

BLUEBELL GARDEN CLUB

www.bluebellgardenclub.co.uk

SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Next Month's Speaker : 2nd October : 7.30pm

"Muck and Magic"

All about composting (and using it to benefit your garden). A talk by Sally Smith (organic gardening consultant). Sally has spent six years at Ryton Organic gardens as Head of Information and Training. She helped to train master composters, and also ran gardening and willow weaving workshops. She also worked as a researcher for BBC gardening programmes and the RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2010. Sally is now freelance, working as a speaker and running gardening and willow workshops. Through her work she hopes to inspire people to grow and garden using organic methods to grow their flowers, fruit and vegetables. Thus creating a healthy environment for both the gardener and garden wildlife. www.sallyorganic.co.uk



Annual Subscriptions

The annual subscription is now due. The subscription remains excellent value at £15 for the year. Jan has booked an interesting and varied range of speakers for the coming year.

Prompt payment is appreciated.



BLUEBELL

GARDEN CLUB

Bluebell Garden Club Summer Social : August 2018

Review by Mary Harrison

The event was held at the lovely house and garden of Chris and Juliet Thompson above Kirkburton for the second year.

The sun smiled on our Summer Social and the rain held off but it was quite breezy and the early evening turned somewhat chilly but Chris and Juliet provided blankets as required. The location is stunning with open farmland and views all around which enhance the very attractive garden and provided a wonderful view of the "second" Emley Moor Mast.

The garden is divided into separate sections including lawns, knot garden, vegetable plot and a greenhouse with a vine. 30+ visitors turned up for the event from 4pm. The food everybody provided was superb, as always, with plenty for all. Refreshments were organised by Juliet with her daughter and grandchildren who all did a marvellous job. And the grandchildren did an excellent job of selling raffle tickets.

Many thanks to the Thompsons for a very good afternoon / early evening.



Jobs To Do This Month

- Plant and move evergreen shrubs and conifers.
- Deadhead roses.
- Cut out flowered stems of perennial plants to keep borders tidy as later flowers take over.
- Clip hedges.
- Get the compost going – autumn clearing generates a lot of waste for the compost heap.
- Plant biennials.
- Plant winter and spring bedding.
- Replace summer bedding as it comes to an end with plants for winter and spring, and keep newly planted bedding watered.
- Deadhead and protect dahlias.
- Support tall flowers, such as asters and Michaelmas daisies which are starting to flop now the flowers are out and making the stems top-heavy.
- Collect seed from perennials, alpines, etc.
- Plant winter bedding in containers (milder winters and tougher varieties make them well worth growing). Winter flowering pansies are the most popular bedding plants of all, as they will flower from now right through to May or June.
- Plant spring bulbs in containers (Daffodils, crocuses, anemones, scillas and grape hyacinths all need planting in now. It's best to leave tulips and hyacinths for another month or two.
- Stop feeding permanent plants growing in containers (for example shrubs and trees).
- Move tender plants under cover.
- Pick fruit as it ripens.
- Sow overwintering onions as well as quick crops, such as baby spinach, for salad leaves.



Upcoming Open Gardens & Events

NGS Open Gardens

Littlethorpe Manor Sunday 9th Sept (1:30 - 5:00)

Littlethorpe Road, Ripon, HG4 3LG

Admission £6 (children free)

11 acre walled garden including a sunken garden, brick pergola, blue and yellow borders, terraces, ornamental pots and formal lawns. Parkland with lake,

Tea, coffee, biscuits and cake (£2.50 served in marquee). Wheelchair access with gravel paths, some steep steps. Plants for sale.

www.littlethorpemanor.co.uk

Stillingfleet Lodge Sunday, 16th September (1:00 - 5:00)

Stewart Lane, Stillingfleet, York, YO19 6HP

Admission £5, Children £1.

Organic, wildlife garden divided into smaller gardens, each based on colour theme. Wild flower meadow and natural pond. 55yd herbaceous borders. Modern rill garden. Rare breeds of poultry wander freely in garden. Adjacent nursery. Gravel paths and lawn. Disabled access but no disabled WC. Plant sales (adjacent nursery). Home-made teas. www.stillingfleetlodgenurseries.co.uk

Harrogate Autumn Flower Show

Great Yorkshire Showground, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG2 8NZ.

14th to 16th September. Admission price varies (£18.50 to £20) with discounts for advance purchase.

See <https://www.flowershow.org.uk/autumn-flower-show-2018> for more details.

The show is open from 9:30am until 5:30pm (Sunday 4:30pm).

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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