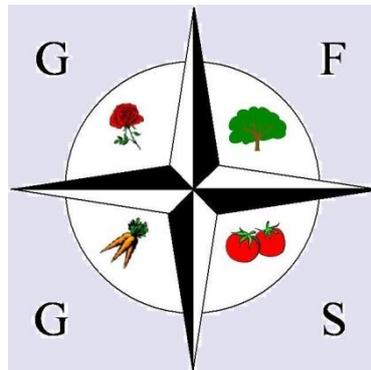


Gloucestershire Federation of Gardening Societies

Registered Charity Number 257391



Affiliated to the RHS

News Spring 2019

Spring is here.

The dew on the grass on this early morn
The scent from a freshly mown lawn
Daffodils and snowdrops, a sign of spring
What a wonderful thing.

On an early March morning
A sign that spring was here
The first cut of the season
Last year, the snow was here.

Iris Wright

*** A Reminder to Show Secretaries ***

GFGS Table Top Competition 2019

This year we are going to run the inter club 'Table Top' competition again; it should not involve any extra work for hard pressed show secretaries!

There will be two competitions, a Spring Competition and a Summer Competition. After your show has been judged you are asked to create a display on a table top using a minimum of 6 and maximum of 8 exhibits from those entered in the horticultural section of the show.

Please note the judges will not be looking at the individual plants (these will have already been judged on the day of your show) they will be looking at the overall display you have produced. There should be nothing in the display to identify your club/society and having display cards showing will distract from the display.

This display should be photographed and your best digital image and a copy of your show schedule should be emailed to the following address tabletop2019@gfgs.org.uk

The Spring Competition will run from the start of the show season until the 30th June 2019 and all entries for this competition should be submitted before the 6th July 2019, entries after this date will not be judged.

The Summer Competition will run from the 1st July 2019 until the 30th September 2019 and all entries for this competition should be submitted before the 1st October 2019, entries after this date will not be judged.

The following prizes will be awarded, £50 Gold, £30 Silver, £20 Bronze, others may be awarded at the Judge's discretion, and these prizes will be offered for both the Spring and Summer Competitions.

Both competitions will be judged by members of the GFGS Guild of Judges. (The judges will not be told which club/society has entered the image until judging has been completed)

All affiliated clubs/societies that hold shows are eligible to enter; if you hold both a Spring Show and a Summer Show you may enter both competitions.

Note - If Show Secretaries have any questions relating to the competition please use the email address above to contact us.

If you would like to advertise your club/society's show or event please send a copy of your Show Poster/Schedule or Event information by email to, secretary@gfgs.org.uk or by snail mail to,

Rod Wells, 15 Lapwing Close, Tewkesbury, Glos., GL20 8TN.

Jottings from Hawkesbury...

In October we had Katherine Kear talking about 'A Victorian Christmas' and in November we had Alison Barnes on 'The History and Practice of Botanical Art'.

Two very interesting talks to close the year. And the club.

Yes, that's right. No more Hawkesbury Gardening Club. We lasted for 10 years and had a lot of fun but nothing lasts forever.

As a punishment for failing to reach our centenary the committee will be subject to 40 lashes (collectively I hope) with a wet frog administered by Miss Hazel Whip from Lower Woods.

But we cannot go without offering a little gardening advice, so here goes - What are the 5 best controls for slugs and snails?

- Slug pellets.
- Nematodes (Not to be confused with common toads and other amphibians.)
- Ducks and Geese. (Mr. Fox likes these, but if you can keep him away then you might get some tasty roasts for yourself later on.)
- Copper bands. (Relieves rheumatism so I'm told. I've never seen a slug with rheumatism, have you?)
- Collecting them by hand, usually at night. (Yeuchh!)
-

One thing for sure is that sand, grit and crushed eggshells have very little long term effect. Apparently when slugs come across a ring of these things they know that there is something tasty in the middle. It's like putting up a sign saying 'Free Food Here!'

