

Friends of Morrab Garden

# Newsletter

No. 5 Winter 2017



## Welcome to our latest newsletter covering Autumn, Winter and Christmas

So, what's been happening in the garden

The AGM on 4 October 2017 hosted at Dave and Lizzie Puddifoot's delightful home, was well attended. Rosie, Chair gave an interesting annual report which showed a very successful year for both funds and membership which now stands at a whopping 122, as well as the many events and outings enjoyed.

The Friends bought another batch of special plants worth £1,000 to replace those lost in storms and bad weather and talking of plants, we have launched a new scheme **BUY A PLANT AND SHAPE THE GARDEN**. This has been well supported already and is proving popular.

You can purchase a plant (or plants) chosen by Joe the Head Gardener, and once in situ, you will be notified of where it (they) is (are) in the garden. You can rest assured that "your plant" will be well looked after and grow to maturity, adding to the beauty of the garden. Why not get one as a gift for Christmas, someone's birthday or an anniversary. To participate in this scheme or for further details please contact Alan Jones (Treasurer Friends of Morrab Gardens [alan.jones@btinternet.com](mailto:alan.jones@btinternet.com)) An example of plants with prices:-

Azalea or Dahlia £10.00, Viburnum or Pomegranate £15.00, Embotrium Chilean Firebush or Heiwingia £20.00, Protea £25.00, Rhododendron macabeanum £40.00 Taxodium (Swamp cypress)£50.00, Juglans (Walnut) £55.00, Magnolia acuminate Blue Opal £65.00.



## Lottery Boost to Trust's Morrab Gardens project

The Gardeners' House Project to turn the old building next to Morrab Library into a community resource and learning centre focusing on Cornwall's contribution to natural history and environment is being championed by a team of partners including the Hypatia Trust, Friends of Morrab Gardens, Penzance Town Council, The Tanner Trust and Cornwall Council now looks a definite possibility as the first amount of £70,100 has been granted by the Heritage Lottery Fund. The next stage is to write and submit a detailed management plan and if this is accepted by the HLF, they will award the final grant so the renovation and transformation of this historical building can begin.

This project has been a good few years in the making and a huge amount of work has been done already. Everyone involved is very excited so fingers and toes crossed !!

We will keep you updated in future newsletters but there will be progress reports in the Cornishman and on our Facebook page.



### NEW GLASSHOUSE

The new glasshouse bought by the Friends has been put to great use. In the summer it was filled with a variety of delicious tomatoes which were sold to boost funds. Currently it is being used to over-winter a variety of tender plants.

Councillor Jim McKenna granted £200 for seating for the new Children's Zone and this will now provide an "outdoor classroom" with seats as well as a place where the children can search for all the mini-beasts, and funnily enough, they are not at all squeamish.

Joe now has a new lawnmower (he loves his striped lawns) and leaf vacuum and blower - Thanks Cormac.

### PLANT PROPAGATION WORKSHOP

If you want to make lots of lovely new plants for your own garden or to give away to friends and family you can come along to our "How to Propagate" course sometime in 2018. Date and time to be advised.

Head Gardener Joe and his team will show you just how easy it is to do once you know how and it will not only save you ££££s it will add to your horticultural skills. Please bring secateurs suitable for cutting plant stems etc. Meet in the greenhouse in the nursery area.

Thanks to everyone who came along for our "Weeding Session" on 5 November 17 to clear out the 5 flower beds around the bandstand.

One of these beds will be planted with yellow and gold flowers which will bloom in September 2018 supporting **Glow Gold September** campaign for Childhood Cancer Awareness where public gardens and parks create a Garden of Gold with a display of yellow and gold flowers.

The Olea Olive Trees provided by Trevenna Cross Nursery and funded by Friends of Morrab Gardens are thriving and add a mediterranean ambience.

The Friends are very grateful for the help and support they are given by local nurseries (by granting significant discounts, waiving charges and outright donations. Listed below are some examples of that support.

**Burncoose Nurseries**

- ⑩ Edgeworthia chrysantha, an unusual shrub just starting to produce buds which will flower in the winter on bare stems.
- ⑩ Clematis armandii, an evergreen flowering in Spring.
- ⑩ Syringa microphylla, a dwarf lilac flowering in Spring and as in Morrab Garden, early Autumn.
- ⑩ Davidia involucrata, the Handkerchief tree.
- ⑩ Trachelosperum jasminoides, Star Jasmine
- ⑩ Selection of daffodils

**Trevenna Cross Nursery**

- ⑩ Olea Olive Trees

**Fentongollan Flower Farm**

- ⑩ Selection of daffodils



Late



Summer with the Banana Plant still going strong in its sheltered spot

**BRING**



**AND**

SHARE FOOD AND WINE  
**Friends of Morrab Gardens Christmas Party**  
FRIDAY 8 DECEMBER 2017 AT 7PM  
AT JANE SCOTT'S HOUSE, 11 REGENT TERRACE, PENZANCE TR18 4DW  
RSVP BY 1 DECEMBER  
PHONE JANE 01736 362899  
EMAIL [jackie.mace3@sky.com](mailto:jackie.mace3@sky.com)



Above is an old photograph showing a Christmas scene at Morrab Gardens. You can just see the old cast iron Victorian shelter in the background where Pengarth now stands. The original Victorian fountain with the pond granite coping stones are still there today.

*Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year to you all*