

Lavant Horticultural Society

'Drought Tolerant Plants' *Steve Edney*

Wednesday 12th April 2023

Steve serves on the RHS Herbaceous committee and won a Gold medal at Chelsea Flower Show in 2019. He gave us an excellent talk which was greatly enjoyed by the large number of members (and visitors) who came to the meeting. He was a very knowledgeable and entertaining speaker who has been a dedicated horticulturalist since leaving school. He had a variety of jobs culminating in his appointment as Head Gardener at The Salutation, a home with 3.5 acres of walled gardens which subsequently became a hotel but then went into administration with all the staff being made redundant.

Steve together with his partner, Louise Dowle, then set up the [No Name Nursery](#) in Sandwich.

The site – which is off-grid – is intended to be as low maintenance and sustainable as possible, with minimum watering. Its location on the East Kent coast has some of the highest sunshine hours and lowest rainfall in the country, similar to South Sudan and Jerusalem. Last year, they only watered three times!

Steve talked about many different plants and left a list of those recommended for drought conditions: [click here](#). They also brought a number of plants from the nursery which were eagerly purchased by members of the audience.

Steve Edney holds four national collections of plants and spoke about what is involved and how one qualifies for this role which was very interesting.