

Methodist Chapel. We will all have the opportunity to make an Autumnal ring which you can hang on your door, in the garden, or - with a chunky candle in the middle - use as a table centre piece. They are easy to make using an Oasis ring base (supplied by the Club), and Emm will take us through this step by step. All you need to bring are your secateurs and a selection of autumn foliage with berries, cones etc. - and some flowers from the garden if you wish to add these.

Following the practical part of the evening, we will have our Autumn Produce Sale - please bring along your spare veg, preserves (we had a brilliant selection last year!), plants, flowers, fruit etc. We will then enjoy an Autumnal light supper.

### **20th October - Sweetpeas**

If you have been to Harrogate Flower Show, you will no doubt have admired the amazing 'Sweetpea Stand'. This is David Matthewman's, who has been growing and showing Sweetpeas for over 40 years, and has won 13 consecutive gold medals at the Chelsea Flower Show. His nursery is at Northallerton, but he sells his top quality seed on line throughout the country ([www.sweetpeasonline.co.uk](http://www.sweetpeasonline.co.uk)). For 2019-20 season he has introduced "Serenity", a highly scented, lavender Spencer Sweetpea. He will talk about the various Sweetpea varieties, and tell us how to grow Sweetpeas - The Matthewman Way! He will also bring his seeds for sale.

### **17th November - Christmas Open Night with Lucy Richardson of Branching Out, North Yorkshire**

Lucy is a National demonstrator and tutor, and a wedding/event florist. She has 35 years experience 'in the trade' and holds British and American floristry diplomas. She has a style which is quite different, modern, and incorporating recycled items. Her demonstration is entitled "How Many Sleeps Till Christmas", and she will be using £600 worth of festive flowers, which will all be raffled at the end of the demonstration.

This will be held at Wolsingham School, and is an open night raising funds for our nominated charity.

### **10th December - RHS Glow Festival at Harrogate**

Instead of the usual Christmas meal, we are making an afternoon/early evening visit to RHS Harlow Carr at Harrogate. Please note this is a Thursday, and transport will leave the Market Place at 12.30pm. On arrival at approx 2 pm, there will be free time for Christmas shopping in the garden centre, plant centre, and book, food and gift shop. Bettys will also be open for purchase of take-away and Christmas gifts, and the coffee shop and restaurant will both be open for afternoon tea, snacks, Christmas specialities, drinks and meals.

At 4.30pm we will have ticketed access to the garden for the Glow Festival. As dusk falls, special lighting effects will bring a touch of magic and colour to the garden. There is also a festive themed marquee in the garden for Christmas carols and festive crafts. We will leave at 6pm, arriving back to Wolsingham by 7.30pm.

#### **For more information, contact:**

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#### **Weardale Flower and Garden Club**

Town Hall,  
Market Place,  
Wolsingham,  
DL13 3AB

There may be an additional charge for some events



# **WEARDALE FLOWER AND GARDEN CLUB**

## **2020 Programme**



**Meetings are held in  
Wolsingham Town Hall at 7pm  
unless otherwise stated.  
Annual membership £25**

**Visitors are most welcome at any meeting.**

**[www.weardaleflowerandgardenclub.org](http://www.weardaleflowerandgardenclub.org)**

***Affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society***

### **18th February - AGM**

This is our Annual General Meeting, and membership fees (£25) are due for 2020. Our Chairman will give a review of the year, and we will receive the annual accounts.

Flowers From the Farm - Following the AGM, we welcome Heidi Varley of Pinks Flowers. Heidi lives in Barnard Castle, and in Autumn 2018 established a flower farm at Cothelstone, with the help of her mother, Pat Oddy. 90% of flowers sold by florists and supermarkets are imported from as far afield as South America and Africa. Heidi aims to fight the corner of native blooms and supplies flowers which are both delicate and scented. She is also championing the cause of not using Oasis foam, instead arranging her flowers using moss, chicken wire and holders. Heidi will tell us of her journey establishing her new venture, show us examples of foam free Spring arrangements, and use some dried flowers from the farm.

### **17th March - Gardening Talk**

Keith Mastaglio from Durham is a professional grower of Dianthus, Pinks, Border Carnations, and Perpetual flowering Carnations. Keith runs G and K Carnations (gandkcarnations.com), a small family run business. He is a member of the British National Carnation Society, and exhibits at national shows. In 2019 he won a gold medal at every show venue he attended, including a first RHS gold at Cardiff. Keith will talk to us about how to grow these increasingly popular garden plants. We will also be raffling £100 worth of Keith's plants, and he will bring others for sale.

