



# Oxenhope

## Gardening Club News

March 2022

### Welcome to the March newsletter



One of the many highlights of my visit to the garden isle of Madeira, was the visit, via cable car, to the botanical gardens in Funchal. It was originally the estate or Quinta, of the Reid family who established the gardens in 1881 and who owned Reid's Hotel, a favourite holiday place of Winston Churchill. It was a wonderful experience to walk around this garden, enjoying the 3,000 plant species that grow there, which include many exotic

plants from around the world. **Sandra**

### The speaker for March will be Paul Cook



Paul Cook, curator of the RHS garden at Harlow Carr, was appointed in 2013 and leads a team of 30 horticulturalists, RHS trainees and volunteers. Since he was appointed, many changes have taken place in the gardens, with many more exciting developments to come. Paul will be talking about these new developments in this month's meeting.

### Corylopsis Pauciflora : Plant of the month



**Corylopsis** is a small shrub of great delicacy of form, leaf and flower. In March and April its bare shoots are covered with pendant clusters of fragrant, pale yellow bells, which are followed by bronzed, hazel-like leaves. Its other name is buttercup winter hazel. It is a member of the witch hazel family and grows in partial shade, preferring an acid soil. It makes a wonderful specimen plant for a partially shady border or

woodland edge. Ultimate height, 1-1.5 metres. **Stockists include** : Larch Cottage, Melkinthorpe, Penrith, Cumbria and Daleside Nurseries, Killinghall, Nr. Harrogate.



## Calling all members interested in bees!

One of our members, Elaine Robinson, who lives near Hebden Bridge, is a beekeeper as well as a passionate gardener. Elaine is looking for a potential new site

for around 3 to 4 hives of bees, in the Hebden Bridge or Todmorden area. Any member who has a large garden or land with good access and is interested in helping Elaine and wants find out more, her contact email is below. Benefits include free pollination services from the bees and a pot or two of delicious local honey! Contact Elaine at [elainemary1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:elainemary1@hotmail.co.uk)

## Future speakers:

**In April the speaker will be Katy Merrington**, Katy Merrington is the Cultural Gardener for the Hepworth Gallery, Wakefield, the remarkable garden designed by Tom Stuart-Smith. The club will be visiting the garden in August.

**In May, it will be the club's plant sale**, so please start thinking about what you can contribute!

## Club visits:

**June, Sat 11<sup>th</sup> Renishaw Hall.** A coach trip has been organised. The coach will cost £20 and we will be asking members who wish to join the trip for a £10 non-refundable deposit at the March/April meeting. RHS members will have free access to the gardens. Refreshment facilities available.

**July 21 we will visit** Elaine Robinson's garden near Hebden Bridge.

**August's visit** (date TBC) to the Hepworth Garden at Wakefield.

## Gardening news and events:

**Arley Hall and Gardens:** Plant fair. Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> 10-16.00.

**Scampston Walled Garden:** Mother's day weekend special (mums go free) Sat 10.00-5pm March 26 & Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Harlow Carr: Japanese Exhibition and Pop-Up shop:** Until March 20

## 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 **01535.643437**