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## **NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2012**

The 208th Annual General Meeting of The Royal Horticultural Society will be held at 2pm on Tuesday 26 June 2012 in the RHS Lindley Hall, 80 Vincent Square, London, SW1P 2PE



Photo credit: Tim Sandall

For an alternative format of this notice, please call the AGM Helpline on 020 7821 3679, textphone 18001 020 7834 4333, or email [agm@rhs.org.uk](mailto:agm@rhs.org.uk)

# Agenda

## 1. PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

## 2. MINUTES

To approve the Minutes of the 207th Annual General Meeting held on 1 July 2011.\*

## 3. COUNCIL RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE SOCIETY'S BYE-LAWS

To confirm the amendments of the Society's Bye-laws to clarify the maximum number of terms in office that the President and Treasurer may serve as ex-officio members of Council (Bye-law 5.1), to reduce to 50 the quorum of members required to be present for a General Meeting (Bye-law 12.2) and to reduce the time to 10 minutes for a Meeting to stand adjourned when a quorum is not present (Bye-law 12.3).

Details of the proposed amendments of the Bye-laws can be found at page 5. Voting will be by a show of hands at the Meeting. Any member may propose an addition, alteration or omission to the amended Bye-laws recommended by Council and, provided this is received in writing by The Secretary at 80 Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PE at least seven clear days before the AGM (i.e. by Monday 18 June 2012), such proposal will be considered at the meeting. Council has agreed that the method of voting on any proposed modification by a member will be by a show of hands at the Meeting.

## 4. ANNUAL REPORT AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2011/12

To receive and consider the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements for 2011/12.\*

## 5. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND TREASURER

To declare the unopposed election of Elizabeth Banks as President and Sir Nicholas Bacon as Treasurer for the next year.

## 6. ELECTION OF ORDINARY MEMBERS TO COUNCIL

To elect three ordinary members to Council.

Further information on the vacancies and details of candidates are given from pages 7 to 9. Voting will be by postal ballot in advance of the Meeting – your voting paper can be found on page 15 of this booklet.

\* Copies of the Minutes for last year's AGM and the Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements for 2011/12 are available on the RHS website at <http://www.rhs.org.uk/About-Us/Who-we-are>; or from The Secretary by calling the AGM Helpline by email at [agm@rhs.org.uk](mailto:agm@rhs.org.uk); on 020 7821 3679 or by post at 80 Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PE. Copies will also be available at the Meeting. A summary of the Financial Statements will also appear in the June 2012 edition of The Garden.

Please note that photographs may be taken of the Meeting for publication in the Society's own journals and on the RHS website. These photographs may also be released to other media organisations. By attending the Meeting, you consent to being photographed for this purpose.

## **7. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS**

To appoint PKF (UK) LLP as the Society's Auditors for the next year.

Voting will be by a show of hands at the Meeting.

## **8. APPOINTMENT OF VICE PRESIDENTS**

To receive the names of the Vice Presidents of the Society for the next year.

Further information on the appointment of the Vice Presidents of the Society for the next year can be found at page 12.

## **9. MEMBER'S RESOLUTION – COUNCIL AND PRESIDENT'S SUPPORT OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION TO COUNCIL**

To consider the following motion proposed by Mr P Wadham, a member of the Society:

"Members are grateful for the time and expertise that those on Council devote to the RHS and consider that it would be to the benefit of the Society if the election process were more supportive of representation by the wider membership. We call upon the Council and President each year in the election to support at least one candidate less than the number of vacancies on Council. An intended consequence would be to encourage more involvement, support and interest in the activities of the Society."

Council thanks the proposer and supporters of the member's resolution and welcomes engagement by members in the activities of the Society. However, on this occasion, Council does not recommend supporting the resolution. Further information can be found at pages 12-13.

Council has agreed that voting will be by a show of hands at the Meeting.

## **10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

## Attending the Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the RHS will be held in the RHS Lindley Hall at 80 Vincent Square at 2pm on Tuesday 26 June 2012. The doors will open at 1pm.



