

Peterborough Horticultural Society

Volume 164 **November 2025** Number 9

**Wednesday November 26, 2025 @ 7pm, at the Lion's Centre:
Winter Tree Identification**

Please note: this month's meeting is in person only; no Zoom or live stream



When the leaves are gone, how do we know "what tree is that?" In this presentation you will learn which features can be used to identify local area native trees in winter. You will learn to hone your powers of observation and how to use resources like a dichotomous key to identify the diversity of trees around us.

Silvia has both a Bachelor and Master of Science in Forestry. She retired from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry in 2022 after a 36-year career. In her early career, she conducted science experiments, developed programs, and transferred knowledge through presentations and written materials. Later she managed multi-disciplinary teams that did similar work.

Silvia lives in the rural community of Apsley where she enjoys spending time in the many nearby natural areas as well as volunteering with the Peterborough & Area Master Gardeners, Kawartha Land Trust, and the Lakefield Horticultural Society.

Remember – you can bring a friend to the meeting for only \$5

President's Message – November 2025

As another gardening year draws to a close, we can look back to appreciate all that has bloomed, both in our gardens and within our Society. November reminds us to pause, reflect, and appreciate the beauty that lingers even as the growing season rests.

Thank you to everyone who shared their time, energy, and knowledge throughout the year, whether at meetings, garden shows or bus tours. Your enthusiasm keeps our society vibrant and growing.

As the last leaves fall and the frost settles in, we can take comfort in knowing that beneath the surface, next year's growth is already preparing to emerge. Take this quieter season to rest, plan, and dream of new plantings and possibilities.

We hope you will join us for Silvia Strobl's talk on "Winter Tree Identification" followed by our Annual General Meeting on November 26th. If you are interested in receiving our financial statement ahead of time, please let me know.

On behalf of the Board, I wish you a warm and peaceful winter. We look forward to gathering again in the new year to share ideas, celebrate successes, and, of course, dig into another wonderful season of gardening together.

Reminder – January and February meetings occur on Zoom.

❖ **Anne Trudel-Inglis**
PHS President



Meet the Team Behind the Green

Peterborough Horticultural Society Officers & Directors 2025 – 2026

Officers

President:	Anne Trudel-Inglis
Vice-President:	Jennifer Shaw
Secretary:	Mary-Kathleen (Mary-K) Dunn
Treasurer:	Mary-Rose Daigle
Past President:	Mary-Jane (MJ) Pilgrim

Two Year Directors:

Marjorie Vendrig
Amanda Barrett

One Year Directors:

Laura Jack
Maura Holek

Invasive Species Awareness

Japanese Knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*)

Japanese Knotweed is an invasive, perennial herbaceous plant that is also known as Mexican Bamboo, Fleeceflower, Japanese Polygonum or Huzhang. It is listed as one of the world's top 100 invasive species.

Japanese Knotweed is native to eastern Asia (Japan, Korea, China and Taiwan). It was introduced to North America as a horticultural plant in the late 19th century and was widely planted as an ornamental, for the purposes of erosion control, and as forage for livestock. It has escaped cultivation to become an aggressive invader in North America as well as Europe, Australia, and New Zealand. The first record of Japanese Knotweed in Ontario is from 1901, in Niagara Falls and is now reported in many locations throughout southern Ontario, and as far north as Thunder Bay.



Leaves: When the plant is in foliage, Japanese Knotweed leaves are bright green and feature a signature shield or heart-shaped leaf. Each leaf has a pointed end and is arranged at staggered intervals along the stem.



Knotweed leaves are designed to deliver energy to the plant's rhizome system and encourage more growth at a later time. Some of the main characteristics of Knotweed leaves to look out for are:

- Heart shaped with a pointed tip
- Alternate growth pattern
- Bright Green in the Summer
- Vivid yellow in the Fall
- Grow up to 20cm in length

Flower: Japanese Knotweed can be identified by its creamy-white coloured flowers (panicles) that bloom as clusters between late August and mid-September. Japanese Knotweed flowers grow up to 10cm long and 0.5cm wide alongside the leaf foliage, creating a dense appearance that often blocks the distinctive stems from view. A flowering Japanese Knotweed plant is a sign that it is well established and could therefore be a challenge to remove. Identifying and treating the plant before it reaches the flowering stage in late summer can prevent a longer-term infestation.



Seeds: Japanese Knotweed has heart-shaped seeds that feature small wings. New growth from seeds is very rare for the most part, Japanese Knotweed has been spread throughout the country by the transportation or fragmentation of its rhizomes. The rhizomes are effectively the plant's root systems, with a fragment of the rhizome capable of generating an entirely new plant if given the proper conditions.





