

WEARDALE FLOWER AND GARDEN CLUB

www.weardaleflowerandgardenclub.org.uk

MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our March meeting, and our talk from Durham Wildlife Trust. The Trust have not asked for a speaker's fee, but we are making a donation of £100 to their funds. Our raffle prizes this evening are Spring plants and Easter treats.

FINANCE Our current balance is £4311.76, which includes 2024 subscriptions from 68 members. We had 72 attend our first meeting in February.

ST ANNES CENTRE We have made a request to the Parish Council for the provision of a small, demountable stage for use in the hall, both by our Club and other organisations. This has been refused. A caretaker has been appointed for St Annes, but at the moment we are still responsible for setting up and storing away chairs/tables at the end of the evening, and cleaning the kitchen after use.

USHAW 2024 Fees - £10 per visit, or £24 for annual membership. There is an open day with free entry on Friday 22nd March. Events - A Century of Wedding Gowns Exhibition, 23rd March to 6th May; Plant and Garden Fair, 15th June

DAVID AUSTIN ROSES 15pc reduction on all roses with code BLOOMS24

LIVING NORTH Homes, Gardens, Shopping, Food and Lifestyle exhibition at Newcastle Racecourse, NE3 5HP, 19th to 21st April 2024, 10 am to 4 pm. Entry £7 (or £5 early bird tickets and concessions). livingnorth.com

THORNTON HALL VISIT Our programme details a private group visit to Thornton Hall. Sue Manners has now confirmed this will be on the afternoon of 6th July.

SAM TURNERS Graded Garden Machinery Sales Day (ex demos, displays, used and refurbished machinery, 24th March. Further details from Sam Turner, Northallerton, sales@samturners.com

ALPINE GARDEN SOCIETY Annual show at Hurworth Community Centre, Hurworth Place, DL2 2BN, 23rd March, 10 am to 3.30 pm.

HARTSIDE NURSERY NR ALSTON, CA9 3BL - 2024 OPEN DAYS

27-28 April, 25-26 May, 29-30 June, 27-28 July, 19-20 October, 11.30 am to 4 pm.

GARDENERS' WORLD - EXPLORE THE GARDENS OF KENT AND SUSSEX

2-5 June 2024, 3 nights, from £975. Dinner, b/b, Coach transfers. Includes Sissinghurst, Borde Hill, Wakehurst, Great Dixter, Hever Castle and Pashley Manor. GardenersWorld.com/kent-sussex

GARDENERS' WORLD LIVE, 13-16 June, NEC Birmingham.

GARDENERS' WORLD FAIR, 3-5 May, Beaulieu, Hampshire.

MALVERN SPRING SHOW, 9-12 May

DEADHEAD SPRING BULBS Spend some time pinching out the flower heads off daffodills that gone over. Taking the heads off means that all the plant's energy is drawn down to the bulb as the foliage dies back, rather than making seed. You dont need remove all the stalk.

RHUBARB Rhubarb plants should now be in full growth. Water the clump regularly to keep it in growth.

SARAH RAVEN - RHUBARB AND GINGER VODKA

Makes a fragrant drink with tonic or served over ice with lemonade.

Makes 750ml

500g pink rhubarb cut into chunks

250g caster sugar

4cm piece of fresh ginger peeled and sliced

Peel from 2 oranges

1x 750 ml vodka

Put cleaned and chopped rhubarb, sugar, ginger and peel from oranges in kilner, or similar jar. Add vodka and keep for one month. Turn regularly. Strain and bottle.

NGS OPEN GARDENS

Rydal Hall, Ambleside, 24 March and 21 April

Rydal Mount, 24 March and 1 April

Blagdon, Seaton Burn, 28 April

NEXT MEETING 16th April - We have a NAFAS demonstrator, Ann Simpson, from York, who will be showing us ideas for displaying seasonal flowers. It will be interesting to see and contrast her traditional techniques and mechanics. All her arrangements will be raffled, and we have allowed £150 for flowers.

At the April meeting we will be taking names for the 46th Birthday Night Garden Visit and Supper at the Black Lion (on Tuesday 21st May). This meeting is for members only.

COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday 10th April at 7 pm in St Annes Centre.

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FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to returning, and new members to our first meeting of the year. Subscriptions are now due; we have not increased our membership fee of £25, although some events will have an additional charge. Entry to gardens appears to be a minimum of £10 for 2024, and we will have additional expenses with transport for two events. We will fund

raise through our monthly raffles and our annual coffee morning to try and reduce any additional costs to members. We are unable to apply for AAP or Believe Housing support in 2024 (both donated £500 in 2023).

Membership is limited to 80 because of fire restrictions on numbers in St Annes and the Chapel. We hope the move to St Annes proves successful, but if not we can always return to the Chapel venue. We can review this after three months. programme

We hope we have put together an interesting to celebrate our 46th anniversary of the formation of the Club. Thank you for joining us again.

FINANCE We start the year with a balance of £2902.56. We have spent £195 on employing LJ Digital to redesign and update our website. Please make use of this for updates and notices -

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USHAW Ushaw are planning another flower festival for 5-8 September 2024. Individuals can volunteer to be involved by contacting Ady Davies at Ushaw.

SHOW DATES 2023

Harrogate Spring Show - 25-28 April April

Malvern Spring Festival - 9-12 May

Chelsea - 21-25 May

Hampton Court - 2-7 July

Gardeners World Live - 13-16 June

SNOWDROPS AT KIPLIN HALL, Nr Scorton - 2nd Feb to 31st March. 10 am t 4 pm Adult £13; concession £11.50; closed Thursdays.

RHS HARLOW CARR WORKSHOPS

Gardening in a changing climate, 21 March

Stitched Shibori and Indigo Dying, 22 March

Garden Inspired Soap Making, 4 April

Principles of Allotments, 11 April

Beginners Guide to Gardening, 12 April

Spring Garden Weekend, 12-14 April

Floral Spring Walk, 25 April

AN EVENING WITH MONTY DON 11th November, at York Barbican.

WEARDALE MOTOR SERVICES

Harrogate Spring Flower Show, 27th April, £19

Houses and Gardens Fit for a King, Leicestershire, Rutland and Lincolnshire; 3rd May 5 days, £459

Rothbury and Cragside, 29th June, £19

Christmas at Kew Gardens, 22nd November, 4 days, £365

Great Yorkshire Show, 10th July, £48

Castle Howard at Christmas, 4th December, £41

DOBBIES, PONTELAND Spring Containers. Afternoon tea followed by demonstration of making a Spring Container, and the opportunity to make your own to bring home - all materials supplied. 13th and 20th April, 3 pm.

WYNYARD HALL Sandwich with hot drink and garden entry £14; Afternoon tea and garden entry £20; both until 31st March.

JONATHAN MOSELEY ANNUAL CHRISTMAS RESIDENTIAL COURSE At Baslow, Derbyshire, Nov 29th to Dec 1st. All materials, workshops, evening gala dem., meals and accommodation; £625 for single room.

NEXT MEETING 19th March 2024, 7 pm, St Annes Talk on Teesdale's floral meadows and the work of Durham Wildlife Trust. Raffle of Spring Plants.