

Spring Newsletter 2020

Sue Kinlochan writes

A warm welcome to everyone, and in particular to our new members. We have had a very varied collection of talks this season, which have been exceptionally well attended and I should like to thank Marion and Pippa for their input in arranging our Talks and Garden Visits programme.

Our last talk on Wednesday 11 March at Froxfield will be a Q&A session with the owners of Butterfly Plants Nursery in Cheriton. This will be in a different format where members will be able to ask Angela and Andrew's advice on growing perennials, particularly those attracting insects into your garden.

For our next Garden Club project we have been asked by Ian Hughes and Rob Hollis to look at what can be done in the churchyard at Privett Church so that a plan can be formalised to generally tidy the area and hopefully replant gradually with wildflowers. Joanne Edmonds and myself will be meeting with Rob shortly to research the project. Rob and Ian have the 'manpower' to do the hard work, they are looking to the Garden Club for our expertise in planting and designing! I will keep you informed of progress.

Our Pollipromise collaboration with Froxfield School will continue apace this spring, and we are all looking forward to seeing the yellow tulips planted in memory of the Holocaust, which is a current School project. The Garden Club working party will be back when the weather improves to help the children get the flower beds ready for the summer, and, of course, for our Open Garden event on Sunday 21 June.

We are all looking forward to the Spring Show on Saturday 28 March at Privett Village Hall and we are hoping for lots of entries from our members! More on the Show from Christine below.

Please let us know if you have any ideas as to how we could improve the running of the Garden Club, and I should like to thank Steve McWilliam for setting out the Newsletter and incorporating all the lovely photos!



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SPRING SHOW 2020



Christine Stephens writes:

Hello Everyone

As ever I have been watching the weather hoping that we will have a good display at the Spring Show on 28th March. Thankfully my daffodils were only just through the ground for most of the storms, so there might be some blooms that I can enter.

Whatever happens in the garden, there are still the flower arranging and cookery classes. This year the large flower arranging class is "A Host of Golden Daffodils". I learnt that poem as a child and can still remember the first verse, so I hope we will celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the birth of William Wordsworth with even more daffodils than usual.

No recipes have been included for the cookery classes so I look forward to seeing your choice of flavours for the swiss roll together with favourite recipes for the ginger biscuits and lemon meringue pie.

It was with sadness that I learnt that Ruth Hiscock was closing the Rainbow Nursery at the end of last summer term. She has been a strong supporter of the garden club over the years. The bugs on tiles from the summer show in 2018 were particularly memorable.

However, I am pleased to report that the Froxfield Pre-School will be putting in pictures of daffodils. I am expecting some colourful entries.

The Montessori Nursery in Privett and Froxfield Primary School are also continuing their support of the show with entries on the theme of Recycling and Collages of Natural Materials.

Show schedules with entry forms and details of all the classes have been emailed out to members and are available as hard copies at both Froxfield Stores and Budgens (West Meon Hut service station). Please return your entries either to Froxfield Stores or a committee member (not Budgens) by 5pm on Thursday 26th March.

Finally, my regular request for plants, produce and garden sundries for the Bring and Buy stall at the Show. As well as providing plants used to our microclimate it gives the Garden Club funds a welcome boost.

I look forward to seeing you at the Spring Show.

Christine

christine@tcfk-stephens.co.uk

UPCOMING EVENTS

In order to ensure that the subjects for our talks and garden visits are more varied and interesting, we have set up a Sub Committee within the Garden Club to identify and plan our speakers and events to provide maximum benefit to our members. The people heading up the Sub Committee continue to be Marion Gimson, Pippa Chapman and Sue Kinloch.

Our next outing of the year is an evening visit to Down Place, South Harting GU31 5PN.

Cost £12 to include wine and nibbles. Tuesday 16th June at 6.30pm

A lovely downland garden with fantastic views of the surrounding countryside, extensive herbaceous, shrub and rose borders merging into a natural wild flower meadow renowned for its collection of wild orchids. We have chosen the date of our visit to hopefully coincide with the flowering of the orchids! Please contact Pippa Chapman on 01730 624000 or pjmchapman@yahoo.co.uk.