And so it's Goodbye from me and it's Goodbye from them and thank you very much for your patience.

Terry Truebody

Hallow Horticultural Society Spring Show

From 2pm on Saturday 30th March 2019

Parish Hall

Main Road, Hallow, Worcester

WR2 6LD

For further information visit

www.hallowgardeners.co.uk

Show schedule available to download at

<http://www.gfgs.org.uk/shows/schedules/hallowspringshowschedule2019.pdf>

PARISH PLANT NOTES

“Space, the final frontier...”

If you, like me, cannot resist buying new perennial plants, or growing new ones from seed, there comes (all too soon) a time when the finiteness of our garden space becomes frustrating.

This must be a chronic problem for the few properties in Newnham High Street that have front gardens! It then comes down to “one in, one out” if you decide in favour of your new purchase.

Despite knowing full well that there is no room for it, the common or garden plantaholic cannot resist the buy-me lure of a new find. This addiction is especially likely to surface when the days are lengthening, the sap is rising and a new growing season is starting.

One, temporary, tactic is to use containers - but containers don't suit some plants and just how many containers are you prepared to go around watering?

At this time of year, the herbaceous perennials that we cut down during the winter are at their smallest and you can see bare earth between crowns.

Tempting then, to squeeze in another plant or two. Not good! There will be more competition amongst their roots, so they struggle for enough food and water. Also, as the old and new plants grow, their foliage will be too crowded and you may lose sight and memory of what's where and be too late to save a plant hidden from the sunlight by the stems and leaves of another.

This harsh, survival-of-the-fittest situation favours strong growers, not “choice” plants. Curb your enthusiasm!

