

#### Welcome to the September newsletter



I hope your gardens haven't suffered too much in this summer's extreme heat and that the recent rain has revitalised them.

My garden in France certainly

suffered having had the same high temperatures over a prolonged season with no rain and a hosepipe ban in place since July. Some plants, particularly the rhododendrons did not survive. However, when I left my garden at the end of August, it was for the last time. In June, I sold the house to a delightful couple with a young family and a keen interest in gardening. Although it was a wrench to leave the much loved garden that I had transformed from a field over the last 21 years, I know my son is looking forward to me being able to spend even more time in his garden! **Sandra** 

# The speaker for September will be Lucy Bellamy



Lucy Bellamy, our speaker for September, will be giving a talk on her experiences of creating a new garden from scratch in a year.

Lucy is a former primary school teacher. She trained at Chelsea Physic Garden with the RHS and became a

garden designer and writer. She was also a contestant on series 4 of the Great British Bake Off and for five years until recently was the editor of Gardens Illustrated. She was awarded Editor of the Year in 2018 and was the launch editor of Modern Gardens magazine. She has written two books, one of which was the winner of the Practical Book of the Year in the Garden Media Guild awards. She also writes a gardening column for the Guardian and the Sunday Times



Lilium tigrinum: Tiger Lily. Plant of the month.

Lilium lancifolium or as many people will know this plant, Lilium

tigrinum or Tiger lily. This is a wonderful plant to add to the late summer and early autumn garden with its blazing burnt orange turkscap flowers, heavily marked with dark purple spots. It is a robust, stem-rooting, clump-forming lily with dark purple stems and shiny, narrow, dark green leaves. It is designated as a triploid which makes it a vigorous plant as it does not produce seed. A native of China, Japan and Korea, it is found growing in a number

of locations and in these countries the bulbs were consumed as food up to 1000 years ago. It is still cooked today and resembles turnips in flavour. The flower buds are eaten raw or cooked. Not recommended to be tried out! In ideal soils without lime and in full sun. it will quickly naturalise large areas. It is easy to grow and forms a large bulb from which new stems grow rapidly each year to about 1.5 metres tall. Set at the base of the leaves is a small bulbil which can be planted in the ground to rapidly increase this plant. Stockists of this plant include: Harts Nursery (hartsnursery.co.uk),.Binny Plants (binnyplants.com), Crug Farm Plants (mailorder.crug-farm.co.uk).

## A Thank You to all our members

Thank you to all our members who have continued to support the club over these last two difficult years. Your support means we are able to continue to engage high profile and interesting speakers, one of whom will be Chris Beardshaw in 2023. Also, we have three, unclaimed raffle tickets. No's 121, 127,157. Please see meet- and- greet person next meeting!

#### Future speakers:

In October the speaker will be Elaine Robinson. The club made a highly enjoyable visit to Elaine's garden in July and she will be talking about wildlife gardening.

### Gardening news and events:

Harlow Carr: Autumn Crafts, Bath House Gallery. Sept. 15 to Oct 15

Stillingfleet Nursery: Autumn Garden, Walk, Wed. September 28. 10-12

#### Tea and coffee rota

Thank you to those of you who have



volunteered in the past to help with the rota.

If you can help please sign the rota sheet on the refreshment counter.

Or ring Ruth Shepley 01535643437

www.oxenhopegardenclub.co.uk