

Clatford Valley Gardening Club

Affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society

Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7.45pm Upper Clatford Village Hall

www.clatfordvalleygardeningclub.co.uk

July 2018

Dear Members,

I expect that like me you are struggling to keep the garden looking good in this hot and more importantly dry, weather. I personally am struggling with deer and pheasants eating my vegetables as well. However, we have had some nice garden visits this month.

The visit to Terstan was a lovely evening, lovely garden and nice cakes. I think that everybody enjoyed the visit. We have had three members' gardens open last month, Mead Cottage and Woodpeckers in Goodworth Clatford, and 4 Red Rice Road in Upper Clatford, so thank you for that, Pat, Elaine, and Anthony and Jane. They were very much appreciated by visitors. This system seems to be working well so if you would like to do the same please let Lesley know (lesleyhes@gmail.com) and she will circulate the information to members.

Coming up we have the visit to Frogmore House and Savill Garden on Wednesday 8th August leaving the Village Hall Car Park at 9.00 a.m. and depending on traffic should be back between 5.30 and 6.00. There are now two spare places so if you haven't booked and would like to go please contact Mavis on 357668. Another possibility is the Winchester Flower Festival which is being held between 5th and 8th September. For details see later.

There is of course our Annual Show on 18th August, please support this event. Even if you do not want to enter, come and have a look round and indulge in tea and cakes in Betty's garden.

In the past we have held a summer barbecue and for the past two years, Pimms, Plants and Pastries. We are considering a social event later in the year, perhaps in October but want to see if it would be well supported before going ahead with any arrangements. Please have a think about this before the July meeting, and let us have your opinion and suggestions.

Finally, could you please have a look at the tea rota and if you are unable to do your allocated date, please let me know (meiosis41@aol.com).

See you in July,

Jenny



St MARY'S HOUSE AND GARDENS

St Mary's is an enchanting historic 15th century timber-framed house, with magnificent gardens, and charming cottage-style tea rooms, in the picturesque award-winning downland village of Bramber, West Sussex, 10 miles north west of Brighton.

Still a lived-in home, there are fine panelled rooms, including the unique Elizabethan *trompe l'oeil* Painted Room. St Mary's has intriguing literary connections ... Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*, and the Sherlock Holmes story *The Musgrave Ritual*.

There are five acres of beautiful gardens, with an exceptional example of the prehistoric *Ginkgo Biloba* 'living fossil' tree, amusing animal topiary, and 'Secret' Garden with original Victorian fruit wall and pineapple pits, beautiful rose garden, terracotta garden,

King's Garden, unusual circular English Poetry Garden, landscape water garden and Rural Museum.

The Rose Garden commemorates the Queen's Golden and Diamond Jubilees and the Terracotta Garden has a central fountain and colourful herbaceous borders, The circular English Poetry Garden, in its semi-woodland setting, has a bust of Lord Byron as its centrepiece, a long curved pergola, and poems displayed around the circular board walk. A woodland walk leads to the landscape water Garden with an island and waterfall.

It is open to the public from May to September afternoons Sundays, Thursdays, Bank Holiday Mondays, and also Wednesdays in August. Admission Rates are: House and Gardens: £10, concession £9, child £5. Gardens only: Adult/concession £6, child £3.





SPEAKERS FOR JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER



Our speaker for July is Charlotte Popescu who came to us in May 2016 to talk about “Hens in the Garden”. Her knowledge of the different breeds was amazing and even if you didn’t keep hens, there was plenty to think about. We have rebooked her for 28th July to talk about “Foraging for Wild Food”.

Charlotte also came to us last year at very short notice to talk about apples. She helped us out when we had been let down, despite having had a very traumatic day, and we were very grateful to her. Let’s hope our July talk will be a more relaxing visit for her!

The speaker for August is Carol Watson who last visited in 2006 when her subject was Alpine Plants. This time she is going to tell us about the Colours of the Caribbean and hopefully we learn about plants which are not so familiar to us.

Lastly, in September we welcome Mike Read who last visited in 2016 with some beautiful slides of Vercors in France. His subject this time is “The Wildlife of a Working Forest”, something a little different.

