



# Hordle Gardening Club Newsletter February 2024

*Hello Everyone...*

*I'm not sure how we are nearing the end of February already! The weeks are definitely running away from me, so I hope you are all having much more success with planning to growing season than I am.*

## **Friday 23rd Feb—Talk**

We are looking forward to welcoming Mike Read back to the club this Friday to give us a talk on 'New beginnings—Gravel to Grebes'

## **Membership renewal for 2024**

Many of you have already renewed your membership for this year - thank you. If you haven't yet renewed, we've increased the annual fee to £8, 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— Wed 10th April**

We are excited to confirm that our annual skittles evening will be held on Wed 10th April at The Walkford Pub. As with previous years the evening also includes a meal from the classic menu. The cost is £10 per person, and the signing sheet will be available at the Feb and March meetings. **Please pay when you put your name down to secure your place.**

## **Trips for 2024**

We discussed the possible day trips we could do in 2024 at the AGM, and have decided on a visit to Hilliers Gardens near Romsey, with a bonus visit Pcocks rose nurseries on the way back. Claire and Brian are organising this trip which is likely to be some time W/C 17th June.

We are planning to have a coach, and full details will be available at our April meeting.

**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 22nd March - talk**

'Soft Fruit' with Wilf Simcox

### **Friday 26th April - talk**

'Big ideas for small gardens' with Martin Cox

### **Friday 24th May - talk**

'Heavenly Hostas' with John Baker

### **Friday 28th June - talk**

'Building and planning a rockery' with Roger Hirons

### **Friday 26th July - Closed show**

(Members only)

### **Friday 27th September - talk**

'Hanging baskets, tubs and maintenance' with Ray Broughton

### **Friday 25th October - talk**

'How to grow roses successfully' with Glenn Duggen

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## **Trips for 2024..... continued**

We can now confirm the half day trip will be the Furzey Gardens, School Lane, Minstead, on Thursday 23rd May. You will need to make your own way there, and Alan will be giving us a guided tour of the gardens. We will be meeting at 11am and Alan will then give us a guided tour for approximately 90 mins. After this you will be free to roam, and visit the café.

This trip is £7.50 per person and the signing up sheet will be available at our March and April meetings. **Please pay when you put your name down to secure your place**

## **Payments for Events and Trips**

**Please pay for trips and events when you put your name down for attending. It would also be a great help to us if you could bring the exact cash or pay by cheque.**

## **Plant Sales Table**

Our Plant Sales Table needs your spare plants, and this year we are also including seeds that have been collected by members. Also, if you have collected seed, or have divided some of your plants and have some spare, Please bring them along as it all goes to support our club. 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!

**The plant stall will open AFTER the talks have concluded**

## **Members open gardens**

Following last years very successful members open gardens, we would like to do the same again this year.

You will only get visitors from club members so please don't be worried about the odd weed here or there (mine had plenty!)

It's a great opportunity to get to know what grows well locally, but also a chance to get to know each other better as you can talk to members that you might not normally sit near at our meetings.

We only ask you to provide tea/coffee at 50p and for funds raised to go to the club.

## **Your ideas are always welcome—closed show**

As we prepare for the closed show this year, we are reviewing the schedule to make sure it is the best it can be. So if you have any ideas, or suggestions for new classes, please do drop me an email, or chat to Paula.

This year we are planning to biscuits as our bake section in the show, so if you have any great recipes, please do let us know.

## **What's on locally,.....**

Watch this space for local charity open gardens through the year, and any other events locally that we think you may be interested in. This information will also be on the notice board on our club night.

## **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.

## **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.