LSB Newnham Garden Club

~~~~~

## Wotton Gardening Club Spring Show & Plant Sale

Saturday 9th April 2019  
11.00am - 1.00pm

Wotton-under-Edge Town Hall  
Market Street, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire

Further information from the Show Secretary, Sue Laing 01453 842489



ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY

COTSWOLD & MALVERN GROUP

## SPRING SHOW & PLANT SALE

Hartpury Village Hall  
Over Old Road  
Hartpury  
Gloucestershire  
GL19 3FD

EASTER MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> APRIL 2019

Admission £3.00 single £5.00 couple\*

\*AGS Members & Accompanied Children Free

Show Schedule available to download at

<http://www.gfgs.org.uk/shows/schedules/alpineshowschedule2019.pdf>

---

### St Michael's Hospice Plant Fair

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May & Saturday 4th May 2019  
10.30am - 4.00pm

St Michael's Hospice  
Bartestree, Hereford, HR1 4HA

Plant lovers can browse a wide range of herbaceous perennials, bedding plants, annuals, trees, shrubs, alpines, bulbs, carnivorous and indoor plants grown by professional and amateur gardeners. In addition to plants, there will be fresh organic vegetable boxes, strawberries and asparagus; beautiful handcrafted wooden jewellery and home decor; cards, prints, coasters and mugs; wild bird food; and pottery and preserves. Something for everyone!

Refreshments will be available in our newly-refurbished cafe, all day on both days. Delicious two-course lunches will be served between 12pm and 2pm each day.

Free Entry

Further details at <http://www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk/plant-fair>

## Gardeners' Question Time

A Cirencester Civic Society event raising funds for The Churn Project Cirencester

Tuesday 14th May 2019  
7.30pm

Cirencester Baptist Church  
Chesterton Lane  
Cirencester  
GL7 1YE

A chance to put your questions to a panel of experts including,  
Anne Chambers (Kiftsgate Court Gardens), Derry Watkins (Special Plants)  
and Val Bourne (Country Life).

Refreshments, raffle and plants for sale.

Tickets £10 (including refreshments)

In advance from Cirencester Town Council, The Churn Project  
or telephone 01285 380038

---

## Bristol Cactus Societies

### Show and Exhibition of Cacti & Succulents

Saturday 25th May 2019  
10.30am - 5.00pm

Filton Community Centre  
Elm Park, Filton, Bristol  
BS34 7PS

For a show schedule/entry form please email Pete Belcher  
[pete.belcher@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:pete.belcher@blueyonder.co.uk)

British Cactus & Succulent Society - Gloucester & District Branch

## Cactus Show

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2019

11am – 4pm

Shurdington Social Centre, Bishop Road, Shurdington, GL51 4TB

Admission £1

Plants for Sale – Light Refreshments – Plant Advice

[www.gloucester.bcsc.org.uk](http://www.gloucester.bcsc.org.uk)

---

## Ashton under Hill Open Gardens

Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th June 2019

1.00pm - 6.00pm

Ashton under Hill  
Nr Evesham  
Worcestershire  
WR11 7SW

Since 1977 we have welcomed visitors from the UK and all over the world to our annual Open Gardens Weekend here in Ashton under Hill. They come to enjoy a wide variety of gardens and the friendly atmosphere of this beautiful Worcestershire village, situated in the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, on the edge of Bredon Hill. We expect to have at least 25 gardens open for you to see. If you've been before, we'd love to welcome you back, and if you've never visited us why not come along?

Entry price: Adults £6.00 Children free, Discounts available for larger parties

Refreshments, stalls and exhibitions, Tickets are valid for both days, Free parking in the village.