**How to get to the Lindley Hall:** The Lindley Hall is approximately a 10 minute walk from either Victoria or St James's Park underground stations. There is metered parking on Vincent Square and a car park on Horseferry Road. The 507 bus runs from Victoria and Waterloo main line stations and stops on Horseferry Road. Please note there is no designated disabled parking available close to the Lindley Hall, although visitors can be dropped off outside the building. If you are attending by car, please note that the Lindley Hall is within the congestion charging zone. Further information on the congestion charge and how to pay is available at <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/roadusers/congestioncharging/> or by telephone on 0845 900 1234.

**Access to the Lindley Hall:** The Lindley Hall has full access and facilities for people with disabilities. In the event that you require assistance, please speak to any RHS member of staff.

**Admission to the AGM:** You will need to show your RHS membership card to gain admission to the AGM. If you are attending the AGM as the representative of an affiliated society or other organisation, you will be required to produce evidence that you are authorised to act on its behalf. Further guidance on acceptable forms of authority can be obtained from The Secretary of the RHS.

**Security:** You will be required to keep any bags or other personal belongings with you throughout the AGM. You may also be asked to agree to your personal items being searched.

**Facilities for those with a hearing impairment:** There will be an induction loop available during the AGM.

**Mobile Telephones:** Please turn off mobile telephones before entering the AGM.

**Refreshments:** Tea and coffee will be available after the AGM.

**Medical Care:** If you require medical attention, please contact any RHS member of staff who will ensure that you receive assistance.

**Smoking:** Smoking is not permitted in the Hall or other indoor areas.

**AGM Helpline:** 020 7821 3679. If you have any questions about the AGM, please call this Helpline between 9.00am and 5.30pm Monday to Friday. Your normal telephone call charge will apply.

## Agenda Item 2 – Minutes

The Chairman (the President unless she is not present) will invite you to approve the Minutes as an accurate record of last year's AGM.

## Agenda Item 3 – Council resolution to amend the Society's Bye-laws

The AGM 2011 proposed a review of the Society's Bye-laws to reduce the quorum of members required to be present for a General Meeting and to reduce the time for a Meeting to stand adjourned when a quorum is not present. Council therefore proposes to amend the existing Bye-laws of the Society.

Before the existing Bye-laws can be amended and the new Bye-laws take effect, they must be confirmed by the membership of the Society at the AGM. Under the Society's Charter, any member wishing to propose an addition, alteration or omission to the amended Bye-laws recommended by Council may do so, provided this is received in writing by The Secretary at 80 Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PE at least seven clear days before the AGM (i.e. by Friday 15 June 2012).

### Proposed amendments to Bye-laws

Bye-law 5.1 to be amended to read:

"The President and Treasurer of the Society shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) by the members of the Society and serve as ex-officio members of Council. No individual elected as President or Treasurer may serve for more than five elected terms of office unless, in exceptional circumstances, the members agree to elect the same individual for up to a maximum of two further terms. No individual may serve as President and Treasurer at the same time."

Bye-law 12.2 to be amended to read:

"No business may be conducted at a General Meeting unless a quorum of 50 members is present."

Bye-law 12.3 to be amended to read:

"If a quorum is not present within 10 minutes from the time the meeting is due to start or if a quorum ceases to exist during a meeting, the meeting shall stand adjourned to a place, day and time determined by the Chairman (see Bye-law 12.20). At a meeting reconvened following an adjournment due to the absence of a quorum, the quorum shall be the number of members present."

The resolution that Council is therefore placing before the meeting is: "To confirm the amendments of the Society's Bye-laws to reduce to 50 the quorum of members required to be present for a General Meeting (Bye-law 12.2) and to reduce the time to 10 minutes for a Meeting to stand adjourned when a quorum is not present (Bye-law 12.3)". Council has also agreed that voting will be by a show of hands at the Meeting.

The Chairman will invite the Meeting to discuss Council's proposed amended Bye-laws before they are voted upon.

In the event that any modifications to the Bye-laws are proposed by members, these will be considered and voted upon at the Meeting before the ballot on Council's resolution takes place. The Chairman will report at the meeting on Council's view and recommendation on any such proposals. Voting on each proposed modification will be by a show of hands at the Meeting.

Any member wishing to view the existing RHS Charter and Bye-laws can find a copy at <http://www.rhs.org.uk/About-Us/Who-we-are/pdfs/CharterByelaws>. Alternatively, you may request a copy from The Secretary by email at [agm@rhs.org.uk](mailto:agm@rhs.org.uk), by calling the AGM Helpline on 020 7821 3679 or by writing to 80 Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PE.

