

Oxenhope



Gardening Club News

March 2020

Our Gardens

In a world that at the moment seems increasingly unsure, there is one place that we can all regain a sense of normality than in our gardens.

What better place to retreat to and enjoy the start of spring in the garden?

The committee have agreed that if a speaker is unable at short notice to fulfil their engagement, all members will be sent an email informing them. This information will also be posted on the

Oxenhope website. Hopefully, this situation will not occur, but we would urge all members to check their emails or the website before coming to the meeting. The committee hope you all keep safe and well, and enjoy your gardening.

Sandra

Brilliant and Wild

The speaker for March will be Lucy Bellamy



Lucy Bellamy is the editor of the prestigious garden magazine, Gardens Illustrated. Lucy will be talking about her experiences in designing and planting the garden she

took over and its transformation from an average urban garden into beautiful and wildlife-friendly oasis – in just twelve months.

In sharing her experiences, Lucy aims to give even the most inexperienced gardener the chance to create their own beautiful and low maintenance garden.

Her book describing her gardening journey, Brilliant and Wild: Make a Garden from Scratch was published in 2018.

Narcissus 'Jack Snipe'



This month's feature plant celebrates the 250th anniversary of the birth of the poet William Wordsworth who immortalised the daffodil in his poem, *The Daffodils*. The most widely known variety of dwarf narcissus is Tete-a-Tete but there are so many other choices. The variety illustrated is Jack Snipe (category cyclamienus narcissus) which flowers March-April.

Dwarf or miniature narcissus are great choices for Yorkshire gardens as they are oblivious to most weather conditions, staying upright when larger varieties are being toppled by wind. Narcissus can also be planted in areas where other plants won't thrive; for example, bases of house walls where in summer the soil is often too dry for other plants. Narcissus flourish there because their natural habitat is where the soil is very dry in the summer months. They can also be planted in areas where the soil is too shallow for normal planting-such as stony ground or below a few inches of gravel.

Some narcissus varieties are prized by collectors of specialist bulbs and if you would like to know more about these, there is an article in the March edition of *Gardens Illustrated*.

Stockists of dwarf narcissus include Peter Nyssen. Avon Bulbs. Bloms Bulbs. Bramcote Bulbs.

Gardening news and events.

Community Free Day RHS Harlow Carr. Tues March 24. 9.30-4

Ripon Cathedral Spring Food, Home and Garden Fair Sat April 4

Thank you to those of you who have recently volunteered to help with the rota.



NGS Spring Opening. Goldsborough Hall. Sun, March 29 1-5

Newburg Priory Open Gardens & Plant Fair Sun April 19 11-4

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

Or ring Ruth or Kath if you can help:

- Ruth Shepley **643437**
- Kath Batty **643592**

Keep our printing costs down

If you could read this newsletter online please email richard.gibson@oxenhopegardeningclub.co.uk and he will add you to the mailing list.



All phone numbers are 01535 unless stated otherwise.

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