



Hon. President
George Cowgill

The Newsletter

No. 93

February 2016

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Welcome to the early spring edition of the garden club newsletter. We hope that the heavy, unremitting rain of the last few months may now be finally starting to recede and we can all enjoy being outside without needing our waterproofs for a little while.

As you'll know if you've been to any of the recent club meetings, it is with regret that due to lack of volunteers coming forward, there will not be an annual show this year. Hopefully members will come forward and get involved for a show in 2017...

Mary Alty has organised a July visit to Breezy Knees—the garden and Nursery that was visited and reviewed by Beverley and Tony Cooper in our last newsletter. It's a fascinating garden, and well worth a visit, please do get in touch with Mary if you'd like to know more.

Don't forget the **grand opening of the Sales Hut** will take place on **Sunday 6th March**—so pop on down to get a great bargain—and some free gardening advice!

We'd love to receive articles for the newsletter, so please do get in touch at the address below:

Happy gardening!

Kevin and Sophie

Items for the Newsletter should be emailed to **sophiejmiles@hotmail.co.uk**.

The AGM Report.

A very big thank you to all who attended this year's AGM. About thirty people came and this helped to make it a lively and enjoyable evening.

We managed to deal with the business part of the meeting fairly quickly so there was plenty of time for pie and peas and a gardening quiz. So all in all we thought it was a successful evening and we hope everyone enjoyed themselves. Shall we do something similar next year?

Let us know what you think .

Sandra.

Monthly meetings

A quick reminder

2nd March Meeting

Malcolm Tranter talks about The Eden Project—The story of the Eden Project from construction to end; including how the plants and flowers have matured.

6th April Meeting

Steve Mees from the Lakeland Horticultural Society, talks about 'The Magic of Compost'....

4th May Meeting

Tom Attwood from Tom and Abi's Garden Plants Halecat. (www.halecatplants.co.uk) talk about restoring the nursery and gardens of Halecat.

Speakers for the autumn 2016 season:

September—

Alan Oatway—Patagonia, Peaks, Plants and Penguins.

October—

Peter Cordall—The Long Road to Lhasa.

November—

John Steedman—Wildlife Gardening.

December—Jacqueline Holdon—Christmas from the Garden.

Hope to see you there

Lesley.

Special events happening over the next few months...

In addition to the super monthly meetings, we are also holding our **annual coffee morning to raise funds for the North West Air Ambulance, on the 16th April**. This year the venue will be the United Reform Church on Moor Lane, Clitheroe, and not the Mayor's Parlour as previous years.

1st July—Breezy Knees Garden Trip (see 8 for more)

10th July—Garden Club Members' Open Gardens Event.

The Sales Hut

The Hut is a collective term used for the club premises, adjacent to the allotments in West View and including the hard working club volunteers who spend time organising and running the garden supplies centre.

The Hut makes a small profit on top quality goods sold but margins are shrinking and rely on members giving support by making purchases.

A great deal of time and effort is put in by a SMALL team who give up their time willingly. If lifestyles prevent members giving time to help with some of the work, perhaps they could give support by way of buying our products instead of going elsewhere. All help in any form, is greatly appreciated.

Hut sales have long been a good financial support to our club and help to cover losses in other areas of our charity.

The club is currently financially sound, but allowance must be made to cover maintenance and replacement of the store buildings and office.

The Hut will open on Sunday 6th March, when potatoes, red and white onions sets, and shallots will be on sale.

The seed potatoes will be :

Arran Pilot (early), Ulster Prince (early), Charlotte (second early) and Desiree (main crop).

There will be no Cara or Mira this year because of the lack of take-up which led to high waste and consequent loss of any small profit last year.

Other gardening aids will be also on sale—compost, grow bags, fert etc, Please come along and make the effort of the Hut team worthwhile.

Parking is difficult in the adjacent area and puts of some customers. Be sure that volunteers will be pleased to help transport goods to your car. Sometimes waiting to pay for your goods can seem to take some time, - this is because we only have one cashier, so please do not be put off coming along, and having a chat with the sales team.

More volunteers to help at the Hut will be most welcome to take a slot on the rota and join the friendly team.

The hut is open between 10am and 12 noon on each Sunday between March and September.

Please feel free to make any suggestions which may lead to better service. Speak to me or any other member.

Finally, the bad news. Prices will be slightly higher this season due to general increases on most of our products and services.

Trevor Mitchell , Sales Hut Buyer.



Updates from Our Chairman...

Volunteers.

I would like to say a very sincere thank you to all our garden club volunteers. Not just committee member, but all other helpers who do such valuable work. It is a wonderful team effort and without this team there would be no Clitheroe Garden Club. I am especially grateful to all of them for their fantastic support in my first year as chairman.

There is good news about the speakers secretary vacancy; Beverley Cooper has very kindly offered to take on this job. We are extremely lucky to have someone with her knowledge and experience.

The Annual Show.

I am afraid that there is sad news regarding the annual show. Our many appeals for show organisers have failed, so with great regret, the committee must announce that we are cancelling the show in 2016. We have to make the announcement at this early stage because the the judges and school have to be informed now, so that they can organise their busy schedules in advance. We are renewing our efforts to find volunteers by next year, so we can re-introduce the show for 2017, We are definitely going to organise an event in place of the show. Please watch for further information in e-mails and newsletters. Later in the year we shall be requesting the return of trophies.

The Committee for 2016/ 2017.

