

Tuesday 20th October CHARITY FUND RAISING

AUTUMN FESTIVAL - Wendy Gonzalez has been a florist for 26 years, and her company is Sofia Blooms. In the past few years she has moved to working with predominately British seasonal suppliers and she works from her home studio. She supplies flowers for all occasions including weddings, events, and funerals, and also does pop-up shops, classes, workshops, collaborations etc. Wendy will show us a range of ideas for Autumn flowers in the home, and will bring along her Flower Cart selling posies of autumn flowers.

Our raffle will be in aid of our chosen charity, along with a cake and Autumn produce stall.

Tuesday 17th November LET CHRISTMAS BEGIN! - David Ryland lives in Cumbria, and is a well known NAFAS National Judge and Demonstrator with many years of experience working at floral events and shows across the country. He is a member of Penrith and District Flower Club, and has served two terms as a Director of NAFAS, as well as Area Chair. David will demonstrate some amazing festive flower arrangements, all of which will be raffled.

There will be Christmas Cards for sale in support of the Friends of Weardale Hospital, and seasonal refreshments.

Tuesday 8th December FESTIVE AFTERNOON TEA - Venue to be confirmed once menus and prices are available.



For more information contact:
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Venue
St Anne's Centre, West End,
Wolsingham DL13 3AT

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Affiliated to the



Royal Horticultural Society

Weardale Flower and Garden Club



2026 Programme

Meetings are held at 7pm unless otherwise stated

Annual Membership is £25 and there may be additional charges for some events

www.weardaleflowerandgardenclub.org

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Membership Number 30163124

Tuesday 17th February ESTABLISHING A CUTTING GARDEN - Becky Crowley is Assistant Head Gardener at Raby. She designed the cutting garden alongside Luciano Giubbilei, and previously worked as a flower grower at Chatsworth House, and at Floret Flower Farm in Washington State. Becky will give us inspiration, ideas and practical advice to grow beautiful seasonal flowers for cutting. She will also bring a large selection of plants for sale.

Tuesday 17th March WELCOME TO MARION'S WORLD

- Marion is a multi-talented lady who sews, stitches, crafts and gardens in a small village near the Durham Dales. She has lots of creative hobbies, makes her own clothes, knits, crochets, embroiders and paints - she also ran her own gardening business and managed a nature reserve - hence a lot of her work reflects nature and flowers. She makes some amazing items, and has over 65,000 subscribers to her social media site. Her talk is entitled My Creative World - not to be missed!

Tuesday 21st April GARDEN FLOWERS FOR WEDDINGS

- Zephirine Warde-Aldam is a florist who lives at Red Hemmels, Riding Mill, where she grows flowers for weddings, events and workshops. She also has a walled garden in Corbridge. Her aim is to produce unique, locally grown blooms that reflect the character of the season. She offers flowers for sale by the bucket, providing a sustainable and locally sourced option for florists and the public.

Saturday 9th May HARLOW CARR GARDENS, HARROGATE - We have free entry for members to RHS Harlow Carr Gardens on Saturday 9th May; a saving of £17.80pp. Entry will be at 11 am, after that members are free to stay as long as they wish. Harlow Carr is approx 15 mins from Harrogate centre by car, and there is a footpath linking the RHS centre to Valley Gardens. As well as the gardens there is the plant centre, RHS shop, Bettys and Harrogate Arms cafes, and the Bath House Gallery.

Tuesday 19th May 48th BIRTHDAY NIGHT - DAHLIA GROWING WITH ANDREW ROBINSON - Andrew Robinson lives and works in Hexham and has been growing dahlias for the garden and show bench for over 25 years - winning the Dahlia Society National Championship in 2018. His talk will be on a full year of dahlia growing for all purposes. He will also bring dahlia cuttings for sale, May being the optimum time for planting so you have armfuls of flowers later in the year. Birthday cake and drinks will be served after Andrew's talk.

Saturday 6th June FUND RAISING COFFEE MORNING IN ST ANNES 10am-12noon - Please support our annual fund raising towards costs of speakers and coach hire. There will be stalls incl plants and cakes, raffle etc. Entry by donation.

Tuesday 16th June AFTERNOON VISIT TO RABY CASTLE'S WALLED GARDEN - As a follow-up to Becky's talk in February, we have arranged a guided tour of the Walled Garden at Raby Castle, arriving at 1 pm. We will be taken around by Becky and Assistant Head Gardener Jeremy Cunningham. Following the garden visit there will be free time to visit the Park, Coach House Exhibition, retail areas, and have refreshments at The Vinery restaurant.

Tuesday 21st July YORKSHIRE FLOWERS - Anne Heard is a Garden Designer and Flower Farmer who runs Songbird Meadow Flower Farm, a wildlife friendly flower farm in Ingleby Greenhow. She uses many techniques to work with nature, including peat free compost, no dig beds, keeping some long grass areas, and growing native species which have lots of blossom, seeds and berries. She creates natural bouquets and posies to order, provides farewell flowers, and works with local florists. Anne also offers 'pick your own' at the farm.

Tuesday 18th August FULL DAY GARDEN VISIT TO LITTLETHORPE MANOR, RIPON, AND THIRSK - Transport will be provided, leaving the Market Place at 10am, to arrive at Littlethorpe Manor for a private garden tour, beginning with tea/coffee and cakes at 11am served in the marquee.

Littlethorpe is an 11 acre privately owned garden near the racecourse. There is a walled garden with herbaceous planting, gazebo, sunken garden, and pergola with roses. The formal lawn has a fountain pool, the physic garden a rill, and there is naturalistic planting around the large pond. The paths are gravel and there are some steep slopes. The garden tour, with Head Gardener Eddie Harland, lasts just under two hours. There will be a plant stall.

Following the garden visit we will have time in Thirsk for refreshments/shopping.

Friday 4th September LADIES LUNCH - At Wolsingham Showground; fund raising for Weardale Community Hospital. Usual format - three course lunch, speakers, entertainment, raffles etc. We will be providing table flowers.

Tuesday 15th September AFTERNOON VISIT TO HALLS OF HEDDON - We will provide transport to see the flower fields at their very best in mid September. Halls is a family run nursery established over 100 years ago, with two sites in Hadrian's Wall country. The walled garden at Heddon has an extensive plant nursery with a wide range of roses, shrubs, trees herbaceous and bedding plants. Halls specialise in dahlias and chrysanthemums and produce well over 100,000 plants annually in over 400 different varieties. The flower fields, which have over 15,000 dahlias and chrysanthemums, are a must-see spectacle of colour when they are in full flower from late August to the first frosts, and attract visitors from all over the UK. We will arrive for 1pm, and stay approx two hours. On the return journey we will call at Brockbushes for shopping/refreshments.