

u3a GARDEN GROUP MONTHLY NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2021

Here is our second monthly newsletter.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR NOTING IN YOUR DIARY

- 20th October: Monthly meeting with Pam Tatam “Starting from Scratch”.
- 17th November: Monthly meeting with Peter Williams. “Special Plants for Small Gardens”.
- 7th December: **CHANGE OF REGULAR DATE.** Christmas afternoon tea party.
- 19th January: Ben Preston from Perennial the Gardener’s charity “York Gate through a Head Gardener’s Eye”.



20th October. Many of you will know Pam Tatam who is our speaker on the 20th October. Pam lives at Hall Farm, Harpswell on the Gainsborough Road. If you have lived in the area for some time you will remember her nursery which was always a real gem for gardeners. Her 3 acre garden encompasses formal and informal areas, a sunken garden, a courtyard garden with rill, a walled Mediterranean garden, giant chess set, and a flower and grass meadow. It is a short walk to the medieval moat, which surrounds over an acre of wild semi-woodland garden with picnic table, benches and ‘beach’.

I am sorry to report that I have had to cancel the wreath workshop which was scheduled to be held on the 17th November because some of the materials; baubles and lights, are purchased from Poland and in these uncertain times with transport, the lecturer cannot guarantee they will receive these in time. Hopefully we can reschedule near Christmas 2022. A new speaker has instead been engaged to give us an interesting talk.

OTHER GARDEN ITEMS OF INTEREST

Want to identify a plant? <https://www.rhs.org.uk/about-the-rhs/publications/plant-finder>.
Bring a flower/plant to the meeting which we can try to identify for you.

Facebook. If you are on Facebook you might like to visit The Gardening Bubble which gives lots of gardening tips.

Zoom garden lectures. Lincolnshire Hardy Plant Society invites anyone to join them for zoom lectures.

16th October 2 p.m. “Living in a Botanical World, a Small Garden with Big Dreams” with Paul Gellatly

Toronto Botanical Garden has a hidden gem in the heart of Canada’s biggest city, but not for long! Paul Gellatly, TBG’s Director of Horticulture will walk you through his first year at the gardens with many lessons learned, passions shared, and exciting plans for the future. Paul will highlight some of the unique aspects to the current 4-acre garden including its perennial borders, Canada’s only Piet Oudolf designed garden, dynamic planters, revitalized trial gardens and natural areas; along with the upcoming plans to expand to a 35-acre world-renowned botanical garden.

A passionate life-long horticulturist, Paul Gellatly joined Toronto Botanical Garden as the Director of Horticulture on March 9, 2020. Prior to that, Paul was the Curatorial Gardener for one of Canada’s largest tropical plant collections at the [Toronto Zoo](#). He worked on the zoo’s pollinator meadows and the revitalization plan to control invasive plants. This included proactively reintroducing native ephemeral and understory trees.

To make a booking contact Jane below.

THIS MONTH IN THE GARDEN

October is a busy time in the garden when much is coming to the end of its annual cycle. For some of us that will mean cutting back to the ground all those beautiful hardy perennials and digging up our precious plants which may not survive outside in the winter such as cannas, gingers, dahlias (after the first frost), etc. but others will leave some of their plants because they provide seeds for the birds and hidey holes for small insects or simply because in the winter frost they can look spectacular. It is also a time for me to review and think about what I did not get right such as big plants at the front of the border instead of the back or where it might look better next to something else where they would complement each other, in other words to make some changes. Also October is a great time to plant your Spring bulbs. Daffodils should be planted by now but tulips can wait a bit longer, even into early November when the soil is much colder. You may also like to plant up a nice pot of bright colour pansies or primulas to put outside a window where you look out all the time, perhaps when you are working at the kitchen sink?

REPORT OF RECENT EVENTS

Garden visit to Walesby. About 15 of our members enjoyed a real treat when we visited Judith Sweny’s garden in Walesby. It was a warm, sunny day and there were a couple of acres of garden to walk around. Being at the foot of the Wolds there were some magnificent views and we much admired the new potager garden Judith has created this year. Some of Judith’s friends in the village were at the house waiting for our visit with a range of delicate

sandwiches and cakes served with tea or coffee on the lovely terrace. There are undoubtedly some hidden gems so close by for us all to enjoy. See picture to the left.

Monthly meeting with Gail and John Summerfield. Gail is a nurseryman or is it nurseryperson? She is also a botanist and gave us a talk at our September meeting on the many different bulbs we can plant throughout the year. It was a very interesting talk and I think we all learnt something. Gail and John brought a range of plants from their nursery which many of us purchased. Thank you again Gail and John.

Coach excursion to RHS Bridgewater.



