

Preview



No 90 Autumn 2019

Scottish Charity Number SC006522

Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society

Supporting Horticulture & Gardening in Scotland since 1808



HRH the Princess Royal, Patron of the Caley, with Pam Whittle and David Knott at Saughton Park Opening, 6th June 2019

Join the Caley Council

Get more involved with the Caley – do you have the skills we need?

There's always lots to do in the Caley to promote, learn and celebrate horticulture in Scotland. We rely on volunteers and we already benefit from the much-appreciated support from our members, giving their time, attention, skills and sharing their experience, as well as having fun and building friendships.

We'd like to do even more with your support. Would you be able to help? We're especially keen to expand our expertise in the areas of Marketing, Finance, Legal, Fundraising and Events Organising as well as general volunteering.

If you are interested please contact Julie Muir, the Caley Administrator.

We look forward to hearing from you!

**David Knott,
President**

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Letter from the President

I hope you have all had a busy and productive summer gardening in whatever shape or form that may take with the many plants that interest you. As gardeners, we know that being outdoors, gardening is good for us, but there is increasing acceptance and agreement that it actually is!

We are fortunate in Scotland to have a reasonably equitable climate that allows a wide range of interesting plants to be grown outdoors; this has helped in the creation of many fine gardens in Scotland that have brought, and continue to bring, satisfaction to their creators, but also to the many visitors they attract annually. The recently restored Saughton Park, as well as being the Caley's new home, is well worth a visit. If you have not yet visited I would urge you to come along as soon as possible.

The weather we have experienced this summer – warm and wet in many parts of Scotland, with

tremendously lush growth, is looking increasingly likely to be the norm in the years ahead, so I am sure you will have already noted what plants have done better than others! We are going to have to adapt our gardens to suit the changing climate.



David Knott

Finally, it was good to see the return of the Beechgrove Garden after its untimely summer break. It is extremely important that we are able to access an authoritative gardening programme that is relevant to Scottish conditions. We can only hope that that this situation is not repeated next summer!

Happy gardening,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "David Knott".

**David Knott,
President**

Summer Tour to Hampshire

In mid-June, 25 Caley members headed off to England to enjoy a six-day trip around the beautiful Hampshire countryside. The bus journey was very relaxing and we were well looked after by our driver, Billy. Our base was the centre of the historic city of Winchester on the edge of England's South Downs National Park and our hotel was directly opposite the medieval cathedral. We enjoyed the cathedral view, and it was a great central location to explore the nearby walled **Dean Garnier** garden with its beautiful medlar tree in bloom and for walks to explore the city.

We visited nine gardens in all:



The Caley Group, June 2019

Sir Harold Hillier Gardens, Ampfield, near Romsey and run by Hampshire County Council is world famous for its arboretum and gardens, set over 180 acres of rolling Hampshire countryside and home to 14 national collections, over 400 champion trees and 42,000 plants from temperate regions. The outstanding attraction

was the 'Centenary Border', one of the longest double borders in the UK at 250 metres.

Longstock Park Water Garden,

Stockbridge is a beautiful, peaceful and relaxing haven in the Leckford Estate, created in the 1930s. We had it all to ourselves. With over 100 different trees, 40 varieties of water



Reflections at Longstock Park Water Garden

lily and numerous aquatic and marginal plants, and we were lucky enough to enjoy Candelabra Primula hybrids in their prime around the water's edge.

Bramdean House, Arlesford is a privately-owned eighteenth century red-brick house and garden protected from the road by an undulating cloud hedge of yew and box. We weren't put off by the rain as we explored the five acres of garden sloping up through the mirror-image herbaceous borders, planted with over one hundred genera including Nepeta, Geranium, Tradescantia, Clematis x diversifolia 'Hendersonii' and Galega.

Hinton Ampner, Arlesford was next on the list, a National Trust run country manor house lovingly rebuilt by its last owner, Ralph Dutton, after a fire in 1960. This five hectare garden has a formal layout with varied and informal plantings in a series of outdoor rooms in colours from cool greens, creams, and yellows through to hot pinks, oranges and deep reds. Hidden away down a woodland path was the plant of the week,

a magnificent *Magnolia wieseneri*. When the heavens opened again many of us took shelter in the house, which had huge floral displays in every room in celebration of Flora Domestica.

The following day we had an afternoon off to explore Winchester, after spending the morning at two small private gardens in nearby Crawley – found through the National Gardens Scheme.

