

# Saffron Walden Horticultural Society



## NEWSLETTER

EARLY SUMMER 2025

### IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

- Summer Rose and Floral Show - Saturday 21st June
- Horticultural Society Garden Party - Sunday 13th July in Radwinter
- Special guided tour of the historic gardens at Audley End House - Friday 25th July
- Autumn Flower and Produce Show, and Talks at the Horticultural Society
- Open Gardens in and around Saffron Walden
- Membership reminder

### Dear Member,

It's been a brilliant start to the summer this year (though perhaps a bit more rain would have made our work easier...) It's that time of year when many flowers are at their best, and it's such fun to visit other people's gardens, admire their results, and hopefully pick up some tips and new ideas along the way. And of course, June is the month for roses, and for the Society's Summer Show.

## Saffron Walden Horticultural Society



incorporating  
Saffron Walden Rose Society

### Summer Flower Show Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2025



Sewards End Village Hall, Radwinter Road,  
Sewards End, CB10 2LG

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 2.00 PM  
ENTRY FREE

PLANT STALL RAFFLE & REFRESHMENTS

For further information see our website ([www.swhortsoc.org.uk](http://www.swhortsoc.org.uk))  
or contact Liz Livermore on. 01763 848757

## THE SUMMER FLOWER SHOW ON SATURDAY 21st JUNE

This is one of the headiest experiences I know!. There will be lots of roses - but also sweet peas, pinks and carnations, clematis, orchids, pelargoniums, cactus, and displays of mixed flowers. You'll find the full schedule on the Society's website ([swhortsoc.org.uk](http://swhortsoc.org.uk)) with a guide for exhibitors which is very helpful if you're bringing something to the show for the first time. As well as all the flowers, there are classes for soft fruit, herbs, early vegetables, baking, jams and handicrafts, and of course the Junior Classes - such fun!

I've now tried my hand at making a lemon drizzle cake and the special show recipe worked very well, so that's one thing I hope to enter on the day. We also have some yellow roses in the garden which are looking quite good - and with any luck some of them may be at their best for 21st June. But I'm not really in it to win it - taking part makes a show much more fun! And then there's the tea and cakes to look forward to... and the chat!

### OTHER SOCIETY EVENTS PLANNED FOR 2025

#### *Summer Garden Party - Sunday 13th July from 2:00 to 5:00 pm*

This is being hosted by Charlotte Heales in her garden at Lower House Farm, Water Lane, Radwinter CB10 2TX. It's a fairly traditional garden, with box hedging, herbaceous planting, a greenhouse, raised beds with soft fruit, a wildflower meadow, an orchard, and a sizable spring-fed pond... but you may also be interested in the strawberry teas to be served from Charlotte's barn! Parking is available in the field next door.

We hope to see you there - it's a wonderful opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet other members. Garden parties were a regular summer event in the Society's calendar before Covid, and we're so pleased that Charlotte has invited us to her garden to re-start the tradition.

To give us an idea of the numbers for catering please could you email [hilary@mikehibbs.net](mailto:hilary@mikehibbs.net) to let us know how many are coming? But if you forget, you can still just turn up on the day...

#### *A Guided Tour of the Historic Gardens at Audley End House*

##### *Friday 25th July at 1:45 for a 2:00 pm start*



Pam Fray /Parterre gardens at Audley End/CC BY-SA 2.0

Following on from her fascinating talk about Thomas Challis, undergardener at Audley End from 1795-1798, Susan Jellis will be leading a special tour of the gardens at Audley End House. This event is another "first since Covid" for the Horticultural Society and we are very grateful to Susan for sharing her expertise as a Garden Historian.

This is a small group tour and tickets at £10 are limited. Please email [hilary@mikehibbs.net](mailto:hilary@mikehibbs.net) to book your place, on a first-come-first-served basis. We hope there will be time after the guided tour for tea and a chat in one of the cafes at Audley End (not included in the ticket price).

## ***Autumn Flower and Produce Show***

***Sunday 28th September 2025, Swards End Village Hall***

Schedule of Classes to be published on the Society's website nearer the time

## ***The Growing of Bridge End Gardens***

***Monday 13th October 2025, 7:00 pm at the Saffron Community Link***

An illustrated talk by Liz Lake about the origins and restoration of Saffron Walden's unusual "detached" Victorian garden

## ***A Passion for Alpines***

***Thursday 13th November 2025, 7:00 pm at the Saffron Community Link***

An illustrated talk by David Livermore. David and Liz Livermore have a long-standing interest in alpine plants and have travelled widely to see them in the wild and in botanical gardens around the world.

## **OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### ***OPEN GARDEN AT GROVE LODGE IN SAFFRON WALDEN***

***Sunday 15th June 2025, 2:00 - 5:00 pm***

Horticultural Society member Chris Shennan will be opening his garden at 3 Chaters Hill, CB10 2AB again as part of the National Garden Scheme. June is the time for geraniums, alliums, and campanula. There are plans for music too - a woodwind quartet and possibly tunes from the keyboard.

Admission is £6, and refreshments will be on sale. (I can personally recommend the cakes - delicious!) All proceeds go to the charities supported by the National Gardens Scheme (McMillan, Marie Curie, Maggie's etc). For more details go to [www.ngs.org.uk](http://www.ngs.org.uk)

### ***ICKLETON OPEN GARDENS***

***Sunday 15th June 2025, 11 am - 5 pm***



Gardens around this lovely village will be open including: established, newly planted, wildlife friendly, drought tolerant, cottage style, small and large.

Lunches, teas and home-made cakes, beekeeping display, local produce, and an iSpy trail for younger visitors. Plant sale and plant creche at the Village Hall.

Tickets are £7, accompanied children free. Buy tickets on the day from the Village Hall, Frogge Street, Ickleton CB10 1SH, where there is also parking. Proceeds to Ickleton Village Hall and Tom's Trust.



## ***ELMDON IN BLOOM***

***Sunday 6th July, 11 am to 5 pm***



This Open Gardens event lets you explore beautiful gardens around the village for an entrance fee of £5. Entry Programmes, Parking, afternoon teas and a plant sale will be available at the Village Hall, Elmdon, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 4NL

### **MEMBERSHIP OF SAFFRON WALDEN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

Subscriptions of £5 per person for 2025-26 were due at the beginning of March, and if you haven't renewed your membership yet, can I urge you to do so soonish? Membership for young gardeners up to age 14 is free. Your support is what enables us to hold the Spring, Summer and Autumn Shows every year and is helping us bring back the regular meetings, garden visits and talks that we enjoyed before Covid intervened.

You can pay your subscription on-line to:

**Account name:** Saffron Walden Horticultural Society  
**Sort Code:** 40 40 45  
**Account No.:** 91054651

**Please make sure you put your surname and first name/initial as the Payment Reference.**

Alternatively, you can send cash or a cheque made payable to Saffron Walden Horticultural Society to:

**Hilary Shibata, Membership Secretary, 4 Mount Pleasant Cottages, Debden Road, Saffron Walden CB11**

Membership cards can be collected at any of the Society's events and Shows.

That's all the Horticultural Society news for now, so with best wishes for happy growing and happy relaxing in your garden,

From your Membership Secretary,

*Hilary Shibata*