



WEST WOLDS u3a GARDEN GROUP MONTHLY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2023

FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR NOTING IN YOUR DIARY

2023

- 18th January Monthly meeting. Paul Maxey owner of Scothern Nursery. **“How to prepare for Spring and Summer”**.
- 13th February 10 a.m./1 p.m. Workshop on apple grafting to be held at Snitterby Carr Farm run by Patty Phillips. All materials provided and you get to take your own rootstock home with you too. £25.00. Pre-booking is essential with Jane. Just 2 places left!
- 15th February Monthly meeting. Alan Mason **“Life of a Gardener”**.
- 18th February Snowdrop visit to Brightwater Gardens, Saxby, LN8 2DQ. 11 a.m. **NEW**
- 28th February Snowdrop visit to Ashfield House, Lincoln Road, Near Branston, LN4 1NS with Welton u3a.
- 15th March Monthly meeting. Steffie Shields **“Impressions of Lincs”** sharing aspects and stories of Lincolnshire gardens both historic or contemporary, and places you might like to visit.
- 19th April: Monthly meeting. Linda Clark from the Spotted Dog Flower Company will make up a bouquet of flowers and then donate them as one of our raffle prizes.
- 24th April Coach excursion to RHS Harlow Carr, Near Harrogate
- 25th July Coach excursion to Chatsworth House, Bakewell. **NEW. Welton u3a**

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

Probably not a great deal! Of course it very much depends on the weather. I will be tempted out if it is not too cold and dry and more so if the sun shines as well. There is much for me to do as I have neglected it rather since the last very cold spell when much died and flopped, such as my sedums, hollyhocks and dahlias. It seems there are leaves everywhere despite some earlier efforts. One of the things I will definitely be doing is mulching to stop the weeds from growing and protect precious plants from frost, especially my dahlias which I leave in the ground. I have found four bags of leaf mould hiding that needs spreading around too.

I will also clean up my tools and oil and sharpen them ready to use in coming months. I have bought several packets of seeds so I shall sort them into the months when I should plant them and make a New Year's resolution that I will do them on time too. I will regularly clean my bird bath and bird feeders and top them up too. I do love to see the birds enjoying the garden too.



Now is the best time to plant bare root roses and start chitting your potatoes and planting sweet peas if you can keep them protected in the green-house. If you grow hellebores cut off the old leaves to expose those pretty flowers which are coming into bloom.

WHAT'S COMING?

Wednesday, 18th January 2 p.m. Monthly meeting. Paul Maxey is the owner of Scothern Nursery and his topic is “**How to prepare for Spring and Summer**”. For some of us this is our nearest nursery and although they do sell some products such as cards which are not related to plants (well not much anyway), their main focus is on their own nursery where many of the plants they sell are grown. Their plants are always of good quality. They also have a rather nice little tea room, serving lunches and a good selection of cakes.

Paul is an unofficial ambassador for peat-free products and is determined that all the plants they grow are in peat-free compost. Paul will help us to plan for next spring and summer planting.

Monday, 13th February 10 a.m./1 p.m. Workshop on apple grafting to be held at Snitterby Carr Farm run by Patty Phillips. All materials are provided and you get to take your own rootstock home with you too. £25.00. Lift available from Middle and Market Rasen. Jane will send out the joining instructions to those who have booked by e-mail a couple of days before the event. For anyone who has not yet booked there are still two places available?

Tuesday 28th February at 2 p.m – Snowdrop visit. Many of you came on our visit last April to Ashfield House at Branston to see the cherry blossoms. You will know how I have been opening up some of our events to other neighbouring garden groups and this is a visit organised by the u3a group in Welton and they have now invited us to join them. I have had the pleasure of visiting Ashfield House in February to see the snowdrops and much more and would highly recommend this second visit. The 10 acre garden has sweeping lawns, trees and shrubs. It features mass plantings of spring flowering bulbs and recent additions include a Magnolia collection in a newly constructed woodland garden. The cost is £6 per person including tea/coffee and biscuits. Book as usual through Jane.

Monday, 24th April, 2023. Coach excursion to RHS Harlow Carr, Near Harrogate. Cost is £30 to cover coach seat, driver’s tip and entrance to Harlow Carr. Bookings can be submitted by post, at the next member’s meeting or at our next Garden Group meeting. As our group now has affiliated membership of RHS it entitles any member to half price entry at any time. So if you are planning an independent trip of your own and want to use our ‘company’ card just let me know.

Tuesday, 25th July, 2023. Coach excursion to Chatsworth House, Bakewell, Derbyshire. This is on offer to us from Welton u3a group. The cost is £31.00 for entry to the garden,

coach and driver's tip and an extra £4.00 if you also want to look around the house. The coach pick up is 8 a.m. from Welton Village Hall. A deposit of £10 is required to secure a place. Book through Jane.



Who says a steep garden is difficult?

REFRESHMENT ROTA for this month

Vivienne Klockner and Rachel Telfer.

WHAT'S HAPPENED?

At our December meeting Janette Merrillion's topic was "The Sensual Garden. She showed us how to enhance our senses by growing plants which we want to feel, those which had the best scents through-out the year, fruits and berries to taste, plants to

rustle in the wind and of course those that look good for long periods and in different seasons.

Finally she suggested it was good to bring a sense of humour into our gardens. All these senses are very individual of course. Janette also brought a number of plants to sell to us. I was delighted that so many of you attended this meeting as it was so close to Christmas so thank you for that.

Thank you to Val Wright and Ginny Beard for sorting out the refreshments in December.

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 to help cover the fee of the speaker and their travel costs. In the summer months we arrange visits to local lovely gardens, some private visits and some open under the National Garden Scheme. We occasionally run workshops and holidays too.

SMALL PRINT

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 at 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 also with our neighbouring u3a's in Welton and Horncastle 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. We do of course carry out a 'risk assessment' before each visit.

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