### **21st April - Ideas for Party Flowers**

Helen is Design Director with Fiori Design Ltd., with floristry outlets at both Rowlands Gill and Whickham. Fiori is a long established family business, with a wealth of experience going back three generations. As well as florist shops, they have a very big range of on line sales (www.fioriflorists.co.uk). Helen has worked all over the world from South Africa to Iceland, demonstrating her design skills and floral flair. She also won the UK Florist of the Year and competed in the world final in Tokyo, Japan.

### **2nd May - Coffee Morning**

Please support our annual fund raising coffee morning to be held in the Town Hall, 10 am to 12 noon, including sales of plants and cakes. This event helps with costs of transport for our summer garden visits.

### **19th May - Birthday Night**

This will be our 42nd Birthday Night, and all members are invited to bring along a ladies buttonhole, using only flowers/foilage from the garden, for our Birthday Competition, and award of the Chairman's medal.

Our demonstrator will be Kate Norris from Northumbrian Flowers, based at Wark, near Hexham. Kate has a small artisan flower farm nestled on the banks of the River North Tyne, growing fresh seasonal, sustainable and scented flowers for weddings and other events. She also runs workshops, and flowers can be ordered on line. Kate is a member of Flowers From the Farm, a UK network of growers promoting British flowers and foliage. [www.northumbrianflowers.co.uk](http://www.northumbrianflowers.co.uk)

### **16th June - Day Outing to Newby Hall, Ripon**

Newby Hall is officially the nation's favourite country house and garden after being crowned 2019 Historic Houses Garden of the Year. Newby's magnificent 40 acres of gardens and woodland are owned by Richard and Lucinda Compton, and are visited by around 140,000 people every year and often feature on film and TV. There are 14 stunning 'garden rooms' and Newby has one of the longest double herbaceous borders in the UK. Newby Hall is one of Britain's finest Adam Houses and an exceptional example of 18th century interior decoration. It was built in the 1690's by Sir Christopher Wren, and later enlarged and adapted by John Carr and Robert Adam. There is a restaurant serving soup, sandwiches, hot and cold meals, and a picnic area if you wish to take your own food. If you wish to do a one hour tour of the house this must be booked at the entrance pavilion, and cannot be booked in advance. There is also a shop and plant nursery, boat trips, and miniature railway, as well as a sculpture area.

We will need to book ahead for both the garden

entry tickets and transport. The garden opens at 11am, so we will leave the Market Place at 10am.

### **21st July - Visit Four NGS Gardens in One Evening!**

Jane and John Brown acquired New Cottage in June 2018 (New Cottage, Oxney Flatts, Croft Road, Darlington, DL2 2SD). Since then the herbaceous border has been redesigned and a new fruit and vegetable garden created. Plans for 2020 include developing the pond area and establishing an alpine garden. We are invited to have tea and cake in the garden at New Cottage, and also visit three adjacent gardens at Oxney Flatts Farm, Nags Head Farm and Oxney Cottage, all well established with their own individual style and an interesting mix of unusual plants and garden features. We will leave the Market Place at 6pm, to arrive by 6.45pm.

### **18th August - Garden Centre Exclusive Shopping Night**

Sam Clark gave us a talk on winter hanging baskets and containers in 2019, and invited us to visit his garden centre, Cowells near Woolsington (NE13 8BW). Established in 1978 Cowells is an independent, family owned garden centre and nursery, known locally as the 'meeting place for plant lovers'. They grow and source a wide range of popular and unusual high quality plants for the home and garden and have built up an excellent reputation for offering one of the biggest selections of plants and garden accessories. They have won awards at local events, and at Chelsea Flower Show.

Sam will open the garden centre for an exclusive evening visit by our Club, and give us an overview before we are the free to wander ... and shop! There is no coffee shop at the garden centre, so afterwards we will call at The Badger close by for drinks/coffee.

We will leave the Market Place at 6pm, to arrive by 6.45pm.

### **4th Sept - Wolsingham Show Ladies Charity Lunch**

We will be again supporting this event raising funds for Weardale Community Hospital, and providing flowers for the tables which will be done on 3rd September.

### **15th Sept - Celebrating Autumn**

Our September meeting will held be at the