



Hordle Gardening Club Newsletter March 2023



Hello Everyone...

How can it be mid March already!

The time is just flying by, and if you are anything like me, the jobs are building up in the garden, and I'm hoping for a few nice warm and dry days to get going.



Friday 24th March—talk

Next Friday we welcome the return of Roger Hirons, a regular speaker at the club with over 30 year of horticultural experience and knowledge. This month he is talking us through how to prune to get the best results across a wide range of plants.

Please bring your own everyday secateurs on the night, so Roger is able to show us some useful tips!

Change to our April talk

We originally booked Julia Baker for April to talk us through the history of Furzey gardens, but unfortunately she is not no longer available. Instead we have a slightly different talk by Colin Varndell, a Dorset based natural history photographer, who will be talking us through 'The Hedgehog Predicament' - This presentation includes the history of hedgehogs, it's decline and the reasons for that, as well as what we are able to do about helping them.

Skittles Evening— 12th April

REMINDER—We are holding our annual skittles evening on Wednesday 12th April. Cost is £9.00, and we have 12 people signed up so far. The March meeting is your last chance to put your name down, so please do bring either a cheque or cash with you to the meeting to be able to put your name down.

Members Closed Show—28th July

The 2023 schedule will be available at the March meeting so you are able to get planning and growing for the show.

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 March - talk

'An Introduction to Pruning for Best Results, across a Wide Range of Plants' with Roger Hirons.

Wednesday 12th April - event Skittles!!!

Friday 28th April - talk

'The Hedgehog Predicament' with Colin Varndell

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

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Members closed show cont,...

We have an extra shield this year in memory of Michael Reeve, so the fruit and vegetable class has been split:

- Best in show, veg—Michael Reeve shield
- Best in show, fruit—Reg Wareham shield

Trips for 2023

Day Trip

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. Claire has managed to secure half price tickets, so £6 instead of £12, and more details in our April meeting

Afternoon or Evening Trip

We are still considering the evening trip for 2023, and final details will be shared in the April meeting.

Redcliffe members Discount

Fantastic news!..... Redcliffe have kindly offered all members of our wonderful club a 10% discount when shopping at their garden centre. As you would expect, there are terms and conditions to this offer which will be explained at the March meeting, and attached with the March Newsletter email.

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

Vic has now set up the list and calendar to get our trial a garden watering scheme going for anyone who is away from their home on holiday or for any other short absence.

It will be available to add your names and holiday dates again in March, so please pop your names and dates down when you come in the hall.

Wonderful Charity—needs our help!

As discussed in the Feb meeting, Tools for self reliance, is a charity based in Netley Marsh, Southampton. As a reminder, our lovely Paula is happy to collect the following from you, hammers, spanners, screwdrivers, hard point saws, trade quality 240v electric tools for carpenters, and hand operated sewing machines.

Paula will collect any items at the March meeting or in week commencing 27th March, please contact her directly on 07949894379

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.