



Hordle Gardening Club Newsletter February 2023



Hello Everyone...

This mild weather is definitely making these early spring flowers confident about popping their heads up, with some lovely displays of snow drops, crocuses, and even a few daffodils in those very sheltered spots nears walls and fences.

This is the month for getting ahead with seed sowing under glass, or in propagators. If not already started, get going with leeks, onions, cucumbers, tomatoes and if you are feeling a little adventurous, aubergines!..... We can't wait to see all your efforts in our closed show in July, but more about that next month.

Friday 24th Feb—talk

Next Friday we welcome Mike Read, a freelance nature photographer of over forty years, who specialises in birds, flowers, mammals, other wildlife and landscapes. He will be giving us his illustrated talk on 'Wildlife of a Working Forest'

Membership renewal for 2023

Many of you have already renewed your membership for this year - thank you. If you haven't yet renewed, we're holding the annual fee at £7 again, and you will find a PDF copy of the Membership Form attached to the same email as this newsletter. Hard copies will also be available at the meeting on Friday if you don't have a printer. Payment can be by cash or cheque.

Skittles Evening— TBC

We are hoping to hold our annual skittles evening in April, however the cost of the meals have increased quite a bit. Jan will be giving an update at the Feb meeting.

We need your vote!

As discussed at the AGM, we need your vote on the evening of the week you want us to move to in 2024.

The choice will be Mondays, Tuesdays, or remain on Fridays with the understanding that we will share the Pavillion with the Social Club on Fridays. A voting box will be available at the meeting, but if you are unable to attend , you can email the club or call Kate

Club meetings are generally held on the 4th Friday of the month, doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start, at the Hordle Pavilion.

Diary Dates

Friday 24th February - talk
'Wildlife of a Working Forest' with Mike Read.

Friday 24th March - talk
'An Introduction to Pruning for Best Results, across a Wide Range of Plants' with Roger Hirons.

Friday 28th April - talk
'The History of Furzey Gardens and Minstead Trust' with Julia Baker

Friday 26th May - talk
'Shrubs - the Backbone of your Garden' with Geoff Hawkins

Friday 23rd June - talk
'Future developments in horticulture – to cope with changes in climate' with Ray Broughton

Friday 28th July - Closed Show
Members only - more information soon

Friday 4th August - BBQ
more details soon

Friday 22nd September - talk
'Plant Hunting in the Himalayas' with Tom Clarke, Head Gardener, Exbury

web: www.hordlegardeningclub.co.uk
email: hordlegardeningclub@outlook.com
tel: 01425 621305

Trips for 2023

Claire has found us and day trip we hope you will love,... Broadlands Garden Show—Romsey, Hampshire. This year the show is held in September from 29th to 1st October. This trip is a little different to what we have done before as it's a self drive, so no coach will be organised, as you have the flexibility to attend on any of the days. If we are able to get 20 or more going over the 3 days Claire has managed to secure half price tickets, so £6 instead of £12.

We are still considering the evening trip for 2023, which will be either Furzy Gardens— or possibly MacPennys Nurseries,..... More details coming soon.

Plant Sales Table—not open for sales till after the speaker

Our Plant Sales Table needs your spare plants. I'm sure we're all starting to split our perennials and will soon be sowing seeds for flowers and vegetables, perhaps for the Closed Show?

If you have collected seed and have some spare, we will also have some small envelopes which you can use to put your excess seeds, to donate to the plant stall—please to label the envelope!

Garden Watering

At the AGM it was suggested that we have trial a garden watering scheme for anyone who is away from their home on holiday or for any other short absence. To get this going, we would like to know who may need this over the coming months, and who might be able to partner, and do the watering. Vic will be bring a list to put your name down and a calendar to start the process for this year.

For those requesting the watering, we will be asking for your names and the name of the road you live in, we will then partner you with a member who has put their name down to offer their watering talents!

As it's the first time we are trying this, your ideas and views on how to make this run smoothly are very welcome.

Wonderful Charity—needs our help!

Tools for self reliance, is a charity based in Netley Marsh, Southampton. They started in 1979, working with small-scale community based groups in Africa to relieve poverty. They do this by collecting old tools and running a refurbishment process that provides people in the UK with the opportunity to learn skills. They then send these overseas, to the poorest communities, enabling these people to earn a living.

But how can we help?.....

Paula is happy to collect the following from you, good quality hand tools, trade quality 240v electric tools for carpenters, builders, metal workers, shoe repairers and dressmakers, so hand operated sewing machines are welcome.

More details at the meeting!

What Happens at our Meetings

Doors open at 7pm with the talk starting promptly at 7.30pm. Time for you to look at the plant sale table and buy your raffle ticket/s.

Following the talk **coffee/tea** will be served (50p please) and the Raffle drawn. Donations of raffle prizes are always gratefully received.

We have various **gardening magazines** available for you to take - usually in front of the bar shutters. Keep an eye out here for other items.

Information Board

Check out the club's black Information Board which will show upcoming trips and event details, and the relevant booking sheets on clipboards. **Please pay when you put your name down for a trip/event.**

Plant Sales Table

Your donations of plants for the sales table will be very welcome each month we have a speaker. Funds raised contribute towards our talks and events. Please name your plants if you know what they are... we will have labels available at each meeting.

Raffle Table

We have a raffle table at every meeting with a speaker, so remember to buy a few tickets. Your contributions of raffle prizes are always very welcome too.

All monies raised go to club funds and towards future events and trips.