

# Oxenhope

## gardening club news

April 2015



# Club's quarter century

**We're already making plans for the club's silver anniversary in 2016.**

The committee wants to make it a really special year, so at April's committee meeting we started finalising plans for some popular and high-profile speakers.

We hope to have a return visit from our old favourite Tom Hart-Dyke and have

invited associate editor of *Gardens Illustrated*, Anna Pavord, to speak.

We are also approaching experts on dahlias, vegetables and the Forest of Bradford.

If there is a particular topic or speaker you would like to hear please get in touch with a committee member.

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## Summer's evenings



**The first trip this year is earlier than usual to see the Himalayan Gardens at their best—on 21 May.**

This 20-acre woodland garden and sculpture park is about six miles from Ripon. The garden is teeming with a fabulous array of plants cloaking the steep hillsides.

Streams meander through the garden's valleys leading down to peaceful lakes.

The garden is home to an extensive collection of rare Rhododendrons and Himalayan plants, nestled among mass plantings of showy hybrids. And of course we are hoping that the timing is right for the Meconopsis to be in flower!

So please sign up for the trip at the meeting on 16 April. We need your £8.50 as soon as possible so that Sue can pay for everyone as we arrive. We are making our own way there so please check arrival time before the day. There are full directions at [www.himalayangarden.com](http://www.himalayangarden.com)

## Gardens of Gledhow

Closer to home, three gardeners in Oxenhope have agreed to open their gardens for us on 16 July. The evening starts at 7pm and includes refreshments—donations of cakes will be welcomed.

Please make a minimum donation of £5 to club funds.

## Dove Cottage

On 20 August we are meeting at Dove Cottage near Shibden Hall for a private stroll round their atmospheric garden of late-summer perennials and grasses. Again we will need you to sign up as soon as possible. This intimate visit will cost £7.50 including light refreshments.

## 2015 dates for your diary:

16 April

**Neil Timm, The Fern Nursery:** Astride the Garden Fence. Wild flowers in the garden, garden escapees and some plants that belong to both worlds. Growing wild flowers and the stories they tell.

21 May

**Himalayan Gardens** Evening visit.

18 June

The club's **plant sale and cakes**

16 July

**The Gardens of Gledhow, Oxenhope.**

Evening visit to three gardens

20 August

**Dove Cottage** evening visit.

17 September

**Michael Myers:**

Autumnal interest in the Garden

15 October

**Sue Beesley, Bluebell Cottage:**

Transforming Bluebell cottage gardens

19 November

**Bob Brown, Cotswold Garden**

**Flowers:** So many plants, so little space.

Full list is on [our website](#).

## Plant sale...time to get propagating

**It's will soon be time for our plant sale, which this year is in June.**

Don't forget to save those seedlings and divisions, rather than composting them.

Your plants and unopened seed packets will be gratefully received.

We'll be grouping plants together according to price, so keep your rarer specimens for the £5-and-over table.

Committee members are getting ready to bake cakes but we need everyone else to get baking too!

## 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 Ruth or Sue if you can help:

- Ruth Shepley **643437**
- Sue Gibson **642684**

## Need a lift to events?

If would like help with transport to meetings and trips please tell either Jenny Hakney on 610599 or Ruth Shepley on 643437.

The committee decided to take a break from booking coaches because it is a huge responsibility for the organiser and we can make a loss. If you would like to organise coach transport for any of our trips, please do volunteer!

## Why not send in a contribution to the newsletter?

Jenny would be grateful if you could help her fill the space. Email Jenny via the club website or at [jenny.hakney@talktalk.net](mailto:jenny.hakney@talktalk.net)

## 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.

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