NORTHIAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2026

Our next talk this year will be on 'Container Gardening' and we're pleased to welcome back the very popular Steve Edney. He will be bringing plants for sale from his No Name Nursery which some of us visited this summer. Steve's talk is at 2.30pm on Wednesday 4th November in the Village Hall, Frewen Close, Northiam, Rye. TN31 6RA. Doors open 2.00pm, when tea and coffee will be available. Come early for the best seats.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

This year's AGM and Christmas Social will be held on Friday 4th December 2026 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The evening consists of business and pleasure. If you plan to attend please let Rosemary Husey know for catering numbers, by phone 01797 253259 or email rosehus@hotmail.com by Friday 20th November 2026. If there are any nominations for the Committee or for the Auditor, or any proposals to change the Constitution, these should be made in writing to reach the Hon. Secretary no later than 20th November 2026 – see items 4, 8 and 9 of the Agenda (below) - contact Della at dellaweight@yahoo.co.uk or 07712 410478. Copies of the Agenda and Minutes of the last AGM will be available at the Meeting, and are on our website www.northiamhorticulturalsociety.com

2026 EVENTS ROUND UP

PLANT SALE – As usual we had an amazing number of plants for sale this year, grown by Great Dixter and Members of our Society. Good weather brought the crowds in. We raised net income of £2,729.93. A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED, FROM POTTING UP TO THE ACTUAL DAY OF THE PLANT SALE.

SUMMER SOCIAL – A glorious evening at Great Dixter to wander around the beautiful gardens with 64 members attending. It was a joy to be able to use the front lawn for drinks, canapes and conversing with one another. We are very lucky to have Fergus Garrett as our President. The total cost of the event was £345.25.

COACH TRIP – On the hottest day of the year at 35C plus, the coach took us to RHS Wisley. Some decided to wander around the gardens, a few had a buggy taking them around. Quite a few chose to sit in the shade (under trees) and either read a book or catch up with friends over cold drinks and ice creams. It was a relaxing, if too hot a day. Money was spent in the Gift Shop and endless plants bought. Thank you, Linda, for organising the trip. We sold £1,000.00 in tickets. Our net income was £115.00 after paying out for the coach hire and driver's tip totalling £885.00

SPRING SHOW 2027 CLASSES – advance notice of modified categories:

ART & CRAFT SECTION

All exhibits open to Adults and Children (Children please state age).

38. A picture, any medium, watercolour, oil, pencil etc.
39. A greeting card, postcard, for any occasion, any medium.
40. Any other craft not named in this Section e.g. pottery/small items of woodwork/metalwork/cushions/embroidery/knitting etc.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTION

41. Spring flowers, e.g. snowdrops, daffodils, hellebores, tulips etc.
42. Camellia bud or flower.
43. Colour Red.
44. Glassware – vase, tumblers, ornaments etc.
45. Your favourite photograph. JUDGED BY PUBLIC VOTING

AUTUMN SHOW 2027 CLASSES – advance notice of modified categories:

PHOTOGRAPHIC SECTION

46. Autumnal landscape
47. Classic car/s
48. Fungi, e.g. toadstools, mushrooms etc
49. Kitchen, or anything used in the kitchen
50. Your favourite photograph. JUDGED BY PUBLIC VOTING

2027 TALKS

Wednesday afternoons in the Village Hall. Talks start at 2.30pm.

Doors open at 2.00pm for tea and coffee

- Wednesday 10th February - the Great Dixter students on their Inspiration to become a gardener.
- Wednesday 10th March - Michael Wachter on 'Foraging'
- Wednesday 6th October - Brian Doggett, 'Seven Deadly Things – Poisonous Plants'
- Wednesday 10th November - The President's Address, Fergus Garrett

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

This year our membership has grown to over 220, which is good news. To continue the talks, flower shows and social occasions we really need more Committee Members. ***Please, please give this your full consideration and offer your services, we have vacancies for 6 committee members.*** If you have very little spare time, then perhaps volunteer at our events? Give Carol Knowles a ring for more information and a chat on 01797 252134.

TROPHY WINNERS AUTUMN SHOW 2026

THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S BANKSIAN MEDAL to the winner of the most prize money in the whole of the Horticultural Classes at the Society's two shows in 2026 (to be Presented at the AGM). **GILLIAN HARRISON**

THE PEARSON PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Exhibitor with the most prize money in the Horticultural classes **GILLIAN HARRISON**

THE TROWELL PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP
Best Horticultural exhibit **GILLIAN HARRISON**

THE MARY BERKLEY MEMORIAL SALVER
Winner of Class 42 (any other flowers) **AVERIL PHILLIPS**

BATEHUP PERPETUAL CHALLENGE BOWL
Winner of class 43 (flower arranging) **SUE GUNTHER**

EVAN JONES MEMORIAL SALVER
Exhibitor with the most prize money in the Vegetable sections of the Spring and Autumn Shows combined **CLARE BARBER**

SHEFFIELD MEMORIAL CUP Best exhibit in the Dahlia Classes **RAY NOBLE**

MIN REEVE CUP Best fruit exhibit **CLARE BARBER**

Northiam Horticultural Society

Annual General Meeting to be held at 7.30pm on Friday 4 December 2026
in Northiam Village Hall. Doors open at 7.00pm

AGENDA

1. **Apologies** for Absence
2. **AGM** 2025 minutes are available to Members from the Secretary and on our website, and no matters arising were received.
3. **Audited Accounts and Treasurer's Report** for the Financial Year ended 30th September 2026.
    a. **Matters arising** from the Report and Accounts
    b. **Adoption of the Accounts**
4. **Election of Officers and Committee Members** (not more than nine) for the ensuing year as follows:

President	Fergus Garrett
Chair	Carol Knowles
Treasurer	Deborah Moon
Secretary	Della Weight
Membership Secretary	Penny Bone
Show Secretary	Vacant
Committee Members	Lewis Bosher
	Joan Davis
	Rosemary Husey

The above Officers and Committee Members offer themselves for re-election. Linda Belton and Christine Luxton have both stood down from the Committee in 2026.

5. **President's Address**
6. **Presentations for 2026:** Banksian Medal to Gillian Harrison
   Christopher Lloyd Cup – winner to be announced
7. **Subscriptions for the calendar year 2027**. The Committee proposes no changes to the annual subscription for 2027.
8. **Amendments/Addenda to the Society's Constitution.** The Committee proposes no updates to the Constitution.
9. **Election of Hon Auditor for the ensuing year.** The Committee proposes Mrs. Ann Antrobus as Auditor.
10. **Any Other Business**

Please contact the Hon. Secretary, Della Weight at dellaweight@yahoo.co.uk for a copy of the 2025 AGM minutes (also on our website). Nominations for the Committee, or for the position of Auditor, or to propose a change to the Constitution must be made in writing and received by the Hon Secretary by November 20th, 2026.