



Hordle Gardening Club Newsletter

Sep 2025

Hello Everyone,

I was about to write about how it feels like autumn is with us, and then we have a beautiful warm day today... I can't keep up!

Change is definitely in the air though, the nights are drawing in, and the temperature is dropping, but there is still plenty to do in the garden. In my list of things to do is harvesting the last of the tomatoes and cucumbers, and this year I have managed to grow a couple of very good butternut squash. What have you grown successfully for the first time this year?

We also had a fantastic visit to Heale Garden & Plant Centre, where the head gardener Dan and co-gardener Amy gave us a great tour of the garden and answered all our questions. They even gave Lorraine a bag of cuttings! It was a really great day out.

Friday 26th Sept — Talk

This month we welcome back Wilf Simcox, who for many years was a lecturer at Sparsholt College. This month Wilf will be showing us what can be achieved with a small glass house.

Hordle Summer Fete— Cancelled

Sadly the Hordle Fete was cancelled due to the poor weather.

Please do bring along your plants to the September meeting, and we will have a bumper plant stall for all members to enjoy.

So please remember to bring your pennies, and bags along.

Members open gardens

A massive thank you to all our members that have opened their gardens this year. So many of you have said how enjoyable this is as you get a chance to have a chat while looking around at what is being grown locally.

We are going to keep this on the calendar each year as it is so popular, so please have a think about opening your garden next year.

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 26th September - talk

'Small glass house' with Wilf Simcox

Friday 24th October - talk

'The wonder of the walled garden' with Gillian Taylor

Saturday 29th November—talk

Annual Christmas Buffet

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Christmas Party - **Saturday 29th November**

Our Christmas party will be held at the end of November, and please don't forget this is a Saturday evening rather than our normal Friday evening. The signing up sheet will be available at the Sep and Oct meetings. As with last year, this is free for members, who can bring a non-member as a guest for £5.

Make sure you 'sparkle up!' your Christmas jumper, and/or tinsel!

Christmas Raffle— We will again this year be inviting members that will be attending to bring along a gift for the Raffle wrapped up so that no one knows what they will be winning on the night.

Please ensure that it is sealed and in date. If it's not edible it may still have a date if its hand cream, or beauty/ grooming product, so again please do ensure they are in date.

The finger buffet will also include a complimentary glass of white or red wine, or fruit juice, **so please do bring a glass,....** And your own top up if you want more.

Looking forward to 2026,.....

Its that time of year when the committee and I start thinking about what we can do better in the coming year to keep our beautiful club thriving.

Trips—The smaller groups, using our local community mini busses is working really well, but Gino's mini bus licence expires at the end of this year. So I will be seeking your views on getting him retrained using club funds which lasts for 3 years.

Closed Show—We are always open to any feedback you have to make this better, so please do have a chat with Alan who will be taking over organising this next year.

Anything else?.....Please chat to any of the committee over the coming meetings, or email your ideas in to us.

Jobs in the garden in Oct

Cut back spent flowers and faded foliage in your borders.

Plant: Spring bulbs, winter pansies, cyclamen corns, and other winter plants

Cut back: Peony leaves, lavatera, buddleia, and tall roses, raspberries and currents

Move: Non hardy plants in pots into the greenhouse, or to a sheltered position in the garden.

Prune: Beech, yew and hawthorn hedges

And,.....

Mulch borders, rake up leaves from lawns but leave them if they fall on bare soil. Feed lawns, and do your last cut.

Clean, sharpen and oil gardening tools. Take down bee hotels and put back up in March.

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.