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# Oxenhope gardening club

Newsletter

February 2013

[www.oxenhopegardeningclub.co.uk](http://www.oxenhopegardeningclub.co.uk)

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## We're off to Tatton!

**Dust off your picnic hampers for our summer trip to the RHS Flower Show Tatton Park on Saturday, 27 July.**

The show is billed as 'The North's greatest garden party' and has lots of fresh ideas for people who love both flowers and vegetables.

Highlights include the Great British Allotment area, or if you prefer ornamental plants, in the Floral Marquee you'll find a huge choice from some of the UK's top nurseries.

Our trip is for 30 people and we will be asking you to pay the full cost when you book a place (payable to Oxenhope Gardening Club).

This is because there is considerable outlay in booking the show tickets and a coach, and some trips in the past have run at a loss because of people dropping out at the last minute.

For RHS members the cost of show ticket and the bus is £28.50. (We will need your RHS membership number to get the discounted price.)

Non-RHS members will pay £33. The trip is open to non-gardening club members so please encourage your horticultural friends to join the trip.

For this fantastic day out to one of the country's leading flower shows please book now. As soon as we have enough bookings we can confirm travelling details and timings.

## Message from the chair

Membership fees for 2013 are due. Your subscription entitles you to a varied year of top-class speakers and garden visits.

To help speed up enrolment please have your cheque for £15 made payable to Oxenhope Gardening Club.

Please don't leave the meeting until you have filled in your questionnaire! Tell us how you would like us to spend your subscription money and what you want on the programme in 2014.

We still need volunteers for the committee. The meetings are informal and friendly—held Monday evening in the week before a talk. We particularly need someone to take minutes and type them up afterwards. This could even be a non-speaking role for shrinking violets!

Please help us to keep the club going.

**Richard**

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## Those plant people

**A hardy few braved the snow in January to hear Pippa and Andrew Chapman talk about their fascinating smallholding near Steeton.**

The couple shared their deep knowledge of organic approaches to getting the best yield from their former grazing land.

We look forward to visiting them in June to see their meadow, borders and find out how the veg trials are getting on.

## 2013 dates for your diary:

### February 21

David Allison, editor of the National Vegetable Society's magazine looks forward to 'A vegetable grower's year'.



### March 21

Trevor Nicholson, head gardener at Harewood: 'The Himalayan Garden'.

### 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. Start now propagating, planting and sowing.

### June 20

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

### July 27, Saturday

Coach trip to RHS Flower Show Tatton Park. Approximate cost £33.

### August – garden party?

Future of garden party dependent on questionnaire results.

### 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 Garret'.

**December:** No meeting.

## Grow now for plant sale

**Don't forget that our meeting on May 16 will be a plant sale and raffle with coffee and cakes, open to all comers.**

This is to boost the club's funds and help pay our speakers' fees.

So now is the time to start nurturing a few seedlings or divisions so you can bring them along to raise much-needed funds for the club.



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## 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 one of the committee if you can help out:

Chairman, Richard Berry	<b>647974</b>
Treasurer, Sue Gibson	<b>642684</b>
Publicity, Jenny Hakney	<b>610599</b>

## 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](mailto:jenny.hakney@talktalk.net)

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## 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](mailto:richard.gibson@oxenhopegardeningclub.co.uk)



All phone numbers are 01535 unless stated otherwise.