## **Agenda Item 4 – Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements 2011/12**

The Annual Report is presented to the Meeting by the President and explains what the Society has achieved over the past year and its plans for 2012.

During discussion of this item, you are very welcome to provide feedback and ask questions. However, it is helpful if you let us know your questions in advance of the Meeting so that we can ensure that we have the information available to give you a full answer. You can provide advance notice of your question to The Secretary by email at [agm@rhs.org.uk](mailto:agm@rhs.org.uk), by calling the AGM Helpline on 020 7821 3679 or by writing to 80 Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PE.

## **Agenda Item 5 – Election of President and Treasurer**

### **PRESIDENT**

The President of the society is elected annually by the membership and provides leadership and direction to Council Members, enabling its members to fulfil their responsibilities for the overall governance and strategic direction of the Society. The President also acts as Chairman of Council and the Horticulture Board and is a trustee of the Society.

The only candidate validly nominated for election as President this year was Elizabeth Christina Banks. As there were no other candidates, Elizabeth Banks will be declared elected unopposed as President of the Society.

### **TREASURER**

The Treasurer of the Society is elected annually by the membership and is responsible for advising the President and Council on the Society's financial and business affairs including those of the trading subsidiaries. The Treasurer also acts as Chairman of the Commercial Board and is a trustee of the Society.

The only candidate validly nominated for election as Treasurer this year was Sir Nicholas Hickman Ponsonby Bacon. As there were no other candidates, Sir Nicholas Bacon will be declared elected unopposed as Treasurer of the Society.

## **Agenda Item 6 – Election of ordinary members to Council**

The Council of the RHS is responsible for the strategic direction of the Society and ensures that it acts in accordance with the objectives set out in the RHS Charter. Council comprises the President, Treasurer, 15 ordinary members and up to two co-opted members. Those who serve on Council are also the trustees of the Society.

Every year, as part of the democratic running of the Society, at least three ordinary members of Council retire and the resulting vacancies are filled by election at the AGM. At this year's AGM, Raymond Evison, Sarah Joiner and Prunella Scarlett will retire as ordinary members of Council and their places will be filled by election for a term of five years. Michael Balston will retire as a co-opted member of Council.

Council has agreed to co-opt Prunella Scarlett to serve on Council until the end of the AGM 2013.

## Candidates for election to Council

The following candidates are validly nominated for this year's election:

### Neil Lucas



**Proposed by:** Raymond Evison

**Seconded by:** Fergus Garrett

**Supported by:** Mark Fane; Tim Miles; Dougal Philip; Prunella Scarlett; Lady Tollemache; Cleve West

I am the owner of Dorset based Knoll Gardens and in the privileged position of being regarded as one of the UK's leading ornamental grass specialists. I am also an RHS judge, author, and holder of ten consecutive Gold Medals at Chelsea.

When not on the show circuit, either as Exhibitor or Judge, lecturing, writing, or off on plant hunting expeditions overseas, I like to spend my time tending what I call my four acre exhibit – the garden and nursery at Knoll.

A long-time admirer of both the beauty and utility of grasses, I see them playing an increasingly important part in our gardens. Recently I was able to launch a new charity, The Knoll Gardens Foundation, which aims to promote the practices used within the garden to help everyone create sustainable, wildlife friendly and aesthetically pleasing gardens.

My interest in my 'special subject' led me to publish my first book in 2011, "Designing with Grasses", intended as a practical guide for gardeners and designers. Although now known principally for my work with grasses, I retain a deep interest in trees and shrubs; which is what originally led me to purchase Knoll Gardens.

Exhibiting at flower shows and running a nursery has made me realise just how keen gardeners are not just for plants but for the knowledge to go with them, and so I run a series of Masterclasses and demonstrations from Knoll Gardens as well as lecturing both in the UK and overseas.

### Mark Stephen Porter



**Proposed by:** Rosamund Wallinger

**Seconded by:** Patrick Daniell

**Supported by:** Rosemary Alexander; Helen Allan; Anthea Fortescue; Catherine Hahn; Jan Gapper; Duncan Rutter

I have been a member of the RHS for many years, having developed a real passion for gardening since growing vegetables on my first allotment way back in the 1970s.