Further details at [www.ashtonopengardens.co.uk](http://www.ashtonopengardens.co.uk)

## Newent Gardening Club Plant Sale

Saturday 15th June 2019  
09.30am - 12.30pm

Newent Memorial Hall  
Bury Bar Lane, Newent  
Gloucestershire  
GL18 1PT

Refreshments available, as well as lots of plants for sale!

For further details contact Angela Danby on 01531 820761 or email  
[newentgardeningclub@gmail.com](mailto:newentgardeningclub@gmail.com)

---

## Churchdown Horticultural Society Members' Rose & Sweet Pea Show

Thursday 20th June 2019  
7:15pm

Churchdown Community Centre  
Parton Road, Churchdown, Gloucester  
GL3 2JH

Further information from Rebecca Henwood [churchdown.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:churchdown.secretary@gmail.com)

---

## Usk Open Gardens

Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th June 2019  
10.00am - 5.00pm

Usk, Monmouthshire

Usk is a picturesque little town on the river of the same name. For 24 years, we have held an Open Gardens weekend, when over 20 private gardens are open to the public - from small but beautifully planted plots, to the impressive sweep of the borders at Usk Castle. We welcome visitors from far and wide, and many make it an annual treat. There is also a Gardeners' Market with plant stalls, riverside walks, and lots of quaint pubs and cafes or picnic spots for lunch. Free town car parks, where the tickets are on sale.

For more information visit <https://www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/15056/>

Bristol Cactus Society

Tom Mogg Memorial Meeting - Mr Graham Charles talking about 'Gymnocalyciums'

Saturday 6th July 2019

2.30pm

St Stephens Church Common Room

St Stephen Street, Bristol

BS1 1EQ

All welcome - Visitors £3.00

---

## Winchcombe Gardening Club Annual Show & Plant Sale

Saturday 13th July 2019

10.30am - 12.30pm

The Methodist Church Hall

High Street, Winchcombe, Gloucestershire

GL54 5BT

For further information please contact Diggory Davies [diggory.jane@gmail.com](mailto:diggory.jane@gmail.com)

---

## Cotswold Fuchsia & Pelargonium Society

### Annual Fuchsia & Pelargonium Show

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2019

1.00pm - 4.00pm

Shurdington Social Centre,

Bishop Road (off Church Lane), Shurdington, Gloucestershire, GL51 4TB

Further information from the Show Secretary, 15 Dunster Road, Springbank,

Cheltenham, GL51 0NL or email [casallot15@gmail.com](mailto:casallot15@gmail.com)

# Gloucestershire Federation of Gardening Societies

## 9th Annual Open Sweet Pea Show

(In conjunction with the Cotswold Fuchsia & Pelargonium Society Annual Fuchsia & Pelargonium Show)

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2019

1.00pm - 4.00pm

Shurdington Social Centre

Bishop Road (off Church Lane), Shurdington, Gloucestershire, GL51 4TB

Further information from the Show Secretary, 15 Dunster Road, Springbank,

Cheltenham, GL51 0NL or email [casallot15@gmail.com](mailto:casallot15@gmail.com)

Download a Show Schedule

<http://www.gfgs.org.uk/shows/schedules/opensweetpeaschedule2019.pdf>

Download an Advice Sheet on Showing Sweet Peas

[www.gfgs.org.uk/shows/schedules/showingsweetpeas.pdf](http://www.gfgs.org.uk/shows/schedules/showingsweetpeas.pdf)

---

## Churchdown Horticultural Society 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Show

Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2019  
from 2:00pm

Churchdown Community Centre

Parton Road, Churchdown, Gloucester, GL3 2JH

Further information from Rebecca Henwood [churchdown.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:churchdown.secretary@gmail.com)

# Gloucester Amateur Gardening Society 34th Annual Horticultural Show

Saturday 31st August 2019

St Georges Church Centre  
Grange Road, Tuffley, Gloucester  
GL4 0PE

Further information please contact our Secretary R Fox on 01452 303409

