

Oxenhope

Gardening Club News

November 2019



More on Ornamental Shrubs

November's plant is the shrub
Lonicera Fragrantissima



This is a winter flowering shrub with highly scented flowers on almost leafless branches, to the delight of those bees still active in winter.

It will tolerate any soil and is happy in part shade or full sun and, importantly for this area of Yorkshire, it tolerates exposed sites. It's ultimate height is 1.5 to 2.5 metres.

Many years ago, I read about this shrub in a book `In Your Garden` written by Vita Sackville West.

From 1946, Vita, the creator with her husband of the gardens at Sissinghurst, wrote a gardening column for The Observer. Later, these articles were collected into a set of books published between 1951 and 1958.

I was inspired to grow this shrub, through remembering Vita's evocative description of the intense scent from the two or three branches placed in a vase which perfumed her study as she was writing. It's from such descriptions that gardeners are inspired!

Sandra

Making Christmas Arrangements

Annie Milburn from Rosa Rugosa



Annie Milburn is a florist based in Haworth who aims to provide floral arrangements which are a little bit out of the ordinary.

Annie will be demonstrating how you can make Christmas arrangements using materials and foliage found in your garden.

Volunteers will be asked to join in and try their hand at making an arrangement.

Walmer Castle Gardens, Kent



The gardens at Walmer Castle, sit on the coast just below the seaside town of Deal and has long been the official residence of the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports.

It was constructed as a moated fort but gradually the residents turned the land around the castle into gardens. The moat is now an integral part of the garden, with a variety of shrubs and trees planted along the walls of the castle.

There is a double herbaceous border framed by cloud-pruned yew which leads to a croquet lawn. A productive kitchen garden provides fruit and vegetables to the on-site cafes while the Queen Mother's Garden is a contemporary garden created for the Queen Mother's 95th birthday, a modern garden in a heritage property.

The latest part of the garden to be reinstated is The Glen, originally created by William Pitt and his niece in a chalk quarry. This woodland garden encourages visitors to fully engage with the garden, nature and the environment more widely.

This is a garden for everyone and encourages real engagement no matter your age or interests!

Thank you to committee member Dr Rebecca Slack for this article.

Rebecca was a member of the Leeds University team responsible for winning the 2012 Chelsea Gold Medal garden which highlighted environmental improvements to be made through gardening.

Gardening news and events

Christmas Crafts Bath House Gallery.RHS Harlow Carr: October 15 to November 24

Glow. Magical lighting effects as dusk falls at Harlow Carr: November 21 to December 28, Thursday-Saturday, 4.30pm-8 pm

2020 Membership. Please remember to bring your cheque books to the November meeting!

Tea and coffee rota

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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