Little Court is a sheltered three-acre garden dating from the 19th century with seven walled sections, including a Victorian apple orchard, a copse with woodland planting, traditional walled kitchen garden and free range bantams; all divided by flint walls. We were welcomed by owner Patricia Elkington, who explained her vision – to be able to leave the garden feeling relaxed, helped by many places to sit and take in the plants and the views. It certainly worked.

Nearby **Tanglefoot** has been developed by its owners, Fred and Sue Fratter, since 1976. This half-acre garden is a blend of influences, from Monet-inspired rose arch and small wildlife pond to Victorian boundary wall with trained fruit

trees. Dozens of peaches were almost ready to eat and the fig tree covered an entire wall. In contrast, their two-acre field had recently been converted into spring and summer wildflower meadows; this is where Fred puts the plants which 'didn't make it' into their formal garden.



Magnolia wieseneri at Hinton Ampner

Our last day of visiting saw us visit three gardens. First was the **The Old Parsonage**, Hook. We'd kindly been invited to visit the two-acre garden of Carol Smith's daughter, Dr Helena Heywood. The gardens around the house were immaculately well maintained. Highlights were heucheras of every colour plus a large summer house, outdoor swimming pool, herbaceous borders and an orchard.

West Green House, Hook is a National Trust property in a combination of a neo-classical style and contemporary design and probably our least favourite garden on the trip, although it had all the ingredients we'd expect to enjoy – lake, water garden, woodland glade, walled garden, potager with fruit cages and different garden rooms; but,

in the opinion of the group, it was disappointing. The last house and garden we visited restored our joy. **Mottisfont Abbey**, near Romsey features a meandering river filled with trout, while huge plane trees, beeches and oaks border the house which itself is full of architectural and historical interest – plus a large walled garden with deep herbaceous borders and vegetables to put any allotment to shame. The main attraction of Mottisfont in June however is the National Collection of pre-1900 shrub roses. Despite the heavy rain the roses still shone, many scented and of every colour and variety imaginable. If only we could have stayed longer.

*Rona McDowall
Tour Leader*

Spring Bulb Shows 2020



David Sinclair with his winning bloom, 2019

Planning for the next Spring Show is underway! The dates are confirmed as **4th and 5th April 2020** for the main Bulb Show at Saughton Park and **28th and 29th March** for the Schools and Junior Group Show at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh in the John Hope Gateway.

There will be a “How to Show your Blooms” workshop on **Sunday 1st March** at Saughton, to help you stage your spring flowers.

The 2019 show was challenging, given the uncertainty about whether we would be able to hold the show at Saughton. However, despite concerns, the number of exhibitors and the quality of the blooms passed all expectations. It would be fair to say that Spring Show Committee members were very relieved and grateful to everyone who pulled out all the stops to make the show such a

success and special thanks to The Friends of Saughton Park for running the pop-up café and raising money for the glasshouse. For many visitors it was the first time they had been to a flower show and there were many positive comments.

After our experience this year we will again be holding the show in a marquee, but are planning to position it at the end nearest the café and main car park. We are keeping the slightly slimmer schedule as we hope to hold other small shows at different times during the year. More information will follow in the next edition of Preview. The new schedule is on the website and hard copies will be available at the Tuesday lectures and from the Caley office at Saughton.

There is still time to buy bulbs if you have not already done so, but why not think about joining the bulb workshop? This year the workshop on offer will be slightly different. We are planning to offer the normal workshop of six pots on **Sunday**



Thanks to our First Aiders Iain McGrath and Cameron Tasker from Burnside Event First Aid Ltd

6th October but also a ‘taster’ workshop of two pots on the same day. So put the date of the Bulb Workshop in your diary. For more information and to book your space contact:

Pam Whittle

springshow@rchs.co.uk

Membership News

Good news on the membership front. Since September 2018 we have signed up 54 new members with most of the applications coming via the website.

Student membership has seen the biggest growth with a massive 42% increase. It is exciting to see that young horticulturists are taking an interest and bodes well for the future of The Caley.

We do still however need to continue to

increase our membership. Please encourage your friends and family to join. It is very straightforward and easy to join via the website:

thecaley.org.uk/join/

A Gift Membership makes an ideal present for anyone interested in gardening and horticulture. With our move to Saughton Park, we now have so much to offer.

