propagate them please bring them in to one of our monthly meetings.

Plant	Division	Cutting
Arabis Alpina		Softwood - spring or semi-ripe -Summer
Astilbe	Spring	
Bergenia	Rhizome - Autumn	
Chrysanthemum	Spring	Basal Softwood - Spring
Epimedium	Autumn	
Erigeron	Spring	Basal
Erysimum		Softwood - spring or semi-ripe -Summer
Geranium	Spring	Basal Softwood - Early to mid-spring
Helianthus	Spring or Autumn	Basal or Root - Spring
Hemerocalis	Spring or Autumn	
Heuchera	Late Spring	
Hylotelephinium		Softwood
Iris	Rhizome division Leave top exposed	
Penstemon	Spring	Softwood early summer Semi-ripe midsummer
Persicaria		Runners – Nodes of stem in contact with ground
Phlox maculata	Spring or Autumn	Basal cuttings Spring Root cuttings Late Autumn
Phlox paniculata	Spring or Autumn	Basal cuttings Spring Root cuttings Late Autumn
Pulmonaria	Autumn	Root cuttings
Rodgersia	Spring	
Silene x walkeri	Spring	Basal softwood - Early spring
Symphyotrichum	Spring	Rooted Stem Cuttings from the edge
Veratum album	Autumn	
Vinca minor		Layering
Rudbeckia	Spring or Autumn	
Zantadeschia	Spring	Or detach offsets

South Pennine HPS—Calendar

April

- 3 Talk Day of the day Lily - Paula Dyson
23 Visit Thornbridge Hall

May

- 1 Talk Plants, Borders & Gardens - Timothy Walker
18 & 19 PLANT SALE Sheffield Botanical Gardens
22 Visit Chatsworth

June

- 5 Talk See Through Plants, turn you gardent into a painting - Maureen Sawyer
13 Visit Members' Garden, , Whirlow

July

- 3 Talk Plants of the Season - Paul Green
24 Visit Members' Garden, , Baslow

August

- 28 Visit Yellow Book Garden, Greystone Road, S11

September

- 4 Talk Death in the Garden - Michael Brown
19 Visit Morton Nursery
22 PLANT SALE Sheffield Botanical Gardens

*Please send contributions and suggestions to Niall Clarke
niallclarke01@gmail.com*

Closing Date for the Autumn issue is 31 August 2024