Gardening clearly got into my blood and I now chair the Itchen Valley garden society in Hampshire, giving lectures on the design of winter gardens, vineyards and wine making. Moving to a house with a 'blank canvas' of a field 10 years ago, the garden I have created is now open to the public under the

National Garden Scheme. The special feel of the garden in winter with vividly coloured stems and drifts of bulbs really excites our visitors, as does the extensive potager and vineyard in summer and the biodiversity of the landscape.

Following last year's AGM, I became heavily involved with the RHS being appointed to the Business Committee where I have played an active role. I now also act as External Advisor to the RHS on IT projects, following a long career in that industry.

I believe my wide business experience together with my passion for horticulture can really help the RHS be ever more relevant to its membership. I hope that you will support my application.

## Alison Ward

No photo  
provided

**Proposed by:** Mrs Stephen Weissman

**Seconded by:** Barbara McNaught

**Supported by:** Ruth H Berridge; Patsy Childs; Wendy Johnson;  
Barbara Entwisle; Elizabeth Scott; Anne Selby

Plants are the building blocks of life itself. Whether large or small, gardens, and the experiences of "growing", have an essential role to play in the physical and mental health and wellbeing of our society, and are vital to the saving and enhancement of our environment. The RHS is in a unique position to continue to illustrate the value, and encourage the benefits, of gardening and to foster the wider potential of the domestic garden, especially in more urban areas.

I have a long career in public service and also spent many years in public affairs in the finance industry, well before its fall from grace in 2008! Finance brought me into contact with a very wide range of interests and issues. I have worked with people from all walks of life, in the parliamentary arena, as a Magistrate, as a hospital trust director, as a Parish Councillor, and as a member of the team that secured HLF funding for our village church. I would welcome the opportunity to bring my experience to the Council table, alongside my practical knowledge of gardening and design and my expertise as a plantswoman.

It would be an honour to use my skills, knowledge and experience to communicate my passionate life-long interest to the public and I can think of no better way to do this than as a member of the RHS Council.

## Jon Wheatley



**Proposed by:** Valerie Payne

**Seconded by:** Victor Verrier

**Supported by:** R W Boardman; Helen Bainbridge; Roy Cheek;  
Robin Pearce; Matthew Soper; Brian Taylor

I have been involved in horticulture all my life, commencing my career in commercial production, then training at RHS Wisley and then the Institute of Parks Administration.

Transferring to amenity and leisure management provided me with the opportunity to pursue an interesting and varied career in local government in Parks and Recreation management. This involved community provision, landscape design and maintenance, play and sport for over 30 years. I then returned to Plant production and growing in 2000 followed quickly by exhibiting in floral, garden design and Horticulture at Chelsea and Hampton Court, Tatton etc. In a voluntary capacity I have become much involved in South West in Bloom, Britain in Bloom and a range of Horticultural Societies. I lecture and teach and appreciate the role of plants and gardening and the role it can play in improving our lives. I believe I can relate these experiences to a role in Council.

## Voting

As there are four candidates for three vacancies, an election will be held by postal vote and the result declared at the AGM. The Society has appointed Electoral Reform Services as scrutineers to supervise the ballot.

The election is your chance to elect those who you want to lead the Society, and Council urges you to use your vote. A voting paper can be found at page 15 of this booklet.

You may cast your own vote directly at this election or ask the President of the Society to vote on your behalf as your proxy. The President will cast all proxy votes as she thinks fit. However, the President has asked Council and a Nominations, Appointments and Governance Committee for guidance as to which candidates would make the most suitable Council members having regard to the skills and experience of the candidates and the current members of Council.

## Council Recommends...

Council recommends that members vote for the following candidates:

Neil Lucas  
Mark Porter  
Jon Wheatley.

The President has indicated that she expects to cast her discretionary proxy votes for these candidates.

## Declaration of Result

The Chairman will declare the result of the election at the AGM. The successful candidates will take office from the end of this AGM.

## Council Members continuing in office after the AGM

The following ordinary members of Council will continue in office after the AGM:

James Alexander-Sinclair  
George Anderson  
Rosie Atkins  
Christopher Blundell  
Dennis Espley  
Mark Fane  
Peter Gregory  
David Haselgrove  
Jekka McVicar  
David Morrison  
Alastair Muirhead  
Dougal Philip  
Prunella Scarlett LVO (co-opted).

