

# West Bergholt Gardeners

Pre-2022/23 season Newsletter - August 16th 2022

Hi everyone !

Are you enjoying Summer? Or is it a tad **too** hot for you, too? This heat has really taken its toll of our gardens, hasn't it? Every time I look at ours, I wonder if they'll ever recover but the Professionals say they will! I want to believe them especially after the light shower of rain last evening - somehow everything seems a little 'brighter' this morning!!

With big thanks to Kings Coaches and East Ruston Old Vicarage Gardens, our trip just a month ago on a sunny day was so enjoyable along with a lovely lunch and the organisation thereof! As usual the gardens were a picture and I've included a few pics I took on my way round but to be there and see the amazing planting everywhere is such a pleasure. Galloping on to next year, I already have one or two new ideas 'up my sleeve' for visits but am very receptive to any Members' suggestions, so please let me know.

Our next trip this year to Ulting Wick gardens. As I mentioned before, I would welcome some more names to see the gardens on Tuesday 13th September which is a self-drive BUT I do have lots of offers of lifts for anyone who doesn't want to or cannot, drive there. Maybe include a lunchtime treat a few minutes away at Paper Mill Lock on the River Blackwater or other cafes in nearby Maldon, Hatfield Peverel or Danbury and/or a pub lunch! Don't forget the charge of £11 includes tea/coffee and cake though! Please contact me to book as I need to let the owner know numbers by 6th September.

Has anyone been to any NGS gardens this year? I must admit in the end we haven't although I had intended to but it is a very worthwhile charity to support in addition to being able to enjoy someone's garden. There are not so many open now but I've just looked at the website and at the end of August there is a chance to see some Essex gardens in Elmstead Market, Chelmsford, Gt Leighs and Boreham. Have a look at the website - you might fancy a little trip out sometime! A mention too for the Marks Hall Sculpture Trail which is on currently until 4<sup>th</sup> September and always a stimulating addition to the peaceful grounds and well-planted Walled Garden. Don't forget there are plants for sale and a nice cafe there too!

If you fancy entering a competition, we've been asked by the Four Colnes Horticultural Society to offer our Members a chance to enter their up-coming Show on 20th August. Please check their website...[www.fourcolneshorticulturalsociety.com](http://www.fourcolneshorticulturalsociety.com).....for details.

One of the 'pleasures' of being WBGA Secretary, is the inheritance and storage of all the old files so when looking through them, I came across a booklet that was produced by Ian Collin in 2009, entitled "A short history of the West Bergholt Cottagers' Horticultural Society and the West Bergholt Allotment and Gardeners' Association in the 20th century". I felt it should be available to all our Members and so Peter has put it into a pdf document which you will find at the bottom of this Newsletter and I hope you will find it very interesting. This leads me nicely on to the AGM on 19th September and the request I made in July for anyone to come forward to join the Committee. I am a little disappointed that to date we have had no offers to help us (oldies!!!) run this historical Association; to keep an important part of the village community going, at the same time encouraging interest in the wonderful world of gardening. All your Committee would be pleased if you would give this some (positive) thought!

You should all have received my email notice with details of the AGM next month when we look forward to listening to Marc McHearne, our first Speaker of the new season. I had been trying for some time to organise someone from Beth Chatto gardens to come and talk to us and on quite a chilly day in early February I was made very welcome by Marc as we walked round talking about Beth and the gardens. I hope you will all enjoy the evening as much!

Best wishes to you all

Shirley - On behalf of your Committee