

It was with great sadness that we heard Don Everitt had passed away on 1st February.

Trained at Wisley, Don's career was mainly as a horticultural advisory officer with NAAS, [National Agricultural Advisory Service] working around the Bristol area.

Don was a founder member of Somerset NCCPG {later Plant Heritage} An article appeared in the RHS garden magazine in 1977 with input from Wisley, Kew and the National Trust suggesting something be done to conserve garden plants and also gardens. In 1978 Don attended a meeting together with Roy Cheek and one or two others which resulted in the formation of the Somerset group, the second county to form after Dorset which was the first.

Since then, Don was a very active member, organising our plant fairs with great skill and dedication, liaising with both venue owners and growers, ensuring we had a good range of stalls. He and Joan put in a lot of miles and hours marking out the stall sites and being around for consultation. They always had a stall of their own with well grown, interesting and labelled plants. He was a major contributor to the plant stall at meetings, always ready to offer advice on the plants available. The sales table made a great contribution to funds and interest at meetings.

He publicised Plant Heritage at the many garden club talks he gave throughout the South West and beyond. He was in great demand as a judge at flower shows.

Plants were Don's life, always ably assisted by his wife Joan. Our meetings and plant fairs will not be the same without him. He will be long remembered and sadly missed.