



**BUCKS DISTRICT ASSOCIATION**

## **TALKS AND EVENTS PROGRAMME 2018**

The venue for our 2018 talks will be:

**The Community Centre  
Church Street  
Wingrave  
HP22 4PD.**

Talks will start at 7:30 p.m.

Talks are **FREE** to **NVS** members, non-member guests very welcome – just £3 payable at the door.

The National Vegetable Society is dedicated to advancing the culture, study and improvement of vegetables and offering help and advice to growers,

Visit our website at [www.nvsuk.org.uk](http://www.nvsuk.org.uk)

 <https://en-gb.facebook.com/nationalvegetablesociety/>

## **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March (starts at 7:00pm to accommodate AGM): "Legumes" A talk by Ian Simpson:**

Ian Simpson, one of the country's top vegetable growers and a gifted speaker has kindly agreed to travel down from Scotland to speak to our DA. Ian is renowned for the quality of his root vegetables and legumes and is a keen advocate of wherever possible using organic methods of crop protection.

## **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April: "Successional Sowing -How to grow more in less space" A talk by Chris Day:**

Well known local horticulturalist Chris Day is a hands on gardener with a passion for plants & for sharing his knowledge. Chris has enjoyed a long and varied career in horticulture & horticultural journalism & is currently employed as the Plant Publicity Manager at Buckingham Garden Centre & Nurseries.

Chris will talk about how to plan and grow crops to make the best use of a garden or allotment whatever its size.

## **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June: House and Garden visit Lamport Hall:**

Nestled in the Northamptonshire countryside, Lamport Hall began as a Tudor manor house. Development through the years has left an architectural gem, best known for its classical frontage & fine rooms. The tranquil gardens covering approximately 10 acres have developed over the years with major works being undertaken in the 1670's, 1750's and 1820's leaving a garden much changed from the original set out 450 years ago. In 2010 the walled cutting garden, thought to be one of the largest in England was replanted. Its plants & the vibrant array of colours they display are intersected by gravelled pathways, hidden doors and relaxing benches. Outside the cutting garden the gardens include extensive herbaceous borders & shrubbery walks providing all year interest.

Our tour will begin at 13:00 and costs £15.00 per person (including tea/coffee and biscuits). Tickets available from Michael Ross on a first come first served basis. Contact Michael on 01442 211728 or at mikeross4@gmail.com

## **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June from 6:00 pm. John & Jill Branham's Open Garden**

Our annual evening visit to John & Jill's garden is one of complete relaxation whilst taking in the views over the Aylesbury Vale and looking at the superb vegetables and fruit.

You are free to wander around the garden and glass-houses as you please and then enjoy a glass of wine, a cup of tea or coffee and perhaps a little cheese, whilst enjoying a chat with fellow vegetable growers.

## **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October: "Growing Under Glass" a talk by Michael Thurlow:**

Michael has been a professional gardener for thirty years working in a number of gardens including Barnsdale where he retains strong links. He was Head Gardener at Audley End House where he restored the garden from scratch using organic methods to produce fruit and vegetables from the Victorian period, including the magnificent greenhouse vines.

Michael's talk is about the best techniques to use when growing under glass or in polytunnels.

## **Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> November: "GM Crops: Saints or Satan" a talk by Professor Sandy Primrose:**

Professor Primrose trained as a microbiologist before changing his career path in 1981 to focus on biotechnology. He has run a number of high technology businesses in areas such as food biology and environmental toxicology.

For the past 14 years Sandy has run a technology consultancy. His clients include a number of diagnostic and biotechnology companies. He has been acting as an independent advisor to the Food Standards Agency and DEFRA on food authenticity and the safety of GM foods. He served on the Board of the Microbiological Research Agency and then the Board of the Health Protection Agency. Sandy also has written a number of very popular scientific textbooks on virology, gene manipulation and biotechnology as well as one on gardening.

Sandy is one of this country's leading experts on the genetic modification of plants and his talk will explain the pros & cons of this technology in language we can all understand.