## Agenda Item 7 – Appointment of Auditors

The Society is required to arrange for its accounts to be audited by a firm of chartered accountants and the Bye-laws provide for an auditor to be appointed annually at the AGM.

Council recommends that the Society's existing auditor, PKF (UK) LLP, be reappointed for 2012/13.

The Chairman will invite you to vote on this recommendation by a show of hands at the Meeting.

## Agenda Item 8 – Appointment of Vice Presidents

Each year, Council appoints a number of members of the RHS to serve as Vice Presidents of the Society. The office is honorary and appointment recognises either past contribution to the Society's activities or the ability to contribute in the future to the achievement of the Society's aims and objectives. Vice Presidents are expected to act as ambassadors for the Society.

Council has re-appointed the following to the office of Vice President for 2012/13:

Lawrence Banks CBE, DL, VMH

Christopher Brickell CBE, VMH

The Count de Kerchove de Denterghem

Vicomte Philippe de Spoelberch

Raymond Evison OBE, VMH

The Rt Hon the Lord Heseltine CH, PC

Carolyn Hardy OBE, VMH

Robert Hillier OBE, VMH

Professor Brian Huntley

Roy Lancaster OBE, VMH

John Ravenscroft VMH

John Sales VMH

The Dowager Marchioness of Salisbury VMH

Martin Slocock VMH

Dr Kiat Wee Tan

Alan Titchmarsh MBE, DL, VMH

Professor Harold Tukey.

## Agenda Item 9 – Member's Resolution – Council and President's support of candidates for election to Council

The Chairman will invite the meeting to vote by a show of hands on the following motion proposed by Mr P Wadham, a member of the Society.

"Members are grateful for the time and expertise that those on Council devote to the RHS and consider that it would be to the benefit of the Society if the election process were more supportive of representation by the wider membership. We call upon the Council and President each year in the election to support at least one candidate less than the number of vacancies on Council. An intended consequence would be to encourage more involvement, support and interest in the activities of the Society."

In response, Council has agreed the following statement:

“Council thanks the proposer and supporters of the member’s resolution and welcomes engagement by members in the activities of the Society. However, on this occasion, Council does not recommend supporting the resolution.

The process for election to Council is open and transparent. Each year, there are at least three seats on Council available for election. Any member can stand or vote in the election, subject to the restrictions in the Society’s Bye-laws, which are agreed by the members. After submitting election papers, all candidates are invited to meet the nominations committee, which advises Council on its recommendation to the members about the candidate(s) that it considers shall best serve the interests of the Society. The full nominations process is reviewed regularly and explained on the Society’s website.

The nominations committee considers the experience, knowledge and skills of existing Council members, and the capability of each candidate to address identified gaps and to fulfil the time commitment and other expectations required from Council Members. Candidates who have previously engaged in the Society’s activities – for example as an exhibitor, judge, garden volunteer or committee member – will often be better informed and more able to demonstrate that their election will be in the interests of the Society than candidates who have had limited or no prior involvement, but the merits of each candidate are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Where the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies, there is a contested election. The members may vote for any candidate, whether or not he / she has been recommended by Council. Alternately, many members prefer to appoint the President to vote on their behalf as Proxy – an arrangement used in many organisations with members and shareholders. The President may vote as he/she thinks fit and is not obliged to vote in favour of any of the candidates recommended by Council. However, in the interests of openness and transparency, details of the candidate(s) for whom the President intends to cast proxy votes are included with the voting papers issued to members.

After due consideration Council does not believe that supporting the member’s resolution will be to the benefit of the Society or encourage more involvement, support and interest in its activities. The election process is consistent with ‘good governance’, being open to all members and transparent to the wider beneficiaries of the Society. Council’s informed, but non-binding, recommendation to members and the President about the experience, knowledge and skills it requires to lead the Society is only one part of an election process in which all members are encouraged to participate. The resolution as presented would fetter Council’s recommendation and slant elections in favour of a smaller number of candidates – which may, in fact, disengage members from standing and voting in elections to the Council of their Society.”

Council therefore recommends that members vote against the resolution.

Members are advised that, in the event that the resolution is supported at the Meeting, Council will consider what action to take in accordance with what they, as trustees of the charity, consider is in the best interest of the Society. Charity trustees are legally required to act in the interests of the charity at all times.

