



# Hordle Gardening Club Newsletter

## April 2023



*Hello Everyone...*

*Even though it was a wet and windy night, many of you wonderful people turned up for the skittles night on Wednesday this week. The food was good and on time, and there was a lot of fun and giggles over the games. Thanks go to Jan for organising the evening.*

*Winners:*

- Bob May won the male prize*
- Christine Buckley won the female prize*
- And Paula How won the 3 lives lost game*

### **Friday 28th April—talk**

This month we welcome 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.

### **May talk**

Geoff Hawkins, lecturer, broadcaster and retired Head Gardener joins us in May to give his illustrated talk on which shrubs we could plant in our gardens to give structure, shape and texture, as well as colour through flowers, stems and foliage.

### **Members Closed Show—28th July**

The 2023 schedule and bake recipes will be available at the April meeting, if I can get them the print the right way! So you are able to get planning and growing for the show.

Please enter as many items as you can, enthusiasm and just having a go it makes this show great,.... So if you are not feeling that confident, just pop in a couple of exhibits and see how they do.

### **Diary Dates**

#### **Friday 28th April - talk**

'The Hedgehog Predicament'  
with Colin Varndell

#### **Friday 26th May - talk**

'Shrubs - the Backbone of  
your Garden' with  
Geoff Hawkins

#### **Tuesday 6th June - afternoon visit**

'Spinner Garden—Boldre'  
Talk, guided tour, tea/coffee  
and biscuits

#### **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

#### **Friday 29th Sep - 1st Oct - Day trip**

'Broadlands Garden Show -  
Romsey'

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

web: [www.hordlegardeningclub.co.uk](http://www.hordlegardeningclub.co.uk)  
email: [hordlegardeningclub@outlook.com](mailto:hordlegardeningclub@outlook.com)  
tel: 01425 621305

## **Trips for 2023**

### **Afternoon trip—Tuesday 6th June**

Spiner Garden—Boldre. This is a stunning woodland garden with a collection of rare and unusual plants built up over the last sixty years and still evolving. This afternoon trip is aiming to start at 3pm (TBC) and will include a talk, guided tour and refreshments of tea/coffee and biscuits. Places are £8 per member. **The signing up chip board will be available at the April meeting**

### **Day Trip—29th Sep to 1st Oct**

Broadlands Garden Show—Romsey, Hampshire. 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 are valid for any of the three days. **The signing up chip board will be available at the April meeting**

## **Payments for Events and Trips**

Please pay for your trips and events when you put your name down on the clip board for attending. Payment is accepted by cash or cheque

## **Other local Gardening club—news**

Highcliffe Gardening Club— following on from the email dated 25th March, there are two trips available for non members. The cost has slightly increased from £25 to £27 due to low take up. If you are interested you need to contact Patrick Law directly on hortoclaw@outlook.com

- Coach trip to Wisley—Wed 28th June
- Coach trip to Holme for Gardens—Wed 6th Sep

## **Redcliffe members Discount**

Don't forget!..... Redcliffe have kindly offered all members of our wonderful club a 10% discount when shopping at their garden centre. Terms and conditions to this offer are available at the April meeting, and were also 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 April, so please pop your names and dates down when you come in the hall.

## **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.