Julie Muir

News from the Bridgend Allotment

Fruitfulness on the allotment is ever reliant on the weather and this year the dry spring and hot days and plentiful rain later on gave us the usual successes – or not. On the plus side the squashes and sweetcorn which usually struggle are good, as are the peas, the winter brassicas and leeks are looking well, but the direct sowings of the root crops – especially the carrots and parsnips and the French beans – suffered badly from the lack of rain and then the slugs and snails.

We have done another potato trial – variety Arran Victory – using different types of fertiliser: compost, dung, seaweed, dung-and-seaweed and a control row. Writing this in mid-August, they are still to be dug up



Summer on the allotment

but the results will be in the allotment blog in September.

On the fruit side, the red currants are never affected by the weather and the apples which usually don't crop very well are doing well this year, but we have no plums and very few

Discovery apples this year – possibly due to frost affecting the blossom or the good crops we had from them last year.

Our ever popular winter fruit pruning workshop will take place in early February and details will be in the allotment blog and on the website.

We volunteers are busy on the allotment every Thursday from 10am



First picking of Patty Pan squashes





and are very pleased to see visitors. Just come along and hail us through the fence and then go for a coffee and home baking in the Bridgend Farmhouse cafe.

The Bridgend Allotment site is on the Old Dalkeith Road, south of the Cameron Toll roundabout, opposite the entrance to the Inch Park and City of Edinburgh Nursery.

Moira Stevenson

Getting Involved

Our aim is to encourage and improve the science, art and practice of all types of horticulture and to advance education in gardening and horticulture for everyone.

The Caley is proud to have a wide range of members, professional or amateur, and many who just like plants. There are lots of ways of getting involved with the Caley, whether it is volunteering or joining in at events. The more who get involved the better our Society is for us all.

By involving members we want to increase our contact with the community both on a local and national scale, providing time, support, skills and alternative perspectives. The Caley recognises that volunteers offer their time freely. As the Society moves forward in its development, particularly at Saughton, we want more people to be involved. Would you like to be a volunteer gardener? Would you like to help in the office (remember Julie only works

three days a week)? Would you like to help sort material for archiving? Do you have a special skill or interest?

To be a Caley volunteer you must be a Caley member. We take Data Protection seriously and will hold your details on a Volunteer Database that is only accessed by authorised personnel. All volunteers will need to sign and agree to a Volunteer Agreement. This is not a contract but important for data protection and insurance purposes. All volunteers are covered by the RCHS public liability insurance policy whilst they are on the premises.



Julie Muir

Days for volunteer gardening at Saughton are expected to be Mondays, Fridays, and 'Saughton Sundays', the first Sunday of the month.

If you haven't already signed up, contact Julie for further information about becoming a volunteer.

Pam Whittle and Julie Muir

Keep Beechgrove Garden on Air

This year the BBC moved the highly popular Beechgrove from BBC2 first to BBC Scotland and then **OFF AIR** for two months over the summer growing season, although the team made a noble effort to keep gardeners informed by posting video clips, photos and text on Facebook and elsewhere.

This move was most unwelcome for many of us, and if you agree, you may like to sign the online petition at:

you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/keep-beechgrove-garden-on-air/

“A show which has celebrated 40 years of popularity and still attracts viewers worldwide should not be removed from our screens during the peak season for gardeners. Their announced gap of almost 2 months is completely unacceptable!” it says.

If there are enough signatures to this petition, it will trigger a response from Government. Meantime you may want to write to your MP or MSP.

Alison Murison

Remembering Phyllis



Phyllis Ramsay, who died in June aged 101, worked hard for the Caley over several decades well into her late 90s. Over the years she raised thousands of pounds for The Caley, most recently at the spring shows, selling home produce, scones, cakes and jam, often baking overnight to ensure a fresh supply for the second day of the show.

Previously in the days of plant sales at Saughton she was again a stalwart of the pop up café serving teas and cakes. She will be missed by many.

Pam Whittle

Winter Lecture Series 2019 to 2020

Held at 7.30pm in the Lecture Theatre of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. Free to members.

Tuesday 1st October 2019

***Dr Philip Lusby MBE, RBGE:
The Ornamental use of Roses in
British Gardens throughout the
Centuries***

Philip Lusby is Course Director and Senior Lecturer in Horticulture and Botany at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. He has a particular interest in garden history. In conjunction with Plant Heritage he teaches a course on Roses, which covers their diversity, botany, history and cultivation and uses the National Plant Collection at Carolside, Earlston. He was awarded an MBE in 2015 for services to UK Plant Conservation and Botanical and Horticultural Education.

