



Whitstable and District Horticultural Society

July Newsletter 2016

Society News

Unusually I am starting off with information on our next meeting. Our own Kevin Tooher is giving a demonstration on practical plant propagation. He has kindly said that if any members have any particular plants they want information on how to propagate, if you email the plant or technique to the society on enquiries@whithort.co.uk. He will include this in his talk if at all possible.

Capel Manor

Janet has booked our trip to Capel Manor on Saturday the 13th August. We can now open the trip out to non members for £25.00. Which includes coach travel, entry to the gardens and a guided tour. So to snap up the remaining few seats press the send button to us to secure a place(s). I hope my talk in February inspired you to visit the gardens and as well as 30 hectares including 10 acres of Gardening Which trial grounds. You can book the use of a wheelchair or mobility scooter in advance free of charge by contacting Janet on our email. Having trialled one of the scooters during a period of ill health I can assure those of reduced mobility that either option is easy to use for both the user and in the case of wheelchairs the person providing the power. There is also a very good refectory open to the public offering an excellent range of meals, snacks and treats. Plant sales and a gift shop complete an excellent venue for horticulturalists of every hue.

Gillian has been excellent in sending our emails to keep you all informed of local events. This is one of the main aims of the society is to be the gateway for all information on horticultural events locally. It is surprising

Next meeting

Kevin

Tooher



Practical
Propagation

Demonstration

Tuesday

12th July 7.30pm

United Reform Church

Middle Wall

Whitstable

CT5 1BU

Raffle

Refreshments

Plant Sale

www.whithort.org.uk

enquiries@whithort.org.uk

how much we can access in our little corner of Kent. One piece of information that has come to us is the RHS/Rotarian scheme to plant crocus across the nation this year. It is to date something we were not aware of so if any of you are or have a contact in the local Rotary club and they are participating please ask them to get in touch.

Plant Sale

This years' plant sale eventually made a profit with the stall set up in the umbrella centre for the Group Open Gardens on the 12th June. Despite it being a very busy day for the town with both this event, the Garage Sale Safari and Family Fun Day on the slopes. The gardens were both well received and visited by upwards of 500 people in many cases. Hopefully Francine will continue her excellent leadership of this event for future years and it will become another annual highlight. However, the committee being aware of the workload the plant sale puts on the society for both the growing on of plants and the day itself have discussed whether to continue. We had many more hands on the day this year which was an enormous help but without putting shackles on Kevin to stop him buying plug plants in great numbers we do need more members to help with the fostering of these plants prior to the sale. The inclement weather held many back this year and they were not in flower in many cases which also detracts from sales. So let Penny know if you are willing to take on some for next year and we will make a final decision in the autumn. However, do continue to take cuttings and pot up extra when dividing plants for the society as our monthly plant sales are becoming both of great interest as well as a good fund raiser for the society. No plant will ever go to waste with our plant hungry membership.

Lullingstone Visit

I return again to trips out. Kevin met with Tom Hart Dyke last week. Tom has agreed to give the society a private tour of the World Garden at Lullingstone on Saturday 24th September. Prior to the grounds being opened to the public. So we will have plenty of time to revisit after the tour. Janet has priced a coach at £20.00 per head for members but we need names before she books it. As coaches are extremely expensive and trips need to at least break even to prevent being a drain on our funds. You can see Janet during the Hampton Court trip and the ever wonderful Penny will be taking names at next week's meeting. If neither option is open then again make use of the societies email to let us know. Once Janet has secured sufficient numbers to be confident to book the coach payment details and arrangements will be forwarded to all. Somehow I feel this trip will be sold out very quickly.

Grown by You

We are having another pop up competition at the September meeting. Entitled Grown by You. So anything you have grown or tended is eligible. Whether fruit, veg or floral/foliage including houseplants. As usual you must have had the plant

for at least 6 weeks to come under the heading. This is a great chance to show the diversity of our interests so start think of what you can or wish to enter now.

Lastly I wish to take this opportunity to offer the societies condolences to the families and friends of Barbara Powell, Gwen Shelton and Terry Tompkinson. All of whom have sadly passed away in recent months. Terry was a long standing member who moved away a few years ago to be with his family. We are very grateful to them for letting us know that the move was a success and remembering his enjoyment of his membership sufficiently to let us know of his passing.

Both Barbara and Gwen were not only long standing members but they were also instrumental through long service on the committee for keeping the society going through some lean years. They will be much missed and our gratitude and sincere condolences go to Barbara's sister Vera who was also a stalwart of the society and of course David Shelton. David is still an active member and we hope that despite his loss he will remain so. May they and all gardeners rest in peace in the paradise of their beliefs.

These has been much to write about this month and indeed I could go on. I take it as a sign that the society is growing in all ways and our aim to provide members with a starting point for information, entertainment and inspiration is really beginning to come to fruition. Like all of you I am looking forward to refreshing my knowledge and learning more on propagation from Kevin next week. So see you there.

Fina Morrissey.