



u3a GARDEN GROUP MONTHLY NEWSLETTER – APRIL 22

FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR NOTING IN YOUR DIARY

2022

- 17th April: Visit to Ashfield House, Branston. Open under National Garden Scheme at 11 a.m. (See below)
- 20th April: [Last Monthly Meeting until September. Mark Schofield, the Conservation Officer from Lincolnshire Wild Life Trust - "Gardening for Wild Life"](#)
- 1st May: Visit to Dunholme Lodge, Dunholme. Open under National Garden Scheme. (See below)
- 11th May: OUR OWN PLANT FAIR. **NEW**
- 25th May: Basic pruning workshop at The Fern Nursery in Binbrook. £3 p.p. Pre-booking with Jane essential
- 29th May: Coach excursion to Helmingham Hall Gardens and Plant & Artisan Market. (See below)
- 21st June: Visit to Overbeck, Scothern. Private garden of John & Joyce Good **NEW** (See below)
- 24th/27th June: A four day holiday to The Lakes visiting 8 gardens and staying in the Riverside Hotel in Kendal. (See below)
- 21st September: [Don Whitton No.7](#) **NEW**
- 19th October: [Monthly meeting. Peter Williams "People, Plants, Places"](#).
- 20th December: [Monthly meeting. Janette Merillion, garden designer "The sensual garden"](#).

THE NEXT MONTHLY MEETING – and last for the winter season 21/22

For our last monthly meeting before the summer recess we have Mark Schofield from the Wild Life Trust coming to talk to us about making our gardens more friendly for wild life and where to go in Lincolnshire to see a range of wild life. I just hope he does not try to persuade us to be friendly to slugs and snails!

Refreshment Rota: Thank you this month to Shirley and Sharon for arranging our refreshments.

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 any of our meetings 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.

[Rhs.org.uk/sustainabilitytips](https://www.rhs.org.uk/sustainabilitytips)

THIS MONTH IN THE GARDEN

What a busy time this is, probably for me the busiest of all? Some of the seeds I planted in trays back towards the end of February have germinated, but some have failed and I have no idea why. Those that have survived are looking good and needing transplanting now into pots before going into the garden around the end of May. I have planted my beetroots in a raised bed and will soon put in some salad plants too.

About now I start to do some painting too. I have a little summer house which always needs a coat of paint along with some garden furniture and some paint with grains in it for my decking so I don't slip on it when it is wet. It has always worked so far. The grass is growing well, in fact I don't think it really stopped growing in the winter months so there will be regular cuts now and tidying of the edges. I will attempt to keep the weeds at bay, but probably fail around the end of May time.

My pruning is finished for a while now. My peonies are growing well and I will now be putting some stakes in to stop them flopping over too much. I have been tying in my roses and clematis and also adding some fertilizer into some of my beds. They were in a right mess after the winter with lots of debris to clear but now everything is popping up there is much excitement on my part and life is full again of expectation. Let's hope some of that lovely warm weather we had before this snow will soon return. Oh and I must remember to pot up some plants for our own Plant Fair! Happy gardening to you all.

REPORT OF RECENT EVENTS

Did you come to **Anglesey Abbey** with us recently? One of you got chatting to another member who promised to pass over a seeding of *Sarcococca*. Unfortunately they did not take your name. They brought it to the March meeting but the intended recipient did not come. I now have this plant so if it was promised to you, would you please contact me and we can sort out collection.

Last Monthly Meeting. At our March meeting we were given a great talk by Dr. Andrew Ward, a nurseryman and owner of Norwell Nurseries. It was a most interesting talk with lots of advice and particularly talking about those plants which offer best value for money as they are long lasting or have a particular feature which provides lots of interest.

To visit **Norwell Nurseries** – Woodhouse Road, Norwell, Newark, NG23 6JX. On my first of many visits, I struggled to find the nursery as it is quite inconspicuous at the back of a semi-detached cottage, down a little lane at the side. I would highly recommend a visit; there is a lovely garden to walk around, super nursery, high quality plants and a little tea room too, which when I last went, was a DIY with an honesty box.

WHAT'S COMING?

PLANT FAIR – 11th May. Every year we organise our own Plant Fair which this year is to be held at our usual meeting place, the New Life Church. If the weather is fine we will be outside in the little back garden but otherwise in our usual room. It would be good if each one of you brought at least one plant, more if you have spares, of cuttings, seedlings or plants you have potted up. You can start to do this now.