For many who own and appreciate gardens, the rose is an essential ornamental plant and it is said to be the favourite flower of gardeners and garden visitors worldwide. The talk will illustrate some of its less well-known historical aspects and give an insight into the popularity of the genus.

This is a Joint Lecture with the South East of Scotland Plant Heritage Group.

Tuesday 15th October 2019

***Giles Reynolds, Head Gardener, Friar Park:
Friar Park – the Matterhorn, Past and
Present***

Giles has been Head Gardener, at Friar Park, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon, for the past four and a half years, overseeing and developing a high standard of horticultural work on this 35-acre historic private garden.



The three Growbags with Billy Carruthers

Friar Park Rock Garden was built in 1889 for eccentric lawyer Sir Frank Crisp and the estate was purchased by musician George Harrison in January 1970. The gardens and water features were designed by Henry Ernest Milner for Crisp, including a grotto garden, which also includes a sandstone replica of the Matterhorn, reflecting Crisp's sense of humour. This is one of the best private Rock Gardens you will see today.

This is a Joint Lecture with the Scottish Rock Garden Club.

Tuesday 5th November 2019

***The Three Growbags: Byte-sized Gardening
– Three old girls share their journey from
Pruning to Pinterest***

Caroline Rham lives in Aberlady but has recently been creating a garden in the Highlands. She is a former newspaper editor and head of communications with public sector organisations in Scotland. Laura Warren's career has included a 10-

year botanical programme in Madeira. She now works for a National Park Authority and opens her garden in Slinfold, West Sussex, to the public. Elaine Fraser-Gausden is a retired classics teacher and former winner of Daily Mail Gardener of the Year. She created a large garden from scratch in Normandy, which is open to the public all summer, and she also opens her courtyard garden in Eastbourne under the NGS. The three are sisters.

The Three Growbags will talk about their gardening blog and share their experience of going online, what their audience might gain from social media and the significant gardening challenges they have undertaken that have inspired them to share their love of gardening with the worldwide web.

the3growbags.com

Tuesday 19th November 2019

Peter Baxter, Benmore Botanic Garden: Benmore, Past, Present and Future

Peter Baxter is Curator of RBG's Benmore Botanic Garden, the largest and first of its three outstation Gardens, which became part of the organisation in 1929. He has overseen many changes and improvements during his tenure of 24 years, including the recent restoration of the Golden Gates. This year it is the tenth anniversary of the restoration of the Victorian Fernery.

The talk will give an overview of some of the recent challenges and successes and an insight into proposed future projects at the Garden.

Tuesday 3rd December 2019

John Marshall:

Planting Papas in Para Para

John describes himself as having spent a lifetime travelling in potatoes. He is a member of the Caley.

The talk comprises a fast-moving photo show packed with potato stories and experiences from his journey in Peru in 2018. His adventures involved visits to Inca and pre-Inca historical sites, including Machu Piccu and the Parque de la Papa, with its potato fields at 4,200 metres. The potato park of 15,000 hectares was established to conserve the region's potato diversity.

NB: The Paperwhite Competition will be held this evening.

Tuesday 17th December 2019

An informal pre-Christmas Evening

- *Highlights of the 2019 Hampshire Gardens Tour*
- *Stan da Prato's Wildflower Walks*
- *A Light-hearted Quiz*

Seasonal refreshments will be served before the meeting.

Tuesday 14th January 2020

Simon Jones, NTS: Gardening on the Edge

Simon is a member of the Caley and a former Vice-President. He had experience in commercial horticulture in the Middle East before being employed at Edinburgh Zoo for 15 years. He has been Gardens and Designed Landscapes Manager for the NTS (Glasgow and the West) for the past two and a half years.

The talk explores three beautiful and well-known NTS gardens, namely Inverewe, Arduaine and Brodick. The talk will demonstrate how these gardens have managed to grow plants that have no earthly business to thrive whilst being exposed to the forces of salty Atlantic gales. The gardens have had to evolve in order to balance history, heritage and the difficulties of gardening in a changing climate.