At the AGM, the following members very kindly agreed to hold officer posts for the club this year:

Sandra Evans—Chairman, Lesley Taylor—Secretary, Ian Berry—Treasurer, Brenda Fenton—Membership Secretary, Speaker's Beverley Cooper—Secretary, Mary Alty—Social Secretary, and Trevor Mitchel as Sales Hut Buyer.

If you'd like to get involved in running the club or any events, please do get in touch, we really do need more volunteers to get involved in keeping our club going.

Sandra Evans.

Clitheroe Garden Club Membership 2016/17

You can join at any time of the year but membership runs from 1st March until 28th February. If you are renewing membership it would be a great help if you would do this before the end of March. Please complete this membership form and return it to the membership secretary at one of our meetings, at the club hut or by post enclosing a stamped addressed envelope measuring at least 4x6 inches to :-

Brenda Fenton , 31 Queen Street, Clitheroe, BB7 2LU

Are you applying for a single or joint membership? (One fee covers all members living in the same household including children)

Full Name(s)

Address

Post Code

Telephone number

Date

Mobile Phone

Email address

Please note information will not be disclosed to third parties and will be used only in case of cancellation of meetings / last minute events.

I am a **returning member/ new member/ life member** (please delete as appropriate) and I enclose my membership fee for 2016/17 of £8.00

Would you be happy to receive your newsletter via email, bearing in mind that this would reduce costs for the club? YES/NO

Would you be interested in helping your club as a committee member? YES/NO

Would you be interested in helping your club at meetings? YES/NO

info@clitheroegardenclub.co.uk www.clitheroegardenclub.co.uk

Form received byMembership list updated by.....

Top Jobs for March from the RHS folks.

Spring usually arrives by mid-March and the frequent sunny days provide the opportunity for an increasing range of gardening tasks. It's time to get busy preparing seed beds, sowing seed, cutting back winter shrubs and generally tidying up around the garden.

Protect new spring shoots from slugs

Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes

Plant summer-flowering bulbs

Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials

Top dress containers with fresh compost

Mow the lawn on dry days (if needed)

Cut back Cornus (dogwood) and Salix (willow) grown for colourful winter stems

Weeds come back in to growth - deal with them before they get out of hand

Start feeding fish and using the pond fountain; remove pond heaters

Open the greenhouse or conservatory doors and vents on warm days

Hardy annuals can be sown in pots or modules to provide colour in the garden. In mild areas you can sow directly outside. Marking out irregularly shaped seed-beds and broadcasting drifts of different seed gives a more natural look.

Sweet peas can be sown outside this month. Place autumn-sown sweet peas in a sunny position, perhaps on a high shelf in the greenhouse that gets plenty of light. Sow summer bedding plants in a heated propagator or under glass.

Early spring is an ideal time to plant herbaceous perennials, including Geranium, Astrantia and Oriental poppies.

Plant summer-flowering bulbs. Prepare the soil first, to ensure that drainage is sufficient to prevent the bulbs rotting. Anemone coronaria tubers need particularly well-drained soils.

Plan a continuous crop of cut flowers for this summer. Perennials such as delphiniums and annuals can be grown to produce a useful and beautiful display.



Sophie Wright's Roasted Leek, Endive, Walnut and Apple Salad with Goats Cheese

It's always nice to have something a little bit different from a standard salad and this wintery salad is just that. It's packed with texture, flavour and colour and the roasted leeks add savoury warmth, which is perfectly complimented by the crispy apple, the bitter endive and the creamy goats cheese. It makes a great weekday lunch or a light dinner.

Serves 4 Preparation time: 15 minutes Cooking time: 30 minutes

Ingredients

3 leeks, most of the tough green top removed and the remaining part cut into quarters
2 tbsp rapeseed oil
2-3 red endives, leaves separated
100g halved walnuts, roughly chopped
2 eating apples, e.g. Braeburn, cut into thin slices
300g goats cheese log, crumbled
100g pomegranate seeds

Dressing

2 tsp Dijon mustard
1 tsp runny honey
1 dessert spoon cider vinegar
3 dessert spoons extra virgin rape seed oil
Salt and pepper



1. Preheat the oven to 190°C. Place the leeks onto a baking tray and drizzle with the oil. Season with salt and pepper, cover with foil and place into the hot oven for 25-30 minutes.

2. While your leeks are cooking, you can prepare the rest of your ingredients as instructed above and make your dressing. Place the Dijon mustard in a small jar along with the honey, vinegar and the oil. Add a little salt and pepper, place the lid on top and shake hard until the dressing is combined.

3. Once the leeks are cooked, remove them from the oven and cut into quarters, lengthways. Mix the leeks and endive leaves with the walnuts, sliced apples and pomegranate seeds. Dress lightly with half of the dressing and pile onto a big platter. Top with crumbled goats cheese and finish with the remaining dressing.

From : <http://www.british-leeks.co.uk/recipe/roasted-leek-salad.php>

Breezy Knees Nursery & Gardens Visit
Booking Form
Warthill, York, YO19 5XS
Friday 1st July

Meet at the Interchange at 09:00 am

Light lunches available or take packed lunch.

Please include me in this outing. I will requireplaces.

I'm enclosing my cheque for £16.00 per person payable to **Clitheroe Garden Club** to cover the cost.

My details are:-

Full Name(s)

Address

Post Code.....Telephone number

Date

Please return to Mary Alty at 65 Riverside, Clitheroe, BB7 2NS as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Email info@clitheroegardenclub.co.uk

Website www.clitheroegardenclub.co.uk



Club Website: www.clitheroegardenclub.co.uk

Email address: sophiejmiles@hotmail.co.uk

Items for the May 2016 issue should be sent in by late March to the above email address.