## How to vote at the election for Council 2012

The election to fill the three vacancies on Council will take place by post. You will find a voting paper on page 15. The following instructions will guide you on how to complete the voting paper. Please note that to vote you must be over 18 and an individual, family or associate member of the Society or represent a member organisation such as an affiliated society.

1. Go to Box A and print your name, address and membership number and sign in the space provided. If you are completing the voting paper on behalf of an affiliated society or other member organisation, the Chairman or Secretary of the affiliated society or organisation (or equivalent) must sign the voting paper.

### 2. THEN

If you wish to cast your own vote directly at the election – go to Box B and place an “X” in the boxes (e.g.  ) next to the candidates for whom you wish to vote. You may vote for up to **three** candidates. If you vote for more than three candidates, your votes will not be counted.

### OR

If you wish to appoint the President as your proxy to cast your vote at her discretion – go to Box C and place an “X” in the space provided.

### THEN

3. Once you have completed your voting paper, please detach it from this booklet and return it in your own envelope to The Secretary, The Royal Horticultural Society, c/o Electoral Reform Services, FREEPOST ND6352, 33 Clarendon Road, London, N1 1BR, not later than noon on Tuesday 19 June 2012 (No stamp required in the UK).

**Note:** If the voting paper is signed by someone on behalf of an individual Member, a Power of Attorney or letter of authority must be received by The Secretary, The Royal Horticultural Society, 80 Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PE not later than noon on Tuesday 19 June 2012.

# Voting Paper for Council Election 2012

## Box A.

Name (capitals) \_\_\_\_\_ Membership No. \_\_\_\_\_

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(as shown on your membership card)

Address (capitals) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

(if signing on behalf of a member organisation, name of society or organisation

\_\_\_\_\_ )

**EITHER**

## Box B. I WISH TO VOTE FOR THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES

Place a cross [X] against up to three candidates of your choice. Do not vote for more than three candidates or your paper will be invalid. Candidates appear in alphabetical order:

Neil Lucas

Mark Porter

Alison Ward

Jon Wheatley

**Note:** Only complete this section if you do **not** wish to appoint the President to vote on your behalf.

**OR**

## Box C. I WISH THE PRESIDENT TO CAST MY VOTE AT HER DISCRETION

On the advice of the RHS Nominations, Appointments and Governance Committee, Council has decided to give its support to the following candidates: Neil Lucas, Mark Porter and Jon Wheatley. The President has indicated that she expects to cast her discretionary proxy votes for these candidates.

If you wish The President to cast your vote at his discretion,  
please place a cross [X] in the adjacent box

**Note:** Only complete this section if you wish to appoint the President to vote on your behalf.

This voting paper must be received by The Secretary, The Royal Horticultural Society, c/o Electoral Reform Services, FREEPOST ND6352, 33 Clarendon Road, London, N1 1BR not later than noon on Tuesday 19 June 2012.



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- Unlimited free entry to more than **80+ UK gardens including the four RHS Gardens** (where you can also bring a family guest for free)
- Discounted tickets and special access to RHS Shows
- Gardening questions answered with personal advice from our experts and *The Garden* magazine every month (worth £51 alone)

## BENEFITS FOR YOU

To thank you for introducing a friend, you'll receive £10 worth of RHS Shop & Plant Centre vouchers.

## BENEFITS BRITAIN'S GARDENS

With every friend you introduce, you'll be helping the RHS as a charity to preserve, protect, educate and keep gardens growing.

**INVITE YOUR  
FRIENDS TO JOIN AT  
THE 4 RHS GARDENS**

\*Free entry for member one only. Free entry to a further 60 gardens only during selected periods. \*Terms and conditions: Members will receive 2 x £5 RHS Shop and Plant Centre vouchers when their friend joins at the garden. Members cannot introduce persons to membership who are already members of the RHS or who have been members within the last six months. Individual membership for the new member is £38.25 for the first year only and only when they join by Direct Debit. This 3 months free equates to 12 months for the price of 9. For full terms visit [rhs.org.uk/entry](https://rhs.org.uk/entry). These offers cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer or membership transaction and are valid until 31.01.13. New members should allow 28 days to receive their membership card and handbook. Registered charity no. 222879/SC038262. Photo credit: Jon Enoch.