
Oxenhope gardening club

Newsletter

April 2013

www.oxenhopegardeningclub.co.uk

April talk: Hardy plants for the spring garden

John Holden of Holden Clough Nursery, and BBC Young Gardener of the Year 2012, is our April speaker.



To claim the title John underwent a gruelling process including plant identifications, quick fire questions and designing and

constructing a garden from scratch in just three hours.

He grew up with gardening in his blood and his particular interest in *Crocsmia* has led to a nationally recognised collection of over 140 different varieties.

With his girlfriend, Kate Lawson, John runs the nursery and has won numerous awards culminating in the RHS Gold award at Tatton Park Flower Show 2011.

Book for Fern Cottage

Our evening visit to Fern Cottage on Thursday, 20 June costs £1—to cover the cost of refreshments.

It is helpful for the organisers to know how many people will be coming along. Please sign your name on the sheet at our next meeting and pay in advance.

If you don't have transport don't hesitate to ask one of the committee for a lift. We don't want anyone feeling left out.

Plant sale... helpers please



It's nearly time for our plant sale on Thursday, May 16.

Your plants and unopened seed packets will be gratefully received. Selling will start at 7.30—no forestalling.

We are grouping plants together according to price. If you feel yours is a particularly valuable specimen please put it on the £5-and-over table.

Table posies will add to the occasion, so if you can spare any fresh blooms from your garden do bring them along.

The committee are getting ready to bake cakes but we need everyone else to get baking too!

Can you spare half an hour during the evening to help in the kitchen? If so please tell one of the committee.



Tatton trip full

We have now taken enough bookings to go ahead with our summer trip to the RHS Flower Show Tatton Park on Saturday, 27 July.

Thank you to everyone for your support.

2013 dates for your diary:

April 18

John Foley, RHS Young Gardener of the Year 2012: 'Hardy plants for the spring garden'. He will bring plants for sale.

May 16

Members' plant sale, coffee, cakes and raffle. Open to all-comers. Keep up the propagating, planting and sowing.

June 20

Evening visit to Fern Cottage, Steeton. Pippa and Andrew Chapman will show us round their organic smallholding.

July 21 – garden party

Venue to be confirmed

July 27, Saturday

Coach trip to RHS Flower Show Tatton Park. Cost £33. £28.50 RHS members.

September 19

Susie White of Allendale, Northumberland: 'A Blank Canvas – making a garden from scratch'.

October 17

Fritillaria fanatic, Kevin Pratt: 'Fritillaries and private gardens of Cheshire'.

November 21

Fergus Garrett, head gardener at Great Dixter: 'An Evening with Fergus Garrett'.

December No meeting.

Return to sender

A small number of the club's e-mails to members are bouncing back. If you have given us your e-mail to receive the newsletter electronically, and are not receiving it, please let us know.

You could mention it to one of the committee at the meeting or contact us via the website, to rectify the problem.

Message from the chair

A big thank you to everyone who filled in a questionnaire—we had 49 replies full of interesting suggestions and ideas. The committee enjoyed your positive feedback.

One of the committee is going to give a verbal response at the April meeting and we plan to write a full summary of the results for the May newsletter.

We will take your comments on board when planning the 2014 season.

Tea and coffee rota

Helpers are usually needed for the tea and coffee rota for our meetings.



All you need to do is set up, serve refreshments and tidy up.

Please ring Ruth or Sue if you can help out:

Ruth Shepley **643437**
Sue Gibson **642684**

It's your newsletter

Why not send in a contribution to the newsletter? Jenny would be grateful.

Email Jenny via the club website or at jenny.hakney@talktalk.net

Keeping our club printing costs down

We are cutting down the number of newsletters we print. If you could read it online email Richard Gibson who will add you to the email circulation list: richard.gibson@oxenhopegardeningclub.co.uk



All phone numbers are 01535 unless stated otherwise.