

WEARDALE FLOWER AND GARDEN CLUB

www.weardaleflowerandgardenclub.org.uk

JUNE 2024 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our speaker this evening, Lucienne Bennett - Tulips from Amsterdam.

PARKING Members do not have to pay parking charges at St Annes when attending Club meetings/events in the hall.

FINANCE Our bank balance as at 4th June 2024 is £3645.23. Our demonstrator in April, Ann Simpson, cost £347.00. This covered her fee, flowers and travel. Very many thanks to Janette and Sara-Jane for our May garden visit and curry night at the Black Lion. We donated £100 to charity.

We have had very positive feedback from the hiring of a stage, and this has been booked for the remainder of the meetings in the hall this year. We understand that hire charges for the hall are being increased by the Parish Council, and we are awaiting confirmation.

THORNTON HALL Emm is taking names this evening for our private group visit to Thornton Hall on Wednesday 3rd July at 3 pm. This visit is open to friends. You can also book with Barbara on 01388 528071.

Thornton Hall has an amazing garden which has been featured in many national magazines and on TV. It is a large well-stocked garden with several different areas. Grade I listed Thornton Hall was built around 1550 and is one of the oldest buildings in the Borough of Darlington. The gardens are open for only 8 days in 2024.

Please meet at the garden entrance at 3 pm. There is ample parking at the hall. We will be met by Sue Manners, the owner, who will give us a tour of her garden and be on hand to answer any queries.

Thornton Hall is two miles west of Darlington on the B6279, Staindrop Road, DL2 2NB. There is an entry charge of £10 per person, which goes towards charities supported by the owners.

We have not ordered any refreshments, but there are several places close by including Headlam Hall, Sam Turners and Piercebridge Organic Farm Shop (take out only).

COFFEE MORNING Our coffee morning is on Saturday 29th June in St Annes Centre, 10 am to 12 noon. There will be plant and cake stalls, and a raffle. Donations for the stalls will be very gratefully received, either before the event (please leave with any Committee member) or on the morning. We will be serving coffee and cream scones. Entry by donation. Please support our annual fund raising event.

JULY MEETING July's meeting, on the 16th, is a garden visit to Ferndene House at Ryton. This garden is open for the NGS, and is 3/4 acre. Our visit is 1-3pm, and Weardale Community Hub are providing transport leaving the Market Place at 12noon. Members are asked to contribute £5 towards the transport, garden entrance and refreshments; friends are welcome to join us - £15. We should arrive back into Wolsingham by 4 pm latest.

Emm will take names this evening, or please telephone Barbara on 01388 528071.

AUCKLAND CASTLE GARDEN The upper walled garden at Auckland Castle is now open, and various events are planned ---

Friday 21 June Flower Wreath Making - using fresh blooms from the gardens; £28.

Garden walk and talk - Saturdays - free with Castle and Garden pass.

Alla Prima Painting in the Garden - 17th July 1-3.30pm. Watch professional artist Jilly Johnston capture the beauty of the garden.

The Walled Garden at Auckland Castle - In conversation with Jane Ruffer, Pip Morrison and Andy Nesbitt. 31July, 4-6pm. A unique opportunity to find out about the magnificent 17th c walled garden. A private visit to the garden follows the talk. £10.

Booking recommended for all events.

RABY CASTLE 18th C Garden, Vinery Cafe and Coach House Shop now open daily 10 am

to 4 pm.

CHARITY LADIES LUNCH This social event is on Friday 6th September, 12.30 for 1pm, in the catering marquee at Wolsingham Showground. Same format as previous years - three course lunch, bar, sales, tombola etc., speaker and entertainment. Tickets £25, in aid of Weardale Community Hospital. We have booked four tables for the Club. Please book with Susan asap (msg/phone 07814 498281). We will require payment before the day.

BRANCEPETH VILLAGE OPEN GARDENS 20th July, 11am to 4.30pm, £5. Home made teas in the village hall.

ST CUTHBERT'S HOSPICE OPEN GARDEN 28th July, 10 am to 4 pm, plant sale, on site coffee shop. £5.