



# Oxenhope Gardening Club Newsletter

Tonight we welcome Roddy Llewellyn

March 2011

## Thoughts from the Chair:

The garden is warming up! The ducks are back. They appear about this time each year and then disappear just after the ducklings have hatched, not to be seen again until the next year.

I have just got home to find that Green Thumb has been and scarified and aerated the lawns. What a mess it looks like a bog. Its not their fault its just that the lawn is not draining.

So onto Garden Club News. As you will have seen if you have been to the Community Centre in the daylight, the three trees have been planted at the front of the Centre. The alliums have also been planted so many thanks go to Anne, Andy and Frank. There is just the grasses to plant now.

At the next months meeting you will be asked to sign up for the trip to Jacqueline Iddons Garden which will take place in June. The full cost will be £25 per person. It may sound like a lot but this includes tea or coffee on arrival, a light lunch, a talk and a tour.

Ruth would like to ask if anyone is prepared to volunteer for the tea rota from September onwards. Please speak with Ruth if you are able to help.

Richard Berry

BROOKFIELD

My garden—now things are warming up a bit in the afternoons lots of jobs to do. I need to remove leaves from the Hellebores and the Epimediums. If the latter are left too late the flower stems emerge and make it difficult to avoid clipping them.

Today I got some logs to make two log gardens. I got the idea from some I saw on holiday and are ideal where the ground is full of roots. I made three a few years ago and they have weathered in well. You make a circle of logs which are about 10 inches long and put wire around to hold them together- a bit fiddling to do. Fill them with compost and put the plants in. I had some branches cut from a Yew tree and a Rowan by the pond which has let more light in but is full of roots so this should work.

Quite a few things in flower- the Witch Hazel has been out for some time- smelling good. A Cornus Mas across from the gate is lovely. Two Viburnums with pink flowers, masses of Snowdrops and Crocus- Aconites nearly over. Erythronium Dens Canis almost out and my top favourite Leucojum, a huge mass of white Jasmin in the conservatory, scenting the room.

I'm beginning to dream of spring and this morning 9<sup>th</sup> March frog spawn in the pond!

Hazel Belsey