This is a great way to choose some new plants for your garden at an affordable price and just the right time to replant them too. There may well be some unusual ones too. Small plants will be sold for 50p and the larger ones for £1.00. Your first offering is a gift to the group and will pay towards the hire of the premises that day but after that please put a label in the plant with your name on so we can make sure you get your money back afterwards. All plants should otherwise be labelled with the name of the plant if you can!

Spring garden visit

Visit to Ashfield House on Sunday the 17th April at 11 a.m.



This is the garden of John & Judi Tinsley on Lincoln Road, Branston, LN4 1NS. It is on the B1188 and signed 'Tinsley Farms'. We will make our own way there but if you need a lift just let Jane know. This is yet another garden which is worth a visit to see the snowdrops but we are going this time to 'see the blossoms'. There are 140 cherry trees which should be in flower then and 30 magnolias, but also lots of Spring bulbs. There are sweeping lawns, a lake and a very interesting arboretum.

You can take your dog on a lead and refreshments will be on sale. £4.00 entry fee. I hope to see you there.

A day at Dunholme Lodge on Sunday the 1st May from 11 a.m.



Lesley and Hugh Wykes, friends of mine, own this lovely 5 acre garden, which was an airfield in WW2 and has a museum in memory of the part it played. This will be open as well but it is really the garden we will be visiting. Dunholme Lodge is just off the A46 at the Welton turnoff and then first on the left. LN2 3QA. There are a variety of garden areas with natural pond, shrub border, Spring bulbs, fern garden, wildflower area, orchard, vegetable area and a new arboretum. On this particular day there will also be music, stalls and a range of refreshments on sale by St. Chad's Church – and they are very good. £4.50 entry fee.

I have planned another coach excursion to **Helmingham Hall Gardens near Stowmarket** on Sunday the 29th May. This is also the day of their Plant Fair & Artisan Market which offers a great day out for garden enthusiasts! Over eighty exhibitors including specialist nurseries and suppliers of garden accessories as well as National Collections of plants will be there. In the Garden Marquees there are talks and insider tips and tricks and a Problem Plant Clinic. There will be plenty of pop-up refreshment outlets and some music too. The Coach House Tearooms serve a fantastic range of light lunches and delicious afternoon tea treats and these can be pre-booked. The cost is £45 each to include coach, driver's tip and entrance to the Plant Fair, Artisan Market and lovely gardens. To make a booking contact Jane.

Also on the 29th May is **Pottertons Nursery's Plant Fair** from 9 a.m./4 p.m. when there will be 10 visiting nurseries with an extensive selection of quality plants and cream teas and light refreshments available. Pottertons Nursery and Gardens is on Moortown Road, Nettleton, LN7 6HX. £3 entrance fee for the NGS.

Early-summer garden visit

John & Joyce Good's garden, "**Overbeck**", 46 Main Street, Scothern, LN2 2UW. More dear friends of mine but with one of the most colourful and well kept gardens I know! They are opening just for us! Situated in this attractive village this 2/3 acre garden is jam-packed with flowers everywhere but also a large hidden vegetable plot which is John's pride and joy. There are very large herbaceous borders, some in themed colours, with many unusual plants. There is a hosta bed, gravel bed with grasses, fernery, stumpery, interesting range of trees and many lovely climbers. I highly recommend this garden. Please let me know if you want a lift. Meet at 2 p.m. Entry fee is £5.00

2022 Holiday to the Lakes

The holiday arrangements are all now complete and there is a marketing flyer with more information about what we will be doing each day. 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.

The cost of the all-inclusive holiday 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. You won't find better value for money! There are still a couple of places left if you hurry!

NEWS FROM OUR TRAVELS

Sandra O'Brien, one of our members has just spent a wonderful holiday in Spain and sent me some photos taken while there for you to enjoy:-



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 from September to April. Entrance fee is £3.00 which includes a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit. There will also be a raffle. In the summer months we arrange visits to local lovely gardens, some private visits and some open under the National Garden Scheme.

To pay for one of our events you can pay by cheque and make it 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. Jane is also available at the u3a general meeting on the second Thursday of every month as well as the Garden Group meetings.

It is crucial that you make an early booking for any coach excursion as we will be offering these to other u3a members in Market Rasen and we now have an arrangement with our neighbouring u3a in Welton to offer them unsold seats on our day excursions. You of course have first refusal for a short window.

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

DISCLAIMER

All our garden events, except the annual holiday, are not covered by any insurance. For the holiday we are covered by ABTA, e.g. if the holiday is cancelled because of Covid, any payments made will be recoverable, and individuals are offered personal cover, e.g. if cancelling the holiday because of ill-health or if you have an accident on the holiday. This personal insurance is optional.

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