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Update from Peter, our Chair.

Firstly a big thank you to all of those of you who replied to my email last month on this subject.

This is the latest available information regarding what's happening to WDHS and other local events together with news regarding the opening of National Trust & RHS gardens as well as sadly the cancellation of all the remaining RHS Shows

#### **FIRST THE BAD NEWS!**

Warlingham Fair on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June is **CANCELLED**.

The WDHS Annual Show on the 22nd August is **CANCELLED**

The WDHS Coach Outing to Fishbourne Roman Palace and West Dean Gardens on the 10th September is **CANCELLED**.

The EDENBRIDGE AND OXTED SHOW on August Bank Holiday weekend is **CANCELLED**.

Due to the continued uncertainty about the ongoing Covid-19 situation, the RHS have now announced that ALL Shows for 2020 have now been **CANCELLED**.

So to the previous list, we now have to add that the HAMPTON COURT FLOWER SHOW, [already postponed from May until September], the ROSEMOOR, Devon & HYDE HALL, Essex Shows, [already postponed from August until September] and the MALVERN AUTUMN Show at the end of September are NOW ALL **CANCELLED**.

#### **NOW FOR SOME GOOD NEWS!**

Both of our local RHS GARDENS at Wisley, Surrey and Hyde Hall near Chelmsford, Essex have re-opened on a pre-booking basis.

Slots at Wisley are currently being offered from Monday 6th July – Sunday 19th July. At Hyde Hall there's better availability with slots [other than this Saturday] right through to the 12th July. It's an easy trip and a great garden if you've never been. Once you're in, you can stay until closing time [4.00pm] NATIONAL TRUST Gardens too are open but again you have to pre-book as demand is high. I checked a couple of local properties [after negotiating the NT's confusing website] and couldn't find any availability within the immediate future and no opportunity to search further ahead. And it's the gardens and grounds only that are open, NOT THE HOUSES.

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### IT'S NGS OPEN GARDENS THIS WEEKEND!

Wendy Baston's garden at 57 Westhall Road will be open again this weekend under the NGS scheme but as is now common, you'll need to pre-book [SEE BELOW].

The garden is on multiple levels and has many steps so you'll need to be sure footed and nimble!

There's an amphitheatre of potted plants on lower steps followed on the way up by an array of beautiful plants including swathes of tulips, mature kiwi and grape vines, mixed borders, raised vegetable beds as well as, box, bay, cork oak and yew topiaries. If you make it to the top garden you'll be rewarded with stunning views of Caterham and Whyteleafe!

There will be no refreshments on sale but you can take your own picnic.

Each timeslot is for 90 minutes so please leave the garden promptly at the end of your timeslot so that the next visitors can enter.

TO BOOK GO TO <https://ngs.org.uk/view-garden/22911/>

ENTRY is £4 per person with proceeds going to cancer nursing charities.

KNIGHTS GARDEN CENTRES still have a limited selection of summer bedding available as well as some herbs, vegetables and perennials. Click on this link for their stock list. <http://www.knights-gardencentres.co.uk/we-sell/plants-shrubs-and-trees>

If you would prefer not to visit and instead opt for a home delivery, then phone your order through to Chelsham [01883 622340] or Woldingham [01883 653142] between 9.00-12.00 Monday - Thursday inclusive. There is a minimum spend of £35.00 + a delivery charge.

Payment is by card over the phone.

## AND FINALLY,

At our Quiz Night, just before the lockdown, we raised £350.00 for the St.Catherines Hospice who provide end of life care for patients here in East Surrey as well as Mid Sussex. This was increased by an anonymous donation to £500 which prompted this thank you letter from Geri Harrington of the Hospice's Supporter Services.

Dear Friends

I am writing to thank you very much for your kind donation of £500.00 to St Catherine's Hospice, raised through your recent quiz.

By supporting St Catherine's, you're helping us to be there at the hardest time of someone's life and your kindness means we can help people in all sorts of ways, when life comes full circle.

It's thanks to your generosity that we can provide our specialist end of life care and emotional support free of charge to those that need it, such as Naomi, whose husband was cared for at the hospice. She told us, "If it hadn't been for St Catherine's, I don't know how we would have coped. We certainly wouldn't have had the special moments together that we did."

Thank you for your support. As a charity we couldn't survive without donations like yours and we'd like to stay in touch with you.

So well done to all of you who bought raffle tickets, to Mark who organised it and to all our volunteer helpers, who helped it all happen.

So, that's it for the time being; stay in touch by all means - it's always great to hear from you.

In the meantime take great care, stay safe and observe the Government's guidance on social distancing, hand washing and face covering.

Best wishes

# Peter

***Peter Kerry***  
***Worlingham & District Horticultural Society***