Savannah’s Seeds & Weeds Garden Club Presents
“England’s First Ladies of Gardening”
Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Savannah’s Seeds & Weeds Garden Club invites the public to a lecture by British speakers Heidi Howcroft and Alexandra Messervy, based on Heidi’s book First Ladies of Gardening, on Tuesday, October 27 at 10:00am in the Coastal Georgia Center’s Cypress Room. The event will begin with the highly illustrated talk, followed by a book signing and reception where light refreshments will be served. Tickets are $20.00 per person and will include a chance for attendees to win a garden-themed gift basket, including an autographed copy of the book.

Heidi Howcroft is an English educated landscape architect with a wide knowledge of both contemporary and historical landscapes. In addition to designing commercial landscapes and private gardens, she has worked on several international garden shows, craft exhibitions and trade fairs. Heidi is the author of over 25 garden books, the most recent of which, First Ladies of Gardening, illustrated with photographs by the internationally acclaimed Marianne Majerus, has been published to great acclaim in both the United Kingdom and the United States. After taking an opportunity to design and lead garden tours for luxury cruise lines, Heidi has since specialized in tailor made garden tours throughout Europe and beyond. When not on the lookout for new gardens and ideas, Heidi enjoys tending the cottage garden at her home, Dairy House, a 17th century farmhouse in a small village in Somerset, England.

Heidi will be joined by Alexandra Messervy, founding director of The English Manner, a company which gives personal development, cultural and social skills training to international clients of all ages in addition to creating exclusive private cultural learning programs and unique travel experiences focusing on the arts, social graces, etiquette and culture. A keen amateur gardener herself, Alexandra has become synonymous with outstanding private garden tours and each year leads groups to some of the best loved but often least known English, Scottish, Irish and French gardens. Accompanied by expert tutors, such as Heidi Howcroft, Penelope Hobhouse, Rosemary Alexander, and Todd Longstaffe-Gowan, The English Manner offers master class tutorials with outstanding accommodations, food and wine. “We are thrilled to bring such notable English garden experts to Savannah and look forward to sharing the experience with all local gardening and travel enthusiasts,” declares Seeds and Weeds president, Corinne Brown.

About First Ladies of Gardening
The English Garden is very often the standard by which all other garden design is measured. Over the past several decades, a gardening movement has developed in the U.K. led by a handful of visionary women whose innovations and aesthetics have influenced garden design worldwide. First Ladies of Gardening introduces these "grandes dames" of contemporary English garden design, from Vita Sackville-West and Beth Chatto to Beatrix Havergal, along with outstanding women gardeners of the present-day, all who have substantially influenced the development of contemporary garden design. Heidi Howcroft writes intuitively and informatively about these individual women, revealing their gardening secrets and their lasting legacies. The gardens themselves are captured in breathtaking photos by Marianne Majerus.

About Seeds & Weeds Garden Club
The purpose of Seeds & Weeds Garden Club is to encourage the beautification of home grounds
and the surrounding landscape and to promote the study of horticulture through community service projects. The October talk is the club’s first ever public fundraising event to support their community programs. Past projects have included Union Mission / J.C. Lewis Primary Health Care Center, St. Mary’s Home, The Children’s Botanical Garden of Tiles, Savannah Children’s Museum, Bethesda Academy, Pinpoint Heritage Museum, Greenbriar Children’s Center, and King-Tisdell Cottage. The club will announce its service plans for 2015-2016 in early September.

Tickets cost $20 and are available online at https://www.squadup.com/events/seeds-and-weeds-garden-club. Presales for the book, First Ladies of Gardening, are also available via the club’s event page at SquadUP.com.

If you would like more information about Seeds & Weeds Garden Club, or to schedule an interview with Heidi Howcroft, Alexandra Messervy, or Corinne Brown, please call Royceann Friedman at 912/655-5100 or email Royceann Friedman at: royceann@bellsouth.net.