



Whitstable and District Horticultural Society March Newsletter 2016

Next meeting

Tim Ingram



Alpines

The mini jewels of
the garden.

Tuesday 12th
April

7.30pm

United Reform
Church

Middle Wall

Whitstable

CT5 1BU

Raffle

Refreshments

Plant Sale

www.whithort.org
.uk

Society News

Member Marnie Summerfield Smith when not gardening is a writer who assists others to write their memoirs through her company yourmemoir.co.uk. As part of this year's WhitLit festival she is interviewing Vanessa Nicholson. Granddaughter of Vita Sackville-West who has written her own biography. Although not about gardening Vanessa gives some excellent insights into her family background and as she lives in a cottage on the Sissinghurst Estate she has a good knowledge of all that is happening within the gardens. The event is on Saturday 14th May 1.30pm at the Horsebridge Centre. Tickets are £5.50. Booking and further information on this event and the rest of the festival are available at horsebridge-centre.org.uk or by ringing the centre on 01227 281174. **WhitLit runs from 11th – 15th May 2016.**

Trips

Booking for our coach trips to Hampton Court on Tuesday 5th July and Capel Manor on Saturday 13th August has begun in earnest. To avoid disappointment do ensure you see Penny at the next meeting to bag a place for yourselves. A deposit of £10.00 per person for each trip is required with the remainder to be paid before the trip. After April's meeting any spare seats will be offered outside the society to ensure we cover the costs.

Maytree Nursery Visit

The date for this evening visit has been arranged for the evening of May 12th. As in previous visits it is self-drive to the nursery and any members who cannot get themselves there please let us know and we will try and arrange a lift for you. Full details and directions in the next issue.

Plant Sale



We are still looking for members willing to nurse the plants being bought in advance for our annual Plant Sale at St Alphege Church on Saturday 21st May. We have asked to extend the time we can be open for sales and providing there are no weddings booked between now and the event the church have agreed. This event along with member subscriptions is the main income for the year and last year's success allowed us to book more expensive speakers for this season. So we hope the proceeds from this year will give us the ability to do the same and hopefully stage other events next year. Help is also needed for the day - so step forward folks.

We also need any saleable garden sundries and equipment you no longer use and houseplants to sell. I have divided an Aloe Vera plant which has long needed sorting. The main part looks so much better for this and I am certain some of you must also have plants that need pruning or dividing so put your skills to the test. Let Gillian know how you can help.

Mini Competition.

As well as looking forward to Tim Ingram telling all about Alpines we are holding a mini competition at the next meeting. Either a vase made up of flowers and/or foliage of spring interest from your garden or a spring pot plant of a single specimen or multiple plant arrangement. Tim will be asked to judge the groups and certificates will be presented to the winners. We appreciate that modern life with its demands on time precludes our ability to hold a full horticultural show at the moment but we would like to resurrect the fun mini competitions. The only rule is that you must have had the pot plant in your possession for at least 6 weeks. So no sliding up the local nursery on the day.

Spain is calling me so I won't be at the next meeting. I am however busy spraying on dry days in the hope that upon my return the long awaited complete re-vamp of my garden can begin.

I will try and get some Lantana seeds to grow on whilst there as they flower their hat off when established and are so cheery. I hope your plans for this year are also coming along and we look forward to hearing about them.

Tina Morrissey.