Nearly 40 of us enjoyed some late summer sunshine on our last coach trip of the year. It was an early start for all of us and everyone was on time. There was no waiting around for this lot! Our first stop was at Wentworth Garden Centre where most of us visited the lovely café where the display of cakes was far too tempting for most of us. Many of us spent time in the nursery buying plants, in their garden or in the shop, and our time there went all too quickly. We then proceeded to RHS Bridgewater, the latest addition to the RHS gardens. Others are at

I think everyone enjoyed the visit; it was difficult to imagine that all the planting was so new and the enormity of the garden was difficult to grasp. The walled garden was vast and split into smaller areas each giving a different atmosphere and ideas to take away. I just loved the grasses dancing gently in the breeze and the vibrant colours of late summer/early Autumn. There were some beautiful walks through woodland areas and a lovely large hidden lake as well as the smaller one overlooked by the restaurant/ café. Judging from the comments received from many of you on the excursion the garden offered so much and many of us will have happy memories to draw on in the duller winter months to come. It was a long day for all of us but so worth it.

Thanks to Bill and Kate Roberts, David Oliver and Margaret Foster for sharing some of their



Harlow Carr, near Harrogate, Wisley in Surrey, Rosemoor in Devon and in Hyde Hall in Essex.

gorgeous photos – the
stuff of memories!

WHAT'S COMING?

2022 Holiday to the Lakes

I have been busy this month putting together a garden holiday for us for next June. I have now booked a hotel and the coach! I am hoping you would like to join me on a four day adventure to The Lake District. We will leave Market Rasen on Friday 24th June and return home early evening on Monday 27th June staying in Kendal at the Riverside Hotel which is a converted 18th century tannery set on five floors, and situated on the banks of the River Kent in Kendal beneath the ruins of the town's 12th century castle. A short walk away is the centre of this famous market town with its bustling shops, galleries and museums.



All the bedrooms are spacious with en-suite bathrooms, most have river views and include a hospitality tray with drinks and biscuits, a television with Freeview, free WiFi, direct dial telephone, hairdryer and ironing facilities. Safes are available upon request. The Sanctuary Leisure Club is a state of the art

facility offering the following facilities: heated swimming pool, sauna, steam room, hot tub, gymnasium and exercise studio.

There are a range of beautiful gardens I am hoping to take you.

Gresgarth Hall Garden (see left) is the home of Arabella Lennox-Boyd, the well known landscape and garden designer.

The cultivated area is about 12 acres and the river Lune passes through the garden.

There are a large number of garden rooms and terraces

with water gardens, kitchen garden, wild garden and a large woodland area. The garden was featured recently on TV with Carol Klein over four weeks showing the four seasons in the garden.

Holehird Gardens, Windermere: These gardens are managed entirely by the volunteers of the Lakeland Horticultural Society which is a charity. They have the national collections of Astilbe, Daboecia, Meconopsis, Polystichum and Hydrangea and also Alpine

houses,
 rock
 gardens,
 paddock
 frames,
 Gunnera
 pool and
 woodland
 walk. You
 can
 purchase
 plants here
 from the
 small
 nursery.

8 Oxenholme, Kendal: This is an artist and potters garden of approx. ½ area. John is a ceramic artist and Frances is a painter. There is mixed planting designed for all year interest. They are both regular volunteers at Holehird.

Abi & Tom's garden plants at Halecat Nurseries, Near Grange-over-Sands: A 1 acre garden nursery with specialist cottage garden plants which are displayed in small garden beds of different types, e.g. woodland, wet, hot/dry, etc. They have a range of over 1,000 plants, some unusual which of course you can purchase here.

Yewbarrow, Grange-over-Sands: There are stunning views from this hillside garden overlooking Morecambe Bay with many tropical plants, reminiscent more of warmer climes. There are Japanese and Italian gardens, a sunken garden, trial beds and an Orangerie.

Matson Ground, Windermere: 2 acres of mature south facing gardens with both formal and informal planting, including topiary. There is a productive walled garden more than 150 years old with wide assortment of fruit, vegetables, cut flowers, cobnuts and herbs.

The cost is £498 per person sharing a twin or double room. A single room supplement is £70 and insurance which includes covid cover is £25. This includes travel by executive coach, bed, breakfast and dinner for 3 nights in the Riverside Hotel, 3 lunches and all garden entries. The holiday is dependent on a minimum of 31 persons.

Snowdrop visits

I am hoping to organise a coach excursion to Hodsock Priory, well known for its collection of snowdrops sometime from the middle to end of February 2022.

There will be a second snowdrop visit, though more local where we can all meet there. I am awaiting prices from Brightwater Gardens in Saxby and Ashfield House at Branston.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

We meet every third Wednesday (unless otherwise stated) from 2 p.m./4 p.m. at the New Life Church in Serpentine Street, Market Rasen, LN8 3AR. Entrance fee is £3.00 which includes a cup of tea or coffee.

To pay for one of our excursions you can pay by cheque and make payable to West Wolds u3a and send your cheque to Jane Guy at 14 Jubilee Ave., Faldingworth, Nr. Market Rasen, LN8 3FF or pay by BACS and quote 'garden' to Lloyds Bank; a/c West Wolds U3A, Sort code 30-96-09, account No 71220968.

If you no longer wish to belong to the Garden Group or receive this newsletter please let Jane know.

CONTACT DETAILS

To book an event or for any other garden enquiry please contact Jane Guy: telephone 0797 1277 482, or email gardening@westwoldsu3a.org