

**WEARDALE FLOWER AND GARDEN CLUB**  
**[www.weardaleflowerandgardenclub.org.uk](http://www.weardaleflowerandgardenclub.org.uk)**  
**MARCH 2025 MEETING**

**Wecome to our March meeting which focusses on herbs with a talk by Davina Hopkinson who is a practising medical herbalist, based in Northumberland.**

**We have Spring plants for sale this evening, with thanks to Sara Jane of Flowers from No. 21. A contribution from proceeds is being made to the club, so please support her stall. Thankyou.**

**COMMITTEE** We are seeking volunteers to join the Committee. It would be great to have new ideas and help in organising our programme and events. Its not onerous as we meet only around four or five times a year (usually alternating day and evening times), and meetings usually last a couple of hours. We all cant attend every meeting, and this isn't expected. A couple of new faces at our next meeting on 24th March at 10.30 am in the Chapel would be brilliant! Let any of the existing members know if you would like to join us, and come along on the 24th. Thankyou.

**Current Committee and roles:-**

Christine Robinson and Susan Harris - Joint Chairs

Christine Craig and Alison Humble - Finance. Independent Examination and Fund Raising

Barbara Thompson and Susan Harris - Programme

Alison Humble - Minutes

Ann Richards and Carol Elliott - raffles

Ann Cramb - Votes of thanks and refreshments

Ruby Potter and Margaret Shephard - Presidents

Pat Welsh

Julie Harrison

Ann Jackson

**RHS DISCOUNT CARD** These are Christine Craig's contact details if you want to use our Club RHS discount card at any time in the year. It gives 50% discount on entry for max two people to any RHS garden (excluding special events). Just text or call Christine, and she will get the card to you,

Tel: 01388 528805; 07748 534073

**SPRING PLANT SALE** Sunday 25th May, from 11 am to 1 pm at Thornley Village.

**FINANCE** With the payment of membership fees last month, our current bank balance has increased to £4105.30. Scotmid are currently accepting bids for community funding events, and we have made an application. Believe Housing have also considered applications for funding but on this occasion our application was unsuccessful.

Our speaker in February, Victoria Conner re willow weaving, cost £224.20. Victoria is willing to run a workshop for us, max 10 people, in St Annes later in the year. Further details to follow.

**LIVING NORTH SPRING FAIRS** York Racecourse 21st to 23rd March; Newcastle Racecourse 30th May to 1st June.

**USHAW** Specialist plant and garden fair, 14th June, run by Plant Heritage North East.

**RABY** Easter Food and Craft Market, Friday 18th to Monday 21st April, 10 am to 4 pm.

**DURHAM CATHEDRAL** Royal Maundy Service, 17th April. The King and Queen will be in attendance, and the King will present 152 recipients (76 men and 76 women) with specially minted Maundy money to thank them for their outstanding Christian service and for making a difference to the lives of people in their local communities. Spring, British grown, garden flowers will decorate the Cathedral, curated by Flowers from the Farm members in the North East.

**NGS OPEN GARDENS** The Walled Garden at Middleton Lodge, Middleton Tyas. Monday 7 April, 11.30 to 4.30 pm. 2 acre walled garden designed by Tom Stuart-Smith. Must be pre booked, 01325 377977.

**EGGLESTON HALL** The cafe and shop reopened on Sunday 16th March. Cafe opening hours are Wednesday to Sunday from 11 am to 4 pm. The gardens are open daily.

**GARDENERS WORLD LIVE** NEC Birmingham, 12-15 June, with Monty Don, Adam Frost, Frances Tophill, Rachel de Thame, Sue Kent and Nick Bailey. Show gardens, live theatre, shopping, plant village, floral marquee. Adam Frost's Tasting table with Si King, John Torode, James Martin.

**SEASONAL RECIPE - SUPER EASY RHUBARB ICE CREAM**

2 apples; 2 tbsp sugar; 300g forced rhubarb; 200g sweetened condensed milk; 600ml double cream; 1 teasp vanilla extract.

Chop apples into small pieces and cook with sugar over low heat until soft and sugar is melted. Add chopped rhubarb and cook until tender. Leave to cool.

Beat milk, cream and extract until consistency of clotted cream. Scrape mixture into lined ice cream container or loaf tin. Stir through the cooked fruits and freeze.

**NEXT MEETING**

We've got Patti Dawson coming to our April meeting to show us various Spring flower designs. She's a NAFAS area demonstrator from Penrith. £150 of flowers will be raffled after the dem.