Judy Marr

2018 PROGRAMME REFRESHER



25th April Christine Hayward	Glorious Cannas
7th May	May Fayre.
23rd May Alan Edmondson	Beetles in the Garden – Friend or Foe?
19th June	Visit to Terstan Garden, Longstock
27th June Jenny Carter	Canada, Alaska and Magnificent Butchart Gardens on Vancouver Island.
25th July Charlotte Popescu	Foraging for Wild Food.
8th August	Visit to Frogmore House and Savill Garden
18th August	Annual Show.
22nd August Carol Watson.	Colours of the Caribbean.
26th September Mike Read	Wildlife of a Working Forest.
24th October	Annual General Meeting.
28th November	Annual Dinner.
	There will also be other outings and a Social Event.



GARDEN SHOW AND FLOWER FESTIVAL



GARDEN SHOW

I am sure you are all up for a challenge!

This year the weather is certainly providing one. First all the rain then the Beast from the East and then the driest June for years. What will July bring?

However, the soft fruit is looking good so the opportunity for entering the produce classes will appeal. The top fruit is also looking good. The vegetables and flowers currently may be struggling but August is a few weeks away.....

Remember this is a great opportunity for everyone to try their hand at something whether its growing flowers, vegetables or making one of the delicious items in the produce section. HAVE A GO.

Do please encourage new residents, neighbours and especially their children to join in. Remember this is a FUN day, and don't forget the delicious tea and cakes in Betty Armstrong's garden (opposite the village hall)

If you haven't already a copy of the schedule you'll find it on the club Website and the entry form is attached to this newsletter.

Happy growing.
Sue Stuart



WINCHESTER FLOWER FESTIVAL

This is running from 5th to 9th September.

If we go as a group, we will get a discount. If you are interested in going on Sunday afternoon, 9th September please sign and pay by cheque at the July meeting.

The cost will be £8 per person, a discount of £2. If there are insufficient numbers your cheques will be returned to you,



RECIPE

Tzatziki

This is a delicious Greek Dip

Ingredients

150g Greek Yogurt.
½ cucumber
2-4 crushed garlic cloves.
1 tbsp. olive oil
1 tsp. lemon juice.
1tsp. chopped or dried mint (or dill)
Pepper to taste
½ tsp salt



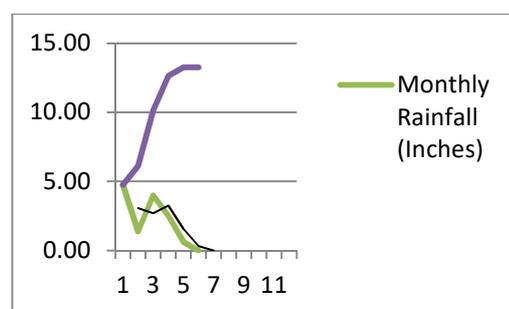
Rainfall

Having received a rain gauge for Christmas last year the following chart shows the rainfall to date this year in Anna Valley.

Year	Month	Monthly Rainfall (Inches)	Cumulative Total (Inches)
2018	1	4.75	4.75
2018	2	1.38	6.13
2018	3	4.00	10.13
2018	4	2.50	12.63
2018	5	0.63	13.25
2018	6	0.00	13.25

