

Annual Subscriptions:

There are still some annual subscriptions outstanding. The subscription remains excellent value at £15 for the year. Jan has booked an interesting and varied range of speakers/demonstrators for the coming year. And as this is our 25th year there will be a little surprise each month for members. So, if you haven't renewed yet, a prompt payment would be appreciated.

Twitter:

The Garden Club can now be found on Twitter - bluebellgardenclublepton

Garden Club Coach Trip – Saturday 6th June 2020

Burton Agnes Hall & Gardens "Gardeners' Fair" for just £18



"A Summer Celebration of Gardening, with stalls, talks and demonstrations."
"Relish the Gardens, Explore the Hall"



40+ stalls, talks & advice, walled garden tours, specialist talks in the house, floral displays, miniature gardens, garden inspired art, chainsaw sculpture and alpacas to admire!



Access to the Hall and Gardens is included.

There is a cafe for food, pizzas with garden ingredients and ice creams also available.



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www.bluebellgardenclub.co.uk

NOVEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER



Next Month's Meeting

Christmas Party

3rd December at 7.30pm



The December meeting will be the annual Christmas Party. The format will be the same as last year with various light-hearted quizzes, games and a buffet meal with mulled wine (non-alcoholic drinks will be available for the drivers). Alison will circulate a form at tonight's meeting for listing food contributions. For those of you who attended last year, we are sure you will agree it was a very enjoyable evening.

Reminder: There won't be a meeting in January 2020. The February meeting next year (4th) will be Clifford Cain of Fruitscape "Fruit growing in the North of England". Clifford has over 30 years experience in growing fruit and vegetables, which in part led him to form Fruitscape in 2008. His passion for fruit means that his garden at home is not the norm, having over 100 apple trees in it.



Being self employed, in a niche market, he travels the country offering his services in fruit tree care and maintenance, apple identification, as well as talks, workshops and apple day events.



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Pottering about in November : by Edward Kilner

Light up your garden over the dark and dreary months ahead by using bulbs.

You have two choices, both involving bulbs!

First by the flick of a switch using electric light to highlight a few striking trees, evergreen bushes or statuary by a few discreetly positioned spotlights or a floodlight to emphasise their features with coloured lights, but make sure your installations are safe!



Secondly, by planting drifts of bulbs and/or corms. Snowdrops are the harbingers of spring, for the best results these should be planted "in the green" with existing clumps being lifted and divided into smaller clumps and re-planted just as flowers fade.

Winter aconites put up their yellow buttercup-like flowers in short grass in early spring – again best planted "in the green". Both are available in pots.

Crocus are good value and can be planted in drifts in grass or borders.

One of the earliest is

crocus



tomasiarus which flowers in February and multiplies from seed. Its lilac/purple flowers seem able to stand up to winter's rain and snow.



Daffodils are always welcome, these bulbs are best planted in clumps in early October. Try growing the shorter, smaller-flowered varieties – Tete-a-tete, February Gold, Babymoon or Hawera. They survive the March blast. Remember to dead-head after flowering and let the foliage die back naturally.

Now is the time to plant tulips (November). Plant in groups of 5 or 7 and plant deep if you want them to flower year after year – 6" minimum. Tulips also do well in pots. Use a well-draining compost and in large pots you can plant a double layer. My favourite is Ballerina, a gorgeous orange lily flowered variety, but there are hundreds to choose from.



Future Contributions

Please submit any comments or contributions for future newsletters to Mary Harrison at 73 Pavilion Way, Meltham, Huddersfield, HD9 5QN. Or by

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