



# Oxenhope

## Gardening Club News

October 2022

### Welcome to October's newsletter



**I was sorry not to be able to be present at Lucy Bellamy's talk which I know will**

**have been very interesting and informative:** I was in Aberdeen visiting my daughter. My daughter is a volunteer gardener for 3 days a week for the National Trust Scotland at the beautiful Crathes Castle gardens. I was fortunate enough to be able to lend a helping hand in preparing the garden for

winter. Aberdeenshire has seen the effects of global warming as they are now able to overwinter some species that previously would never have survived. While I was there, some of the Eucryphia trees were still in bloom and where I was working, the Actaea flowers were scenting the air. I was not able to join the July visit Elaine Robinsons garden in Hebden Bridge, so I'm looking forward to hearing her talk at this month's meeting.

**Sandra**

### Planting for Bees. The speaker for October will be Elaine Robinson



**Elaine will be talking about how to choose plants for your garden that are best for bees.** Elaine is a keen gardener and beekeeper and as well as sharing interesting facts about honeybees, she will also introduce us to major honeybee plants, as well as giving advice

on the best plants to grow in our gardens. Elaine will end the session with a honey tasting and the opportunity to buy her honey, beeswax wraps and wildflower seed collected from her meadow.

## Fritillaria persica: Plant of the month



This month's plant, *Fritillaria persica* is a spring flowering bulb known as the Persian lily and is a Middle Eastern species of the lily family Liliaceae. It is native to the rocky slopes of Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Cyprus, Palestine and Israel. *Fritillaria persica* is at its very best in late-spring and early-summer. *Fritillaria persica* 'Minaret' produces densely-packed clusters of sumptuous, dark plum-coloured bell-shaped flowers on elegant, tall stems which progressively open from the bottom upwards. It's unusually tall for a spring-flowering bulb and therefore makes a grand statement among other tall-flowering blooms such as tulips and white narcissi and grasses. *Fritillaria persica* 'Twin Towers Tribute' flowers more reliably than the species and bears two flower spikes per bulb, rather than one. The ancestors of this *Fritillaria* originated in southern Turkey. As such, it prefers a hot, sheltered site. However, it is also robust and fully hardy, ideal for free-draining sunny borders. Cut back blooms after flowering and feed with a potash-rich fertiliser to encourage it to flower again the following year.

**Stockists include:** **Crocus:** [crocus.co.uk](http://crocus.co.uk); **Peter Nyssen:** [peternyssen.com](http://peternyssen.com); **Hayloft Plants:** [hayloft.co.uk](http://hayloft.co.uk)

## Gardening news and events:

**Harlow Carr:** Bath House Gallery: Christmas Crafts. 20<sup>th</sup> October to 23<sup>rd</sup> December

**Harlow Carr:** Library Flora and Thread exhibition. 31<sup>st</sup> October – 18<sup>th</sup> December

**Yorkshire Arboretum:** Meet the Trees John Grimshaw. 18 October 10-12

## Tea and coffee rota

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



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

Or ring Ruth Shepley **01535.643437**

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