



# Shade Monthly

The journal of the Shade and  
Woodland Plants Group

**Welcome to the March 2023 edition of Shade Monthly**



*Helleborus* (Rodney Davey Marbled Group) 'Illumi Lime'

## **Notes from the Editor**

### **The end of Shade Monthly**

This is the last Shade Monthly. The Committee have decided to publish 4 times a year (i.e. quarterly) in future. These will be published at the beginning of January, April, July and October.

The first of the quarterly editions will be in July.

The reason for this is that we have not been receiving enough articles to continue publishing on a monthly basis – in fact Barry Knee has been keeping the publication going single-handed over the last couple of months (and our grateful thanks to him)

This edition is comprised of notices of various kinds, but no articles.

I issue this plea on a monthly basis, but 'Shade' (now quarterly) relies on contributions from members. There is a huge body of knowledge and experience within the group, and this publication is a good way to share it. Please consider writing for us. If you have an idea but need a bit of help with the writing, please get in touch and we can work on it together.

As always, contact [jon.segar@ridgewaybarn.net](mailto:jon.segar@ridgewaybarn.net)

### **Can You Help?**

This year will be the 9th AGM of the Shade & Woodland Plants Group and we have been fortunate to have had some very dedicated committee members to ensure that everything has run smoothly. Meetings have been held in some lovely locations across the country with excellent speakers and the opportunity to acquire interesting and unusual shade-loving plants at the Rare Plant Auction and members plant sales.

We need to find a new Chairperson as Sue Lander is stepping down from the committee. We have a great deal to thank her for as she has been inspirational in organising our annual meetings and more recently the winter lectures via Zoom.

Three committee members have also left due to other commitments and we urgently need new volunteers.

The incoming Chair and committee will have the support of Diana and Wilma as Secretary and Treasurer/ Membership Secretary respectively, both founder members with a wealth of experience, as well as Jon Segar and Jan Vaughan. The roles are not onerous with most communication by email and just one committee meeting on Zoom.

If you enjoy being a member of the Group then please do consider offering your help to the Committee and get in touch with Diana Garner on [montana@cholesbury.net](mailto:montana@cholesbury.net) or Montana, Shire Lane, Cholesbury, Herts HP23 6NA.

### **Plants Needed for the Auction**

One of the highlights at the AGM day (at least it was before I became auctioneer) is the plant auction. This will probably only make sense if you are coming (you are coming, are you not?) to the event, but if you have - or can acquire) - an unusual or rare plant that you could donate...that would be fabulous.

If you have, get in touch.

### **Open Gardens**

If anyone lives near to the AGM location (see notice following) and would be prepared to open your garden at that time for members, please get in touch, preferably to Diana (contact details above)



**Notice of Ninth Meeting and AGM on  
Saturday 20 May 2023 at  
Snells Hall, East Hendred Community Centre, Church Street, East Hendred,  
Wantage, Oxfordshire OX12 8LA**

Our ninth AGM and meeting will be in East Hendred, a village about four miles east of Wantage, and four miles west of Didcot in the Vale of the White Horse. The day will start in the hall which was a Victorian school, with refreshments to welcome you after your journey from 9.30 followed by a short AGM at 10.45.

Cotswold Garden Flowers will be bringing plants for sale. There will be a Members' Plant stall as well, and an Auction for Unusual plants and a raffle.

Then British botanist, Timothy Walker is giving us a new talk on "The thoughts of a botanical gardener on the shade and woodland plants".

After enjoying the packed lunch that you brought, we have been invited to Mike and Ann Collins garden at 1 Brook Cottages, Lyford, Wantage OX12 0EQ which is medium sized and they grow an eclectic range of plants, many rare and unusual in a natural setting, from a collection of galanthus to many woodlanders from around the globe and tropical gems for the summer months. There will be home made tea and cake before your journey home.

The price for the day will be £15.00 for members of the Shade and Woodland Plants Group and £20 for non Group members. To book for the event, please email our Secretary, Diana Garner on [montana@cholesbury.net](mailto:montana@cholesbury.net) or send to Montana, Shire Lane, Cholesbury, Herts HP23 6NA giving your name, contact telephone number, email address, and HPS membership number. Electronic transfer details, which are the easiest for us to deal with and are the same as your subscription, are as follows:

Branch sort code: 52-10-19 Account number: 14891530

Account name: Shade and Woodland Plants Group

Reference: Your HPS membership number and last name

or cheques should be made payable to "HPS Shade and Woodland Plants Group".