

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT. AGM 2013

The first year of the BPGC has been more successful than we could have hoped for with 99 paid up members by the end of the year.

The speaker at our first AGM was Bob Brown of Cotswold Garden Flowers. Who entertained us in his usual style.

This was followed in December with an excellent lunch at Boughton park golf and country club.

January's meeting was postponed due to the snow.

February's presentation was a very interesting talk by Pershore college lecturer Richard Baldwin, followed in March by Worcestershire based garden photographer Adrian James.

Our first garden visit was to the wonderful Westonbury Mill Water Garden, unfortunately due to the late spring the garden was 2 to 3 weeks behind its spring show. We did at least see the first cuckoo. (Picture).

May saw our annual Gardener's Market with plenty of opportunities to purchase plants, a winning tombola ticket and of course tea and cakes. Thank you to everyone who helped and supported the Gardener's Market, it produced a profit and helps to promote the BPGC.

Our next garden visit was to the Barton at Martley. An impressive, colourful cottage style garden that was only started in 2003. An important element of garden visits is, of course, the tea and cakes. (Picture).

July saw a visit to Hiraeth with its collection of metal animals.

The coach trip in August was to the Botanic Garden of Wales.

Those members who went on the trip agreed it is a very impressive garden that could do with more publicity.

We unfortunately did not manage to fill the coach therefore as the accounts show we made a small loss on the trip.

Our garden visits ended with Pam's garden on a lovely sunny day.

Thank you to Pam and Rodney for inviting us.

£90 was raised for the children's society and cancer research.

The October meeting was the cancelled January talk, design for a winter garden by club member and garden designer Geraldine Williams, inspiring us all to include some winter planting in our gardens how ever small they may be.

I would like to thank the committee for all their hard work and support this year. I would especially like to thank Marina who is standing down from the committee this year.

She has been on the committee from the formation of our previous club the Worcestershire CGS, written articles and provided pictures for the website along with editing the newsletter.

Also we must thank Ken and Audrey who are retiring as programme secretaries. Fortunately they have agreed to stay on the committee.

They have organised some excellent speakers and garden visits over the last three years, including next years programme.

The club is also very fortunate to have our own volunteer Webmaster Douglas Gregor as a member.

I would like to record a personal thank you to Douglas. I often call on him for help and advice with any I.T. problems that come along.

Please visit the website there are reports and pictures of our events, the committee meeting minutes are there for your information.

If you wish to contribute to the website please see Douglas.

Finally I would like to thank all of you for supporting the club, without you it would not exist.