Tuesday 4th February 2020

Andrew Hogarth, Acting Principal Amenity Officer for East Lothian: Confessions of a Council Gardener

Andrew has spent 35 years gardening in East Lothian. He was formerly Area Amenity Officer for the eastern half of the county. He has always been the liaison person between the council and local groups taking part in Beautiful Scotland. He designs horticultural features throughout East Lothian and has been particularly successful with perennial plantings. He is now responsible for the western half of the county and plans to improve its public horticulture. He received an Employee of the Year award from the council. Andrew is a judge for Beautiful Scotland where categories involving East Lothian are not involved. The Caley is looking forward to hearing some of Andrew's Confessions!

Tuesday 18th February 2020

Kate Rycroft, Chairman, Amisfield Preservation Trust: Amisfield Walled Garden – a Community Restoration Project

Kate trained in Plant Ecology and Landscape Architecture, practising as a Landscape

Architect for 18 years, working on a diverse range of projects in both the private and public sector. She has been involved with the restoration of the garden from the outset and has been Chair of the Trust for the past 10 years.

Amisfield Walled Garden, near Haddington, eight acres in size, is one of the largest walled gardens in Scotland. Built in 1783, it once formed part of the policies of Amisfield House, home of Francis Charteris, 7th Earl of Wemyss. The garden is being restored and developed by Volunteers of the Amisfield Preservation Trust, a charity set up by local people. Over the past 12 years it has been transformed from a neglected wilderness into a thriving community garden, providing opportunities for learning, recreation and well-being.

Tuesday 3rd March 2020

Annual General Meeting and Awards Ceremony

NB: This meeting begins at 7pm.

Tuesday 17th March 2020

Billy Carruthers, Binny Plants: The History and Development of Peonies

Billy is a stalwart member of the Caley. For over twenty years he has owned Binny Plants, a nursery near Uphall, West Lothian. The nursery stocks a wide variety of interesting herbaceous perennials, trees and shrubs, but Billy's specialism is Peonies. He has a range of over 300 of these beautiful plants and has exhibited at Chelsea and Gardening Scotland, winning medals at both shows.



Volunteers in Amisfield Walled Garden

Saughton Park Opening 6th June 2019



Saughton Park

Unfortunately the building works have taken much longer than planned and at the time of writing there are still issues to be resolved before the new and restored buildings are open for general use. Nevertheless, the park is open, looks stunning and is well used. In June we were delighted to welcome the Princess Royal, our Patron, to formally re-open the park. In July the park featured on Beechgrove when George Anderson, our Honorary President, visited, and at the end of August, in collaboration with The Friends of Saughton Park, we held a Celebration in the park. So despite the delay things have been busy and we are busy planning for the future.

Saughton Sundays

From the beginning of October, we are planning what we are calling 'Saughton Sundays', when we will start talks, demonstrations, practical sessions and workshops. These will be on the first Sunday of the month with an anticipated start time of 11am. Currently planned as listed below, but these are not exclusive and there may be other activities on the day as well as a good time to catch up with members.

6th October: Planting bulbs for Spring (Full workshop 2pm)

In order to take part in the bulb workshop on 6th October – you should register with Pam Whittle in advance and choose which bulbs you wish to plant. There will be a small charge to cover the cost of materials only.

6th October: Planting bulbs for Spring (Taster workshop 11am)

A short introductory workshop on planting bulbs in pots. People wishing to participate in a bulb planting taster session may choose which bulbs to plant on the day. There will be a small charge to cover the cost of materials only. Please contact Pam Whittle to book a place

3rd November: Hardwood cuttings (workshop)

A practical session on how to select, prepare and carry out the dark (but easy) art of propagation the hard way.

Orchids: advice from Orchid Society

1st December: Festive Florals (workshop)

There will be a small charge to cover the cost of materials. Please register your interest in advance with Julie Muir

2nd February 2019: Propagation (workshop)

details to follow on the website

March 1st: Pests and Diseases (workshop & discussion)

details to follow on the website

4th and 5th April: Spring Bulb Show

There will be a small charge to cover the cost of materials for some of the above events, others will be free to members. Details will be published on the website once they are confirmed.

Please book all workshop places, other than

the 6th October spring bulb workshops, with Julie Muir, as spaces may be limited. (Orchid advice session does not need to be booked)

In addition to Saughton Sundays we are joining forces with The Friends of Saughton Park (FoSP) for wider events:

**26th October 2019: Halloween and Apples!
(Caley and FoSP)**

Including apple tasting and identification as well as workshops to plant bulbs to flower at home for Christmas or as Christmas presents. Plus we have noticed that some of the tulips potted and plunged as part of the bulb workshops in the past have not been

easy to prepare for showing. So as tulips are often planted slightly later than daffodils we will offer workshop participants the option to pot and plunge their tulips on the 26th.

