

**WALTHAM GARDENERS' SOCIETY
and Surrounding Villages**

**Principles of Garden Design
by Caroline Halfpenny
Tuesday 12th September 2017**

Caroline Halfpenny a former lecturer at Hadlow College on garden design provided a superbly polished presentation on garden design illustrated with some stunning images of beautiful gardens.

She admitted she was obsessed with colour and illustrated her passion with images of Great Dixter, Keukenhof and Monet's Garden where she had worked but returned to the basic principles which she outlined as:

Harmony
Rhythm
Balance
Unity
Style or Theme

Caroline took us through each of these principles with illustrations. How to create Balance with form or colour and symmetry and optical illusions. Rhythm by repeating features of colour or shape.

Style or Theme in many forms from Monet's messy garden to Villandre's meticulous plan.

Caroline identified colour as a key ingredient of Harmony, Rhythm and Style explaining how white will blend colours together, repetition of a colour within mixed colours enhances Rhythm and blue forming a background to more vibrant colours.

Other ideas including texture, shape and line, framing and hidden areas were illustrated to give an idea of how to create that special garden be it a postage stamp or vast expanse. Caroline suggested for most impact always use plants in 3's or 5's and of course understanding the vagaries of plants on different soils and their suitability for your environment.

Caroline's talk brings to an end the talks for this year.

But a final reminder to members and non members for the **A.G.M. and Social on Tuesday 14th November at Waltham Village Hall, 7.00 or 7.30 p.m.** and enjoy refreshments at the conclusion of the formal business.

We look forward to seeing you there.