

Oxenhope

Gardening Club News

February 2020



Welcome to the February newsletter.

Gardeners look forward to spring and the excitement of buying plants. However, sometimes spring encourages you to find another position for a plant you already have, which for some reason isn't thriving in the spot it was planted.

About 7 years ago, having been inspired by Beth Chatto's recommendation, I bought a Ribes laurifolium shrub which I planted in my little wood in France. I knew it was a plant slow to get established, but after 5

years, it was struggling and obviously not happy so I decided 2 years ago, to bring it back to Yorkshire and plant it in my son's garden. (Something I haven't done since, being aware of the risk of spreading pests and diseases)

Since planting in his little wood, it has thrived and this month is covered in sweetly scented flowers, doing all the things I expected of it. In Beth's words, `right plant, right place` Enjoy your gardening!

Sandra

The Hepworth Wakefield Garden

The speaker for February will be Katy Merrington.



Katy Merrington is the Cultural Gardener for the Hepworth Wakefield. The garden was designed by Tom Stuart-Smith and the design draws inspiration from its unusual setting between 19th-century red-brick mills and a 21st-century art gallery, edged by the River Calder. It harnesses a naturalism that reflects Barbara Hepworth's deep connection to the landscape.

Katy worked with Tom Stuart-Smith on the planting of the garden and now has the responsibility for maintaining it, as well as working with the learning team to devise an exciting outdoor programme. Katy has worked in some of the best gardens in the UK and USA including Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh at Logan, Dumfries & Galloway and Longwood Gardens: Pennsylvania, USA.

Scent in February.

Hamamelis x intermedia` common name, witch hazel, are shrubs that offer profuse flowering at a time when everything else in the garden looks dull.



Witch hazels are beautiful shrubs of an open vase shape growing to a final

height of 3m so ideal even for a small garden.

The variety, `Barmstedt Gold` is unique in its flower colour. Not the usual sulphur yellow, but truly golden with a hint of orange.

It produces its abundant large, fragrant deep golden –yellow flowers on bare twigs in late winter and early spring. It's a shrub that will tolerate part shade and its foliage turns a lovely reddish colour in autumn.

Stockists: RHS Harlow Carr; Weasdale Nurseries, Kirkby Stephen.

Gardening news and events.

February is snowdrop time!

Goldthorpe Hall Harrogate. HG5 8NR
Sun Feb 9, 16 and Sat Feb 22. 10 -4

Thorp Perrow Arboretum DL8 2PS
Sat Feb 20 – Sat Feb 29

Burton Agnes YO25 4NB Feb 7 –
March 1. 11-4

Bridge House Farm Selby DN14 OBE
Sun Feb 23, 1-4

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



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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