**14th December 2019: Christmas Event
(Caley and FoSP)**

The coming few months are going to be busy with lots of opportunities to meet up and to take part. But as we aren't quite in place yet please keep an eye on the website, pop into the office when it opens or contact Julie Muir if you have any questions.

Pam Whittle



HRH The Princess Royal is introduced to Jasmin Cann who created the planting plan, volunteering her professional skills

The Caley's Grow and Learn Awards

Grow and Learn is The Caley's flagship learning opportunity, recognising individual progress and achievement in horticulture. Our awards are inclusive, individualised and offer life-skills based education for all, across Scotland. Since April, we have achieved the following:



HYG and Potters awards

- Presented a total of 48 awards to participants from 7 projects. These projects have included FE colleges, community gardens, NHS hospital settings, social care providers and training centres.
- Registered a further 11 new projects, including schools, training centres, social care providers a farm setting and residential care settings.
- We are delighted to welcome our first ever participants from Shetland (Nathan and Callum) to register for our award. The boys will be undertaking the award in their own garden with support from their green fingered parents and grandparents.

- SRUC, Oatridge College (Pathways) and Balgreen Primary School represented Grow and Learn at the official opening of Saughton Park by HRH Princess Anne.
- We were also delighted that one of our projects, Green Routes, and a participant from Potters Garden, Angus McGibney, were awarded The Caley's prestigious 'Certificate of Merit' at our annual awards ceremony this year.

'Train the Trainer' sessions

With thanks to our funders RS MacDonald Trust we have delivered two Grow and Learn 'Train the Trainer' sessions, with a further two planned before December. Demand for this training has been exceptionally high and feedback very positive.

Valuable in-depth session, great clarity about what to plan and how to evidence learning and assessment'. (participant)

Grow and Learn projects visits to Greenbank Garden, Glasgow NTS

With support from the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) and volunteers George and Marie, we were able to facilitate a visit to Greenbank Garden, for two Grow and Learn projects based locally. On the day, Enable Scotland enjoyed an informative woodland tree ID session, guided by George Rowan. The group were also treated to a fascinating tour of the walled garden by NTS Head Gardener, Graham Duncan. The Richmond

Fellowship also enjoyed the tranquillity of the garden, exploring the sensory aspects of the plants and surrounding nature.

I've never seen a garden like this before, the place was stunning and I felt good. (Martin, Richmond Fellowship)



Martin from Richmond Fellowship

Grow and Learn in Nature (GLiN) at Saughton Park, Edinburgh

With thanks to our funders Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) (Outdoor Learning in Nature), since April, we have been developing and delivering GLiN to five participating local schools. Weekly sessions see a total of 48 pupils and up to 12 teachers and support workers enjoying learning



Grow and Learn in Nature

outdoors at Saughton Park. Our aim is to connect pupils and teachers to the benefits of learning outdoors, teaching new skills and connecting the Curriculum for Excellence in a practical way in the Park. School staff also have the opportunity to get involved in our monthly CPD sessions, which aim to offer training and support in breaking down the barriers to learning outdoors. An important element of this work is also collaborating with pupils and school staff to develop our new GLiN award and resource, ensuring that it is both relevant and fit for purpose. We anticipate that by 2020 GLiN will be fully launched to all projects and people interested in delivering our new horticultural award Scotland-wide.

Grow and Learn in Nature not only focuses on the horticultural aspect of the Park but also the community and social connections. It includes learning about the seasonality of the Park, local history, biodiversity and nature. Shona Nelson, GLiN Facilitator)

Jean Gavin
Grow and Learn
Development Officer

The Scottish Gardeners' Forum (SGF)

The SGF is the Scottish organisation which has Clubs, Societies and Friends groups as its members rather than individuals. Its over 100 members range from Wick to West Linton, and Ayr to Inverbervie. The Caley is a founder member, so that any member of The Caley can participate in its activities.

Every year, the SGF organises a day of talks and exhibits usually hosted by one of the member clubs. It includes the AGM, but mainly it is a chance for members to share experiences and collaborate on joint issues. Updating the Spring Show Database is the current main project. In addition to providing reasonably priced Public Liability Insurance for Shows and other activities (The Caley is insured with them), the SGF now offers insurance for Club property.