~~~~~  
For further details regarding shows or events please visit

<http://www.gfgs.org.uk/shows/default.htm>

or

<http://www.gfgs.org.uk/events/default.htm>
~~~~~

## GFGS Guild of Judges Meetings 2019

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019 – Subject TBA

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2019 - Judging GFGS Spring Table Top Competition Entries

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2019 - Judging GFGS Summer Table Top Competition Entries

Meetings 2pm - 4pm in the skittle alley at the

Avenue Hotel, 227 Bristol Road, Gloucester, GL1 5TH

(Car park off Tuffley Avenue)

If you have an interest in becoming a judge or just an interest in the subject of the meeting please feel free to attend, although it would be helpful if we knew you were coming!

No previous experience needed so why not come along and find out all about becoming a judge?

Further details at [www.gfgs.org.uk](http://www.gfgs.org.uk) or email [guildofjudges@gfgs.org.uk](mailto:guildofjudges@gfgs.org.uk).

## NEW SPEAKERS

# Jonathan King

Chartered Landscape Architect

BA (Hons) DipLA CMLI MIHort

23 Ham Close, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL52 6NP

M: 07596 488531 W: [www.jkd-studio.co.uk](http://www.jkd-studio.co.uk) E: [JKDStudio800@gmail.com](mailto:JKDStudio800@gmail.com)

### Title: **15 years in China – a Journey of Landscape and Learning**

“In 2002, having left my previous position in Jersey, Channel Islands, I boarded a flight to Hong Kong into a new world of high paced urban development and unknown adventures – final destination Peoples Republic of China. This journey charts my experiences through landscape architecture involving a multitude of project types and scales, from large urban masterplans to small show gardens and everything in between”.

The frightening pace of development within Chinese cities is viewed through the eyes of a landscape architect and aims to shine a window of light on the heyday that put design professionals of all types at the forefront of the development bandwagon. The aim is to illustrate how landscape design can play a significant role in the creation of liveable cities and communities in China in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. By means of a contrast with the high pace of urban landscape design, some examples of traditional Chinese gardens are included to show the need for tranquil refuges and how some of those traditional design principles can be adapted and applied to contemporary design.

- Fee – only travel expenses to cover cost required.
- Travel – throughout Gloucestershire and surrounding areas.
- Equipment – projector required.
- Availability - any time to suit
- Talk time can be tailored to 30, 45 or 60 minutes as necessary. The talk is well illustrated with sketches, rendered plans, 3D perspectives and completed images illustrating design stages from Inception to Completion.

#### Additional Information

Jonathan King has over 20 years of landscape design experience in United Kingdom and overseas. Having undertaken undergraduate and post graduate studies at Cheltenham and Gloucester College of Higher Education from 1991 through to 1996, Jonathan decided that working as a Landscape Architect overseas held much appeal and spent 2 years working in Malaysia getting an initial flavour of working abroad. During the 15 years in China from 2002 onwards, he worked for a number of international design firms culminating in spending 9 years as Director for the Shanghai studio of ACLA (formerly Cloustons Far East). In 2018, he returned to the United Kingdom with his young family, setting up his own landscape and garden design practice in Cheltenham.



jonathan king design

