



# Oxenhope

## Gardening Club News

September 2023

### Welcome to the September newsletter.

This year, for the first time in a number of years, I have been able to go on our summer club outings having previously spent summers in France, and it's been a great treat. The first garden visit was in June to the **ShIPLEY Open Gardens**, which was organised by one of the club's members, Kathryn Wilson. The feedback from members was that it was an excellent and interesting tour of the local gardens.

The second garden visit was in July to **The Grange near Skipton**.



In a summer that has been predominantly beset by rain, we were blessed with a warm, sunny day. The gardens, which cover over 4 acres and include many mature trees and wonderful herbaceous borders, looked magnificent, with the added bonus of the panoramic views towards the Gateway to the Dales. The interesting selection of plants on sale were quickly snapped up!



The third and final garden visit this summer was in August to the hidden treasure of **Parcevall Hall Gardens** set in the heart of Wharfedale National Park. The setting was stunning, the weather was glorious and the visit was made even more memorable by the fascinating tour given by the head gardener. His love and commitment to the garden further enhanced our enjoyment of the beautiful gardens and the stunning landscape in which

they were set. Among the many interesting trees, there was also one of my most favourite trees, which was in full bloom when we were there. I was asked its name, but I had a senior moment and couldn't remember.

Well, I've made up for that by choosing it as plant of the month. Enjoy!

**Sandra**

## Painting with Plants: The speaker for September will be Chris Beardshaw.



Few designers are as synonymous with Chelsea Flower Show as Chris Beardshaw, who has been scooping up Gold Medals and Best in Show titles since 1998. He describes it as an ‘addiction’; one he finds exciting, challenging and ultimately satisfying – if inexplicable. He is quoted as saying that he” always approaches the design in the same way, whether I am dealing with a private client or whether I’m dealing with a Chelsea garden. For me, it’s very much about finding those threads of a storyline that you could weave together into a garden tapestry that resonates with the person that you’re designing it for. ...”

The roots of Chris Beardshaw’s career go back to childhood, when at the age of four he was given his first packet of seeds and a watering can. Chris studied horticulture at England’s Pershore College in Worcestershire and received an M.A. in Landscape Architecture from the University of Gloucestershire. At 28 he became Pershore’s youngest full time lecturer and went on to teach and consult at various universities and colleges throughout the UK and received an Honorary Degree from the University of Liverpool in 2013. He’s won 14 RHS Gold medals: He’s been 6 times winner of the RHS Best in Show award: He’s the author of 4 books and has designed 40 show gardens internationally. We are delighted that he’s made the journey up to Oxenhope to talk to us!

## Plant of the Month: Eucryphia Glutinosa



**Eucryphia glutinosa, is the hardiest of the Eucryphias and is the only one that is deciduous.** The species was introduced to British horticulture in 1859 and is probably best known as one of the parents of *Eucryphia x nymansensis*. It has very fragrant flowers, which are loved by bees, and even with flowering past its peak, *Eucryphia glutinosa* remains interesting as the petals fall, leaving behind the 'paintbrush' heads of tightly packed anthers which will remain a few days more. It

requires a moist, acid soil, with its roots shaded from the sun. It has an RHS AGM award. Sizeable examples in cold gardens include a pair of trees at Howick Hall Northumberland at 10 metres; one at Keir House near Dunblane, Scotland 9 metres, and the one I know, at Crathes Castle, Aberdeenshire, 8 metres. Stockists: Burncoose Nurseries TR16. 6BJ

The founder of Inverewe Gardens in Scotland said of this plant 'I do not know of any shrub that I can more highly recommend to everyone. It is such a good doer and never sick or sorry whatever the seasons may be like. They are most floriferous and their blooms are so lovely, a little like sprays of a white dog rose',

## Thank you!

**The committee would like to thank all our members who continue to support the club;** by bringing and buying plants for the plant sale in June, which made the largest profit ever, and by, every month, generously buying raffle tickets, teas and coffees. This all makes it possible to fund the speakers that we invite, which we hope you agree are high profile and interesting speakers.

As we have limited places available at our next meeting, we would be very grateful if members who are not able to attend the Chris Beardshaw meeting could let us know so we can meet the demand for guest tickets. Guest tickets can be bought by contacting the club treasurer on [treasurer@oxenhopegardeningclub.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@oxenhopegardeningclub.co.uk)

## Future speakers:

**In October the speaker will be Lisa Hudson from the RHS garden at Bridgewater.**

## Gardening news and events:

**Harrogate Autumn Flower Show Newby Hal, Ripon HG4 5AE.**

September 15 to 17

**Open Gardens: Ellerker House Gardens, Everingham YO42 4JA.**

September 25, 12-4

**Harlow Carr: Autumn Crafts, Bath House Gallery.**

September 15 to October 15

**Stillingfleet Nursery: Autumn Garden, Walk, Wed. September 28. 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.

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