Last year's AGM voted in a new Chair, Roger Evans of Lanark Garden Club, who in spite of being ill managed to attend the meeting in Inverbervie. Sadly Roger has since died, but he had begun the arrangement for the SGF AGM and Forum 2019. It will be held in Lanark on Saturday 2nd November at the Lanark Agriculture Centre (the Auction Mart), costing £15 per person; this includes lunch and refreshments. Cheques payable to **Scottish Gardeners' Forum**.

Speakers:

Anne Armstrong and Duncan Arthur:

Clyde Valley Orchard Cooperative

Stuart Richie and Melissa Reilly:

Castlebank Park Lanark

Kirsty Wilson, Head of Herbaceous, RBGE:

Beechgrove Garden



Scottish
Gardeners'
Forum

PROMOTING SCOTLAND'S GARDEN CLUBS



AGM and Forum

2nd November 2019

10am to 4pm

Symington Suite
Lanark Agricultural Centre,
Hyndford Rd
Lanark ML11 9AX

If you would like to attend please register with

Andrea McDowall,
29 Second Avenue,
Auchinloch, G66 5DZ

Alison Murison
editor@scottishgardenersforum.org.uk

Saughton Glasshouse

The missing Caley element at Saughton is a much needed large working greenhouse. We have a plan, we know the size we need and we know where it will go in the teaching garden area. We have raised around £12,000 thanks to donations, garden openings and The Friends pop-up café at The Spring Show. So we are making progress but need to do a lot more to raise the money we need for the 20 metre glasshouse.

Many of you, like me, will save loose change so why not pick up a collection tub. It is an easy way to help grow the funds we need.

Contact Julie Muir or pick one up at Saughton.

Pam Whittle

The Caley Awards

Nominations are now open for The Caley's annual award presentations. The Caley issues a number of awards to recognise achievements from the world of Scottish horticulture. The Caley has awards that cover professional, student and amateur horticulturists so if you want someone you know to be rewarded for all of their hard work, fill in an award nomination form today.

The simple, online form can be found on the Awards page of the website:

www.thecaley.org.uk/awards

Nominations close on 15th November 2019 and awards will be presented at a ceremony on 3rd March 2020.

Julie Muir



Scottish Horticultural Medal

Queen Mother Medal Carter Patterson Student Medal

Dr Patrick Neill Medal

Recipes Please

The Friends of Saughton Park (FoSP) orchard group are planning a recipe book as a way of promoting the Park, encouraging folks to eat more fruit and as a fundraiser. The idea is that users of the Park and partner groups donate recipes based on the fruits, nuts and other edibles growing in the park. Do you have a family favourite recipe you'd like to share? If you are interested please contact Sarah Bennett, Caley member and FoSP orchard group leader.

friendsofsaughtonpark@gmail.com

Rona McDowall

Contacts

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Facebook

facebook.com/TheCaley

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Twitter

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Website

thecaley.org.uk

Getting to Saughton



Saughton Park is bounded by Balgreen Road, Gorgie Road and Ford's Road. The Car Park is off Stevenson Drive, to the north of the Park, then Stenhouse Avenue. Follow the signs to the Saughton Sports Centre. Note that Google have not caught up with the Landscaping and Building works.

By Bus or Tram

There are several buses that stop near Ford's Road in Gorgie Road: Lothian 3, 25 (from Hermiston Park and Ride), 30, 33, 38; First Bus 23, X23; or Balgreen Road (Lothian 1, 2, 22, 38); and the Balgreen tram stop is quite near too!

Next Preview

Material for the Spring Preview should be sent to the Editor by email by **14th February 2020**
preview@rchs.co.uk

Dates for Your Diary

06/10/19	Bulb workshop Saughton Park
26/10/19	Halloween & Apple Day Saughton Park
02/11/19	SGF AGM and Forum Lanark
03/11/19	Hardwood cuttings workshop Orchid Advice Saughton Park
01/12/19	Festive Florals (for beginners) Saughton Park
14/12/19	Christmas Event Saughton
February, TBC	Fruit Pruning workshop Caley Allotment
02/02/20	Propagation workshop Saughton Park
01/03/20	Pest & Disease workshop How to Show your Blooms Saughton Park
28 - 29/03/20	Children's Spring Show RBGE
4 - 5/04/20	Spring Bulb Show Saughton