Following Down Place we have an outing to Malverleys, Near Newbury. RG20 0AA—Tuesday 7th July at 2pm

We have booked an exclusive garden tour of these beautiful gardens surrounding a large country house (not open). We are so lucky to be able to offer this visit as the garden is not usually open to the public. We have hired the local community bus which takes 16 people (therefore limited availability) for a total cost including a seat on the coach, entry and tour of the garden and tea and cake of £19. Otherwise, for members wishing to drive themselves the cost is £10 per head. See overleaf for photos of the gardens.

Please book with Sue Kinloch on 01730 829756 or sue.kinloch@gmail.com



UPCOMING OPEN GARDENS

Sunday 21st June 2020- 2pm 'Guiles' Froxfield Green GU32 1DQ by kind permission of Jan Cole

Froxfield School 'Flower Beds with planting for Pollinators' by kind permission of the School Governors and Head Teacher

Judy Quarry is now unable to open Glebe Cottage for the Garden Club. We are trying to find a replacement but it may be difficult at this late stage.

NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 11th MARCH

Plants for attracting Pollinators into your garden. A talk by Angela & Andrew Ward of Butterfly Plants Nursery Cheriton

PIPPA CHAPMAN'S THOUGHTS ON OPENING HER GARDEN LAST SUMMER

As I dash in and out from gardening amid the wind and rain, I am reminded of last Spring when we were preparing for the Open Gardens in July. I was and still am a novice gardener having newly moved from London. However, I learnt such a lot with the wonderful help of Trish Ross teaching me, that the many pretty purple 'spire' flowers that we had in the beds, were in fact weeds, and in fact many things in the beds were weeds! I really enjoyed and (Continued overleaf)



looked forward to our fortnightly, chatty gardening mornings together. I couldn't have done it without her help and the lovely plants that Sue Kinloch propagated to fill in the 'gaps'...however we could have done without the deers' severe pruning' of my new roses a week before the Open Gardens...no coal tar soap was going to put them off! Thinking back, it was a bit stressful but I am so pleased I put myself up for the challenge as it rejuvenated the garden and made me love gardening!

A GARDENING POEM FROM MADELEINE MCWILLIAM

Gardening Nah! Not me, I said
I'm not the sort to dig a bed.
All that mud and worms and weeds,
And anxiously tending trays of seeds

No, not for me that weather-watching,
Turning composts, and slug-catching.
As for the Latin names for plants
remembering them, leads a merry dance!

How then, you ask, did I get hooked?
Well ,there were several aspects I'd overlooked,
Like the peace and quiet as I work alone,
A welcome respite from a busy home

Then there are the Robins who watch me rake,
And seem to scold for the time I take.
Whilst they, from a branch, not far away
Impatiently wait for their meal of the day.

Perhaps I like spring when the flowers appear
Or the reward of vegetables in season rare.
Runner beans on poles, sweet peas too,
Roses perfumed and of delicate hue.

What the lure is, I'm not quite sure,
But time in the garden is never a bore.
My problem is I need a longer day,
Enough from me I've had my say!



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COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON: SUE
KINLOCHAN SECRETARY: STEVE
MCWILLIAM TREASURER: IAN
PAYNE SHOW SECRETARY:
CHRISTINE STEPHENS; MEMBERS
ANNE FENTON MICHAEL FAR-
RELL, TIDDA DOBBS, MARION
GIMSON, PIIPPA CHAPMAN &
MADELEINE MCWILLIAM

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SPRING SHOW

Saturday 28th March 2020

Privett Village Hall

Teas, Bring and Buy Plant, Cake and Produce stall

Raffle

Show opens 2 pm
Prizegiving 3.30pm

Entries to be in by 5pm on Thursday before the show
Entries to be staged by 10.15 am