



WEST WOLDS u3a GARDEN GROUP MONTHLY NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2023

FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR NOTING IN YOUR DIARY

6th September **Coach excursion to Gunby Hall. Departing behind Tesco's**

Meeting Programme from September 23/April 24

Meeting date	Speaker	Topic
20 th September	Mary Hollingsworth	Flowers & Folklore
18 th October	Martin Fish	Containers for all Seasons
15 th November	Peter Williams	Special Plants for Small gardens
20 th December	None	Gardeners Question Time and Christmas tea
17 th January	Alan Mason	Life of a Gardener - Part 2
21 st February	Linda Heywood	Echiums – In the Land of the Giants
20 th March	Chris Davey	All about Irises
17 th April	Gail Harland	All about Peonies

Please note that the programme may change but I will give you notice if it does.

SOME EXTRAS FOR OUR MORE CREATIVE GARDEN MEMBERS

22nd November – Wreath Making workshop with Linda Clark. £35 which includes materials and you get to take a Christmas wreath home with you. Bookings open until end of September. Pre-book with Jane to be sure of a place.

13th March – Willow weaving. £25 which includes materials. Make an obelisk for your garden and surprise your neighbours and friends. Pre-book with Jane by end of January.



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)

WHAT'S COMING?

I have arranged one final coach excursion for this year, on **Wednesday 6th September to Gunby Hall** which was requested after we had a speaker at our general meeting back last August, on growing fruits, from Gunby Hall. The cost will be £25 to include coach seat, driver's gratuity and entrance to Gunby Hall Gardens. You can also pay on arrival a small extra fee if you want to go round the Hall. You need to book immediately if interested in attending.

WHAT'S HAPPENED?

Garden Group visit to "Overbeck" garden.

On Wednesday, July 5th our group visited "Overbeck" in Scothern belonging to John and Joyce Good. This garden represents a 29 year project of design and hard work. Joyce was kind enough to show us an album which depicted the gradual creation of what is now a plantsman's garden. See photographs "Before and After!" from no flower beds at all to today's magnificent plantings. We were free to wander at will.



We entered over the Beck into a good sized area, mature shrubs and small trees screening the dormer bungalow from the road; the flower beds here curved and colour-themed. A central circular flower bed was a riot of colour. (see pic' on the left). walking down the side of the property we passed clematis and roses at the back corner of the bungalow and entered the large and carefully designed rear gardens. Passing a bed of various grasses a central lawn was flanked by huge curving beds of Perennials.

The ground sloped gently upwards towards a small pond stocked with goldfish. A stone bird bath and rustic stone figure set off this delightful

feature which also boasted gorgeous bright pink Waterlilies.

On our left, slightly hidden behind a small paved "room" with an antique Urn, was the surprise geometric feature of clipped Box (photos here) and to the right a white bed. On the extreme right a pleasant grassed seating area was tastefully arranged to include ornamental sculptured Ducks and Chickens.

At the rear behind a screen of roses and climbers of all kinds lay the immaculate vegetable garden. The screen had been created from a badly positioned pergola that the original owners had erected 30yrs previously.

After a sojourn on a recliner in the shade, it was back to the house where we were served with tea, coffee or a cold drink with a biscuit.

Afifa Sutherland.



Before



Apple Grafting

Do you remember that some of us went to an apple grafting workshop back at the beginning of this year? Well here are two pictures from Sandra O'Brien showing how well hers are doing, but there is a difference and I guess it must depend on the different root stock chosen as well as the type of apple grafted on. Well done Sandra. My own one has just started to show small growth on the top. Who will be the first to grow fruit I wonder?



WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING in the world around us?

Sunday 1st October, 2023. Apple day 11 a.m./4 p.m. at Wragby Town Hall, Wragby. 150 different apples on display.

Saturday 28th October, 2023 at 2 p.m. Hardy Plant Society meeting at William Farr School in Welton with a 'celebrity' visit and talk by James Alexander Sinclair "Garden design is not witchcraft". Tickets £10 from Jane.

James Alexander-Sinclair FSGD is one of the foremost garden designers in the United Kingdom. He has designed gardens from Cornwall to the Western Isles and from London to Moscow. He is a full member of the Society of Garden Designers. He is also an award winning writer, a compelling speaker, frequent broadcaster and served ten years as a member of the Council of the Royal Horticultural Society. He is an RHS Vice-President and was awarded the Veitch Memorial Medal for outstanding contribution to horticulture in 2022. He is the RHS Ambassador for Garden Design and a Fellow of the Society of Garden Designers.

He has given talks in Russia, China, Canada, Europe and the USA as well as at garden societies the length and breadth of this country.

He served a decade (2011-2021) as a trustee of the Royal Horticultural Society. James is an accredited RHS Gardens judge and is a member of the RHS Gardens Committee, the Community Action Group and the Shows Advisory Group.

Internationally, James helped to set up the Moscow Flower Show in 2012 and has also judged gardens in the USA and China.



Have you ever lost a ring in your garden? One of our u3a members is a metal detectorist and offers to search for us if we have lost any precious rings. Please let me know if you would like this very specialist service.

FLOWERS OF THE MOMENT

Photos taken by David Ebbage of our WW u3a Photography Group in Kate & Bill Roberts' lovely garden.

Thank you David for sharing them.



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 covered by u3a group 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