landscape architecture : garden design

Kevin Alviti  
3 Glebe Cottage, Colwall, Malvern, WR13 6HJ  
Telephone: 01684 541372  
Email: [kevalviti@hotmail.com](mailto:kevalviti@hotmail.com)  
Website: [www.englishhomestead.com](http://www.englishhomestead.com)

#### Titles of talk(s)

- Unusual fruit and vegetables
- Preserving the harvest

All talks are extensively illustrated with digital images.

- Fee: £75 plus 40p per mile
- Travel - Within an hour of WR13
- All own equipment provided.                      Availability: any time normally

With my young family we try to live as self-sufficiently as possible from our smallholding at the foot of the Malverns. We grow much of our own fruit and veg from our large vegetable garden and produce a lot of our own meat from the land. I'm passionate about producing as much as we can from here and the children are involved with everything we do.

I'm a hugely enthusiastic speaker and love to share my passion for what I do. I pull on my own experiences and include many anecdotes about living the good life.

"You inspired, informed and entertained" - Herefordshire Seed Swap  
"An excellent talk - something quite different!" - Hamnish Garden Club

## Situations Still Vacant..!

When I took on the position of General Secretary I did it on the understanding that I would not produce the Federations 'Newsletter' or 'Speakers List'.

This newsletter will be the fourth I've produced and as you know the latest speakers list has been distributed.

So we are looking for a 'Newsletter Editor' and 'Speakers List Editor', at the moment the newsletter is published twice a year in Spring and Autumn, and the speakers list every other year with amendments in the interim period published in the newsletters.

Although volunteers would be welcomed on to the Executive it is not a prerequisite of taking on either of these positions.

If one of these jobs is something you think you could do to support your Federation and would like more information please contact me.

Having considered the content of this newsletter, I debate if it's really worthwhile as most of the information it contains is also on the website. This newsletter will be out of date the day after it's published but the website (I hope) will always be kept up to date!

Rod Wells.

## GFGS Website

The website is there for the benefit of all member clubs/society's if you haven't got your own club/society website please make use of the Federations' to publicise your club/society and its shows, events and activities. A number of clubs/societies without their own website still have no entry on the Federation website!

I've been trying to get clubs/society's to find someone who is computer literate (I don't mean an expert - as we all know an 'ex' is a has been and a 'spurt' is a drip under pressure!) in the use of email and 'Word' or similar, so that they can keep an eye on their club/society page and liaise with us so it is kept up to date.

This is important as I'm not in a position to monitor every club/society's page and if your published programmes etc. are out of date they will remain out of date unless you tell me?

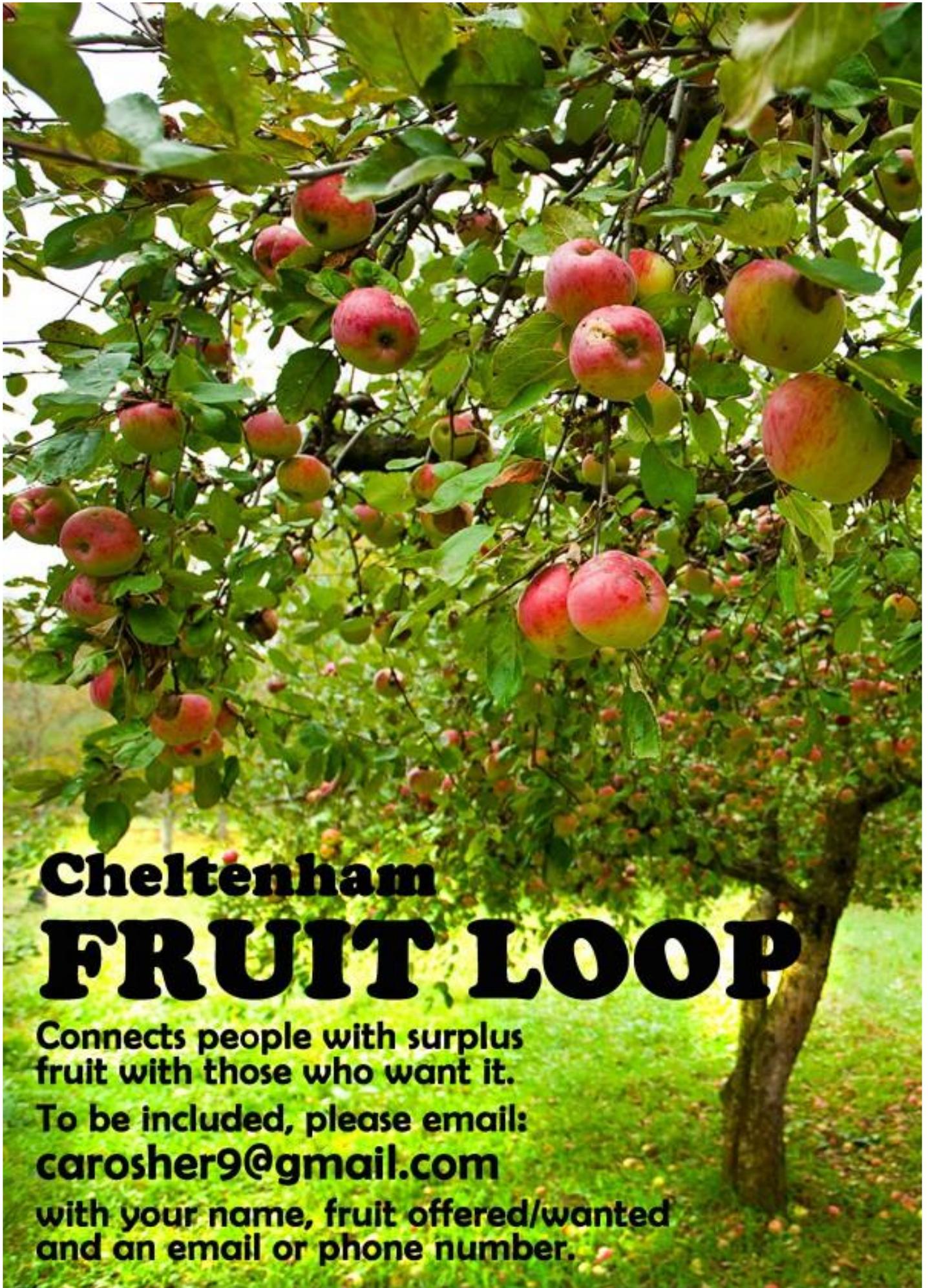
Rod Wells.

## Direct to YOUR Inbox?

If any of your members would like to receive information that may be of interest to them (gardening related) from the Federation direct to their inbox please ask them to send an email to

[secretary@gfgs.org.uk](mailto:secretary@gfgs.org.uk)

Simply asking to join our email list.



# **Cheltenham FRUIT LOOP**

**Connects people with surplus  
fruit with those who want it.**

**To be included, please email:  
[carosher9@gmail.com](mailto:carosher9@gmail.com)**

**with your name, fruit offered/wanted  
and an email or phone number.**