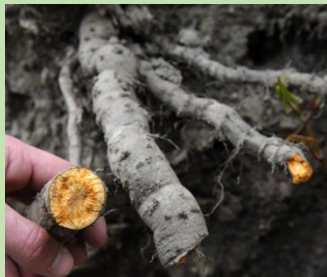
Shoots: Japanese Knotweed shoots look similar to canes and grow in clearly defined segments with a hollow centre. Some key features to look out for when identifying Japanese Knotweed shoots are:

- They grow up to 2-3 meters in height
- Inside the stem is hollow
- Coloured red in Spring
- Coloured green in Summer
- Similar appearance to Bamboo shoots



(Young stems resemble asparagus and are purple in colour)

Roots: Japanese Knotweed has a robust root system that is comprised of a network of rhizomes. These tough, woody roots can be collected together in large crowns which can be difficult to remove from the ground without the help of machinery. When identifying Japanese Knotweed Roots, look out for:



- Dark brown colouring on the outside
- Orange colouring inside
- Easily breakable
- Burrow up to 3 metres deep into the ground with individual rhizomes growing up to 20cm thick.

Control Method: Control measures must be continued for at least 5 years to ensure that the rhizome is depleted. Many of these measures, if only done once, will actually increase densities by stimulating growth through disturbance. If an area is cleared of Japanese Knotweed plants, it should be re-planted immediately with a cover crop or covered with leaves or mulch to prevent other invasive plants from germinating in the disturbed soil.

Manual - Digging young plants (including rhizomes) can eradicate new or early infestations. Japanese Knotweed has a large and dense root system and will quickly re-sprout when pulled or dug if the roots are not completely removed. Using a restoration plan with this method will prevent additional invasive species from becoming established in areas disturbed by digging/pulling efforts.

Chemical Control Herbicide - Application Herbicides must be applied in accordance with all label directions. For an up-to-date list of herbicides labelled for Japanese Knotweed control, visit the Pest Management Regulatory Agency's web site at www.pmr-arla.gc.ca. The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)'s Publication 75, Guide to Weed Control is an excellent reference for all aspects of weed control and includes a section on invasive plant management.

❖ **Anne Trudel-Inglis**

Sources:

<https://www.knotweedhelp.com/japanese-knotweed-guide/how-to-identify-knotweed/#:~:text=CC%20BY%202.0-.Leaves,last%20through%20the%20colder%20months.>
<https://www.invadingspecies.com/invaders/plants/japanese-knotweed-2/>
https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Japanese_Knotweed_Technical_Bulletin_FINAL-1.pdf
<file:///Users/annem.trudel-inglis/Downloads/Japanese.Knotweed-Best.Management.Practices.pdf>

Our Christmas Giving Tables

The November 26th meeting will have a special table for members to donate non-perishable foods, cash, warm socks, hats, mittens and other items.

The hustle and bustle of Christmas Shopping is upon us, and as in other years the generous members of Peterborough Horticultural Society remember those less fortunate.



In past years we have brought warm socks, hats and mittens for men, women and children, to this very special meeting. Last year we donated: 41 pairs of mitts/gloves, 90 pairs of socks, 11 scarves, 123 hats/toques, 4 pairs slippers, 8 pairs Hot Paws. These items are distributed to the Brock Mission, Cameron House for Women and Children, Y.E.S. and last year we had so much we added One Roof.

Non-perishable foods are always needed so we tried something new; monetary donations to enable KAWARTHA FOOD SHARE to buy approximately 4 dollars of food for every dollar we donate. This was a huge success last year and I delivered 74 pounds of food and a grand total of \$371.00 to them....let's see if we can beat that total this year!



Also on this night, our Hospitality Table is complimentary when members bring in a small sampling of their favorite Christmas baking. Leftover goodies are taken to Brock Mission, and all these items are so appreciated.

Wishing you all a Wonderful Christmas and thanking you all for your continued generosity.

PHS Board



PHS 2025 Annual General Meeting
November 26th after our main speaker.

Meeting Agenda:

1. Peterborough Horticultural Society Objectives
2. 2024 AGM Minutes Review and Motion to Approve
3. 2024-2025 Financial review and Motion to Approve
4. 2024-2025 Financial Certificate Motion to Approve
5. Motion to Approval Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Auditors
6. 2026 President's Report and Motion to Approve
7. Recognition of 2024-2025 Board Members
8. Installation of 2025 – 2026 Officers & Directors

Peterborough Horticultural Society Annual General Meeting Minutes, Nov.27, 2024

1. Call to Order 8:05 pm

2. Approvals:

Motion (1): To approve the **Minutes of the PHS AGM of November 22, 2023**
Approved by Mary-Jane Pilgrim and Gladys Fowler. Majority Agree.