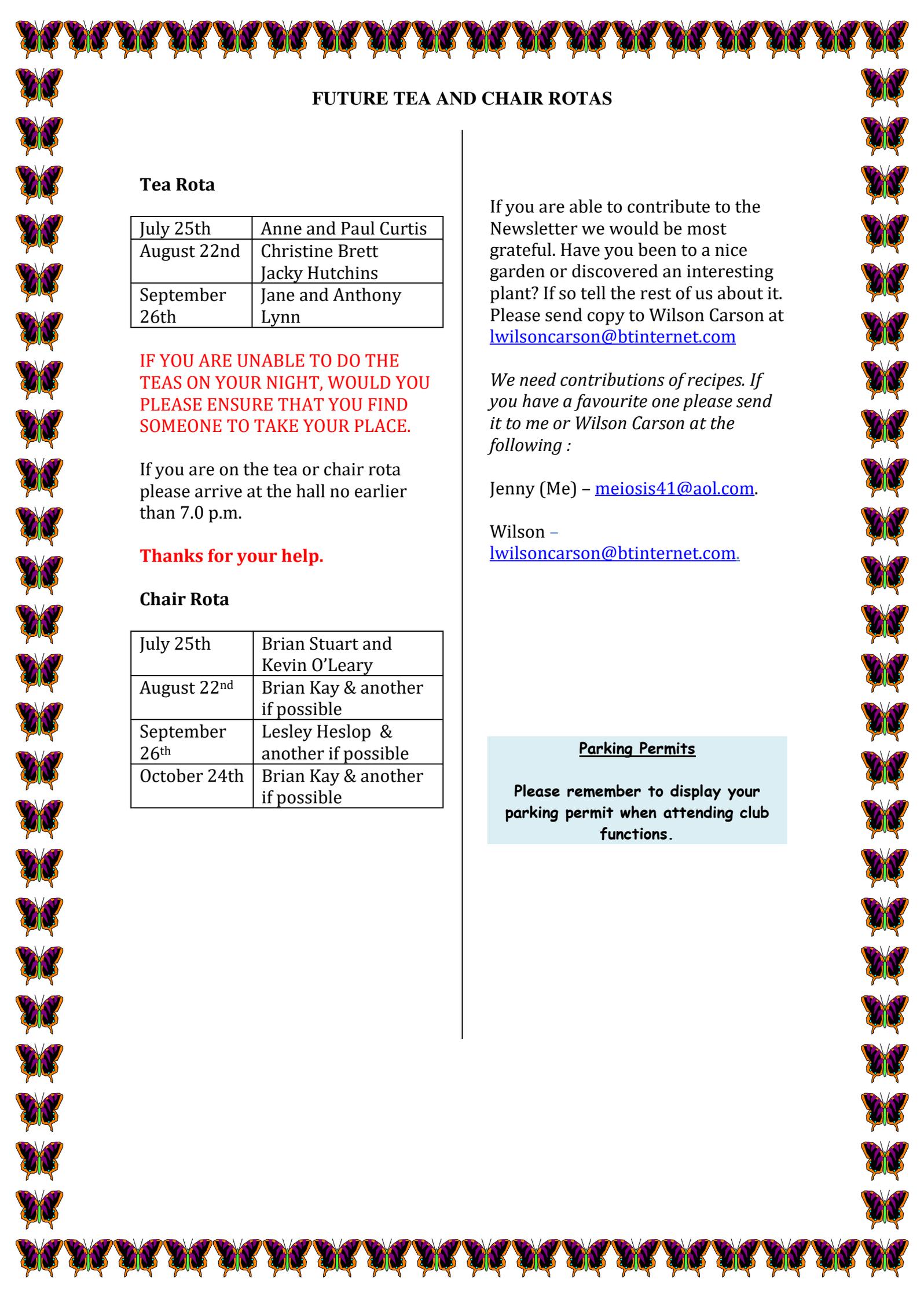
Method

1. Peel the cucumber in half lengthwise and deseed using a teaspoon, then coarsely grate.
2. Put grated cucumber into a sieve suspended over a bowl, sprinkle over ½ tsp salt and mix through. Place a plate on top of the cucumber and allow to drain for approximately an hour, or until the water stops dripping.
3. Combine all the ingredients and mix thoroughly.
4. The flavours combine better if given time, so it is a good idea to leave it in a sealed container in the fridge overnight.



As you can see it registered no rain at all for June. There was in fact a very small amount early in the month but it probably evaporated in the subsequent heat!

Wilson



FUTURE TEA AND CHAIR ROTAS

Tea Rota

July 25th	Anne and Paul Curtis
August 22nd	Christine Brett Jacky Hutchins
September 26th	Jane and Anthony Lynn

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO DO THE TEAS ON YOUR NIGHT, WOULD YOU PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU FIND SOMEONE TO TAKE YOUR PLACE.

If you are on the tea or chair rota please arrive at the hall no earlier than 7.0 p.m.

Thanks for your help.

Chair Rota

July 25th	Brian Stuart and Kevin O'Leary
August 22 nd	Brian Kay & another if possible
September 26 th	Lesley Heslop & another if possible
October 24th	Brian Kay & another if possible

If you are able to contribute to the Newsletter we would be most grateful. Have you been to a nice garden or discovered an interesting plant? If so tell the rest of us about it. Please send copy to Wilson Carson at lwilsoncarson@btinternet.com

We need contributions of recipes. If you have a favourite one please send it to me or Wilson Carson at the following :

Jenny (Me) – meiosis41@aol.com.

Wilson –
lwilsoncarson@btinternet.com.

Parking Permits

Please remember to display your parking permit when attending club functions.

