



Girton Garden Society

JUNE NEWSLETTER 2026



Helmingham Hall 2018

Dear Member,

First we had unseasonably cold weather in April and early May and now, as I write, the temperature is rising to 33 degrees with no rain in sight and not much in the last month either. What a difference from last year. Nothing seems predictable any more.

Meetings Our programme since January has been varied and meetings have been well attended and now we can look forward to summer visits and more time in our gardens.

Spring Plant sale This year it was held on Saturday 2nd May on Janet's front drive. In total we raised £510.20 and were nearly sold out by 2.25pm as usual. Many thanks again to all who donated or bought plants or helped on the day and especially to Janet for allowing us to use her drive with all the work that it entails in storing plants beforehand and displaying them on the day. It does showcase our successful society. A donation to NGS will be made again as they support a number of worthy charities and it is good to feel that our efforts can support others as well as our own society.

Coach trip to Helmingham Hall on Wednesday 10th June This trip will leave Girton Church bus stop at 9.30 am, returning around 5pm. We last went to Helmingham Hall 8 years ago in July during a drought. I had hoped that going earlier in the year we would see new fresh growth! I am sure they are coping with climate change and it will be interesting to see how. Let's hope for good weather and a great day out for all. The trip is now fully booked.

Oakington Flower Show Saturday 20th June This is becoming another annual event. As well as the flower show there are many craft stalls to enjoy. We will enter at least one arrangement for a 'Sunny Border' either in cool or hot colours depending on what is available.

Girton Open Gardens Sunday 14th June from 2-5pm There are 13 gardens open plus the allotments from the motorway bridge towards the Oakington end of the village. Tea, cake, soft drinks and ice cream will be available at some gardens. It really is a good way to get some inspiration for your own garden by seeing what other people do and how they cope with problem areas. You can pick up a list of gardens from 80, High Street, 49, Cambridge Road, and 72, Girton Road. Donations are welcome and support the floral phone box and planters around the village. Do also look in the NGS yellow booklet (ngs.org.uk) for other gardens to visit in the area.

Feast Week Fete and Mini Show Saturday 11th July We share a stall with the Allotment Society at the fete. This is an opportunity to publicise the society and talk to visitors about what we do. We also sell some small pots of herbs, succulents and late flowering plants so if you have any spares, please bring them in the morning. We really need some volunteers to help set up the stall from 9.00 am onwards, especially to help put up the gazebos, and also volunteers to help take everything down around 4pm. ***Please contact us if you can spare an hour.*** Don't forget to enter the **Mini Show**. Details are available in the May Parish News or on our website - 'Other events 2026 page'.

Coach trip to The Old Vicarage Gardens at East Ruston, Norfolk on Wednesday 15th July This is a fascinating garden of 32 acres divided into a number of very individual 'rooms' ranging from wildlife meadow to exotic tropical plants. There are two tea rooms with plenty of indoor and outdoor seating in sun and shade. There are still a few places left for this trip, so do contact us if you have friends who may like to come.

Garden Meetings We will meet informally in members' gardens again during the summer. Such meetings will, of course, be weather dependent but offer a chance to see another garden and sit and chat with other members over a cup of tea.

Wednesday 12th August from 2-4pm at Chris's garden at 6, Bandon Rd.

Wednesday 9th September from 2-4pm at Kay's garden at 43, Fairway.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided. There is plenty of space and quite a few chairs. **These are drop-in events so you can decide on the day depending on the weather.**

Madingley Mulch has been taken over by a Builders Merchant. Our 10% discount on garden materials is still available if you go in person with your card. An alternative suggested by a member is fieldcompost.co.uk based in Cambridgeshire and delivering locally. If you join their compost club they offer discounts. At the moment there is 20% off 'No.25 Maximulch'.

The Autumn Our meetings on the second Wednesday of the month at the William Collyn Community Centre resume at 7.30pm on 14th October when Nigel Start will give us plenty of advice on pruning trees and shrubs in our gardens.

Meanwhile enjoy the rest of the summer.

With very best wishes from Kay and all the committee,
Kay Green, Corinna Tabor, Chris Pittock, Felicia Moor,
Margaret Creighton and Ruth Reynolds

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or phone Kay on 01223 276819



East Ruston 2018