The Black Pear Gardening Club
Sharing a love of gardening
www.blackpeargc.org.uk

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2026



We were happy to welcome our guest speaker this month, Margie Hoffnung of the Frog Lane Flower Farm North Nibley.
Her talk was about her exciting new business venture of flower farming on a Cotswold Escarpment. Set up in April 2024 she and her partner wanted it to be Eco friendly and they were determined to be chemical free and using only sustainable materials.
Using tin cans for planting on, collapsible second-hand pallet collars for raised planting and a large poly tunnel for bringing plants on, they achieved their aim in a little over two years. This year they were invited to arrange a Floral Column at the Chelsea Flower Show
Now they have open days, workshops, PYO Dahlias, Make Your Own Bouquets and create floral arrangements for Christenings, Weddings and Funerals.



The next talk in the New year will be by Neil Cook. He was Head Gardener at Hanbury Hall and Greyfriars in Worcester. He will be talking about his 23-year task in recreating gardens designed by George London in the 1700s. He and his team worked with archaeologists and historians recreating the splendour of the garden's fashionable past using original drawings and archaeological work. He spent some time in 1994 at the Boboli Gardens in Florence learning about Citrus Tree cultivation and in 2015 at the Het Loo Palace in Holland to learn about traditional planting in early Dutch Gardens.
It should be a very interesting talk and we hope as many of you will attend as possible.

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Club News

Following the AGM meeting held just before the talk we were advised that Club funds currently stand at over £6000, in no small part due to Leonie and her team who raise monies for our monthly speaker by managing the plant crèche at garden shows. They have now completed the line up of speakers and garden visits for next year, more details of which will be included in the New Year's Newsletter.

Three committee members have stood down, Lesley Rowley Minutres Secretary, Cathy Snelgar Treasurer and Janet Burkimshera both of whom have been committee member from the beginning. Our sincere thanks to all three the have served us well over the past few years. We now have a new line up nominated and seconded on Saturday 21st November, as follows;

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Club News continued.

Chair	Gill Maclaren
Minutes Secretary	Judith Palmer
Treasurer	Alan Bull
Membership	David Wackett
Events Organiser	Leonie Creighton
Newsletter	Nick & Nadine Angell
Other Committee Members	Brian Skeys, Janet Taylor

Finally we all look forward to seeing you at the Christmas Lunch on the 5th December at the Worcestershire Golf Club in Malvern. It is scheduled to start at 1.00 p.m. and dress is Smart Casual.