Motion (2): To approve the **Treasurer's Report**.
Approved by Jennifer Shaw and Sally Rye. Majority Agree.

Motion (3): That Claire Sullivan and Calvin Stillman be appointed to perform a **financial review audit** as of August 31, 2024
Approved by Pauline Drake and Jim Falls. Majority Agree.

Motion (4): To approve the **actions and decisions of the Executive** for the past year.
Approved by Janice Matthews and Anne Craig. Majority Agree.

Motion (5): To approve the **actions and decisions of the Board of Directors** for the past year. Approved by Fred Doris and Nancy Weller-McCracken. Majority Agree.

Motion (6): To accept the **President's Report as written** by Anne Trudel-Inglis
Accepted by Mary-Jane Pilgrim and Jim Falls. Majority Agree.

3. Recognition of Outgoing Board Members and Incoming Board Nominations:

Annie English, Director of Hospitality and Anita Clifford, Director of Flower Shows, Plant Sale, Door Prizes.

4. Presentation of Officers of the Peterborough Horticultural Society 2024-2025 Board:

PRESIDENT – **Anne Trudel-Inglis**
VICE-PRESIDENT – Vacant
SECRETARY* – **Sandra Caswell**
TREASURER* – **Mary-Rose Daigle**
PAST PRESIDENT – **MJ Pilgrim**

DIRECTORS **Sandra Caswell**
Maura Holek
Laura Jack
Jennifer Shaw
Marjorie Vendrig
2 vacancies

****The Secretary and Treasurer positions are appointed positions.**

Kathy Allam, District 4 Secretary, was in attendance to 'install' the 2025-26 Board and officers.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM on November 27, 2024 (moved by Calvin Stillman and seconded by Diane Raper).

September Bus Trip to Royal Botanical Gardens

On September 16, a large group of happy gardeners boarded a bus in Peterborough and travelled to the Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) in Burlington. During a brief period in September RBG was a venue for *Fleurs de Villes Downton Abbey*, where floral artistry was used to celebrate the aristocratic Grantham family and their loyal servants in 20th century England. The Peterborough Horticultural Society arranged the trip, which included box lunches and an afternoon shopping trip to Northland Nursery in Millgrove, Ontario.



Tom and Lucy Branson

RBG is a real treasure, at any time of the year. With the added treat of the Downton Abbey extravaganza, it was a unique experience. Floral designers from the GTA were given a picture of one of the Downton Abbey characters and invited to 'dress' a mannequin representing the character in a floral outfit. The results were fascinating, intricate in their creativity, and unique in the plant selections. It was a sight to behold.



The gardens at RBG are full of interest any time of the year with beautiful trees and shrubs, an informative rose garden, beautiful beds of perennials and annuals, and a world-class sculpture garden. Full of inspired gardeners, the bus left RBG shortly after lunch and headed to Northland Nursery where we got a chance to roam through row after row of well-tended, interesting perennials and shrubs. The cost of each pot was \$9.99, an additional bonus to an already bountiful day. Needless to say, everyone picked up a few special treats and the bus was full when it was time to head home. I came away with some unique clematis, a few grasses, and some lovely pink Summersweet (*Clethra anifolia* 'Ruby Spice'). The trip was lots of fun, well-organized, a perfect end-of-summer mixture of different aspects of gardening.

The Dowager Countess of Grantham

PHS Speakers for 2025

In Person meetings at the Peterborough Lions Centre

Nov. 26: **Silvia Strobl** "Winter Tree Identification"
PHS AGM will take place after Silvia's talk

Membership reminder:

Memberships are annual, running from January to December. We will begin accepting membership payments for 2026 in January.

Also, Members should wear their nametags (or pick them up at a meeting). Anyone who is not wearing their membership tag may be asked to pay the \$5 per meeting fee.

Upcoming Events and Activities

Events

Nov. 26 - Peterborough Horticultural Society Annual General Meeting

The AGM will take place after the speaker's presentation; join us to hear about the success of the past year, plans for the future and recognition for members.

Oak Ridges Moraine Land Trust Events

Go to: <https://www.oakridgesmoraine.org/workshops-and-events> to register

Free Gardening Webinars

Blooming Boulevards (Mississauga, ON)

All webinars are held on Saturdays at 10:00am – 11:00am
Click the link below to register, space is still available <https://www.bloomingboulevards.org/book-online>

Gardening Resources

OHA Garden Ontario website <https://gardenontario.org> lots of downloadable resources and the Autumn 2025 Trillium

Peterborough Master Gardeners website is <https://peterboroughmastergardeners.com/> read the blog, ask questions, find events in Peterborough area.

There are a lot of websites, books and groups that provide resources – if you have a favourite one, please let us know and we will share in the newsletter

