

COTTAGE GARDEN SOCIETY - COTSWOLD GROUP JULY NEWS



NEXT PRACTICAL SESSION

Seed Saving – a “How To” session with local seed savers and an introduction to the Cottage Garden Society Seed Swap.

Free seeds available and plants for sale.

4pm Thursday 6th July in the Sudeley Room, Abbeyfields Community Centre, Back Lane, Winchcombe GL54 5QJ

£1 members; £2 visitors, including refreshments.

Don't forget! Let us know of any topics you would like covered in our programme of talks or any gardens you would especially like to visit in a small group.

OUR JUNE VISIT

On Friday 30th June we visited Westaway on Stockwell Lane which plunges off Cleeve Hill. Aptly named, this is a hillside garden of 1 ½ acres, with spectacular, extensive views westward to Wales.

The owners have developed it over more than 20 years, creating mounds and curved planting. It has mixed shrub and herbaceous borders; a bog garden; many trees, both fruit-bearing and simply decorative; and large wildflower areas. Trees, shrubs and flowers were all thriving. The work involved in creating and maintaining the garden was very impressive.

The owners were generous with their time taking us around the garden and hosting us at the end of the visit with splendid cakes, tea and coffee in the conservatory.

JULY SMALL GROUP GARDEN VISITS

11th July 2.30pm We have been invited to visit a garden which has been accepted for NGS opening next year, **White Cottage, Gretton, GL54 5HB**

This is a chance to visit a garden which is not opening for NGS until next year and this is a trial run. In return for our advance view, we will be able to give valuable feedback to the owner. Refreshments will be provided. Donations please.

The garden covers an acre and a half, on one level, and is set out in a number of different areas. It comprises flower beds and shrubs around the house; a herb garden; a woodland area of native trees; a large pond; a small orchard; a vegetable garden; and a wildflower meadow. There is also an apiary on the western side.

Seats and benches around the site provide places to stop and rest. Paths are mostly gravel, some paved and some grassed. And you may see a steam train go past as the Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway runs along the embankment to the rear!

21st July 3pm Keens Cottage, Lower Chedworth GL54 4AN - £15 per head for a private tour & refreshments.

This is a small tranquil cottage garden nestled on the side of a peaceful valley. Home to Garden Designer Sue Bradbury, it features topiary, a rose arch walk, dividing formal garden from the orchard, which is home to chickens, with spring flowering bulbs and wildflowers. The garden is a haven for wildlife and pollinators. A fernery is planted around the facade of a bothy and Scottish stone recreated from Sue's 'Highland Retreat' award-winning design at RHS Chelsea 2006.

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

Cobblers Cottage next door will also be included.

Please book your places with Natalie so we can confirm numbers in advance with the garden owner. Email: natalie@lestones.plus.com or telephone 01242 602384.

Friends and visitors are welcome at all events.

You can check which gardens near you are open under the National Garden Scheme (NGS) by browsing their website www.ngs.org.uk which allows you to search by date and distance from you. This is, of course, also useful when you are away on holiday.

