

# SPRING NEWSLETTER.



## Contact Information

Committee officers can be emailed via the website:  
[blackpeargc.org.uk](mailto:blackpeargc.org.uk)

**Chair:**

Larry Gleaves  
01905 821736

**Secretary:**

Lesley Rowley  
Contact on Web Site

**Treasurer:**

Cathy Snelgar.  
01905 831541

**Membership:**

David Wackett.  
01684 892802

**Webmaster:**

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**Administration**

Brian Skeys  
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Indoor meetings are at  
2.30pm on Saturdays in  
Powick Parish Hall.  
WR2 4RT

**Newsletter:**

Larry & Mary Gleaves  
01905 821736

## Programme

### March 18<sup>th</sup> 2023 **Labour Saving Gardening Fact, Myth and Legend**

is a talk given by Phillip Aubury a retired Director of Birmingham Botanical Gardens who you may remember gave a good talk on Ponds and Water Features in March 2022 during a power cut.

### April 15<sup>th</sup> 2023 **Unusual Fruit and Veg**

a presentation given by Kevin Alviti. With his young family Kevin tries to live as self-sufficiently as possible from their smallholding at the foot of the Malverns and grow much of their own fruit and veg from their large vegetable garden. He is passionate about producing as much as he can from his smallholding

### May 20<sup>th</sup> 2023 **Plants that Turn Me On – Confessions of a Plant Freak**

a presentation given by Nick Macer. Nick is best known as a specialist nurseryman and owner of Pan Global Plants in Gloucestershire, but also as a presenter on the BBC's regular gardening show, Gardeners World.

### **Plus there is a return of our Gardeners**

**Market** - doors to the hall will open half an hour earlier and close half an hour later (1:30 pm to 4:30 pm). Please refer to the details below.

### June 17<sup>th</sup> 2023

**Garden Visit to The Old Rectory in Eastnor** - The beautiful Garden of Juliet Rowland. Please see pictures below. The admission is £8.00 per person including refreshments.

### July 15<sup>th</sup> 2023

**Garden Visit to the Walled Garden in Worcester.**

This 19<sup>th</sup> century Walled Kitchen Garden of Julia and Will Scott's is formal in layout, with relaxed chemical free planting. There is a camellia walk, with soft fruit cordons, compost heaps, an area awaiting archeological investigation, and bees in a new bee garden. The admission is £4.00, tea and biscuits will be extra (price bta).

### Aug 19<sup>th</sup> 2023

**Coach Visit to RHS Bridgewater, Salford.** The cost will be £20 for members and £27.50 for non-members. More details below.

## Chairs Notes and Notices

### Dear Members

Since the last newsletter we have gained two new club members onto the club committee. They are Diana (Di) Elt who was voted onto the committee at the 2022 AGM and Gill Maclaren who has been co-opted on this month. This now brings the number of committee members up to eleven and there is room for 12 stated in the club's constitution. This means we have room for one more co-opted member. So if there is anybody out there.....

### *The Return of the Gardeners Market*

For this May's meeting, as well as the talk by Nick Macer from Pan Global Plants, we plan to hold a small gardeners market. On sale will be plants from Link Nursies and Worcester Community Garden along with plants grown by our members. We will be opening the doors earlier than usual so you can make your purchases and enjoy some tea and cake! The money raised will go towards club funds.

### *Pictures From The Old Rectory at Eastnor*



The garden is on a slope and there are some steps. It is about 3 and a half acres in size and a mobility scooter can usually handle the terrain depending on the weather.

***“When weeding, the best way to make sure you are removing weed and not valuable plants is to pull on it. If it comes out of the ground easily, it is a valuable plant.” - Anon***

### *Coach Visit to RHS Bridgewater, Salford on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2023*

We have booked a 57 seat executive air conditioned coach with seat belts and toilet from Astons Coaches. The itinerary is as follows:-

The coach to depart Upton on Severn at 8 am  
 An additional pick up at Croft Road car park at 8:30am  
 A 20/30 minute stop on route to and from Bridgewater  
 Arrival at Bridgewater at 11:00am  
 Departure at 4:00pm  
 Arrival back at Croft Road at 6:35pm  
 Arrival back at Upton on Severn at 7:00pm

*Booking forms will be available for all 3 garden visits in due course.*

### **The RHS Spring Show Plant Creche**

As announced at the meeting on Saturday we have been offered an opportunity to run a plant creche at this years RHS Malvern Spring Show and I asked for volunteers. I now have a total of 18 names of members willing to take part in running the Plant Creche on one or both days of Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2023. These members will be contacted in due course to agree and clarify what will be expected and required of them. In return for providing this service each participant will be given a free pass into the event together with a parking permit and the club will receive a £250 donation. There are 20 passes available for each day. If there are any other members that wish to take part can they please contact me via the details given on the front page of the newsletter.

### **Events for Your Diaries:-**

Various RHS shows and festivals for 2023:-

RHS Malvern Spring Festival - Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2023.  
RHS Chelsea Flower Show - Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2023  
RHS Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival - Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
RHS Tatton Park Flower Show – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2023  
RHS Garden Hyde Hall Flower Show – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023  
RHS Garden Rosemore Flower Show – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 20 August 2023  
RHS Wisley Garden Flower Show – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
Malvern Autumn Show – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Larry

### **Promoting the Club on Social Media and the Website**

For those of you on FaceBook the club has a page here:-

<https://www.facebook.com/BlackPearGardeningClub>

where we have 108 followers. This is automatically linked to receive postings from our website.

We also have a Face Book Group:-

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/632642921411258/>

You can become a member of this which will allow you to post pictures of your garden or any garden related item of interest.

Don't forget to also visit the website, during the first week of March it was viewed 420 times with 59 people visiting the site. To receive up to date information please subscribe by using the email button. This is a free subscription that when completed will automatically send any new posts on the website to you. Please search the website to see what is on there. There are articles from members, copies of our next meeting poster, under 'Programme' then 'Posters' which can be downloaded to either share with friends or organisations you think would be interested or for printing to post in local shops, village notice boards or garden centres to help promote the club's programme.

Brian.

## Garden Club Talk, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2023

We thought we had our March talk all arranged- but no, unfortunately our planned talk by Roger Umpleby had to be cancelled at the last minute due to ill health, by a very apologetic Roger.

Fortunately, local speaker, lecturer and all round good horticulturist , Duncan Coombs stepped in with a few hours notice and saved the day!

Duncan gave a hugely entertaining and informative talk on some of the best garden plants for spring, with some lovely photographs to illustrate his talk and some cuttings for us to pass round so we could look more closely at the flowers and enjoy their scent.

I think we all felt inspired to visit our magnificent local gardens that open for their snowdrop displays ( maybe a garden club visit to consider?) and to give tulips a role in our gardens next year.

Thank you again to Duncan, and hopefully he and Roger will be on next years programme.

Mary G

### Diana's Plea

**“Will you be sorting out your borders this spring?!”**

I am on a mission, here at **Clarence Park Village** to encourage more planting of perennials in the communal flower beds. When I moved here last year we were supplied with hundreds of annual bedding plants, by Platform Housing, which not only took a great deal of time to plant, but were disposed of at the end of the season.

If you have any perennials which are surplus to your requirements and you would be happy to donate to the cause, I would be delighted to receive them. I am happy to collect them, or you could bring them along to a meeting.

Contact me on 01684-438564 or email [mopsie.elt@gmail.com](mailto:mopsie.elt@gmail.com)

Thanking you in anticipation

Diana Elt