



Hon. President
George Cowgill

The Newsletter

No. 95

August 2016

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Welcome to this special 'bumper crop' of the Garden Club Newsletter to celebrate our 40th anniversary.

Inside along with all the latest news and reports, we've include a selection of our favourite photographs from the last 40 years, and we hope that you'll enjoy looking at them too!

Despite there being no annual show this year, trophies do still need to be returned please, either to the Sales Hut or Sandra at 23Claremount Avenue, as soon as possible please.

We are always looking for new volunteers and committee members, so we are delighted that Sarah Hewitt has agreed to join the committee , she and any other volunteers will receive a very warm welcome at committee meetings—please do get involved if you can.

Wishing you a super late summer and hoping that you too enjoy a bumper crop this year!

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

Happy gardening!

Kevin and Sophie

sophiejmiles@hotmail.co.uk.

Welcome to our 40th anniversary newsletter.

We hope you all enjoy the lovely collection of photos. They are just a taste of the events and activities of the club over the years.

We couldn't possibly include all the hard-working volunteers who kept things going for such a long time. They have done a wonderful job and do deserve our heartfelt thanks.

We must also thank all our members for their support. There have been a few special people who have been a good involved in the club since it was founded, but we are also extremely grateful to the more recent and new members.

Nowadays we are being told that gardening is therapeutic and good for our health. Forget the gym and the marathons just get out there and do some digging!

We were also told that one of the best ways of learning about gardening is to join your local garden club. So please tell your friends about us. As well as learning the ropes, they will meet like-minded people to compare notes next, exchange ideas and they will soon realise that gardening is the best of all hobbies!

Here's to our next 40 years!

Sandra

A short history of Clitheroe Garden Club

In the dim and distant past there was a Clitheroe Horticultural Society but the club in its present form started on 25th November 1976 when the first committee members met at Ribblesdale School. Those of you who visit the club hut may have noticed the brass plaques on one of the benches and huts. These are in memory of Jack Gregory and Geoff Sainsbury two founding members of the club who were mainstays of the committee for many years, in Geoff's case over 20! In its first year the club had 50 members who had to pay the princely sum of 50p per year for the privilege, this was increased in 1978 to 75p per year. I recall that my take home pay in my first job in 1972 was about £12 per week, so I think it was probably still a bargain.

The club acquired the site on West View Allotments in 1978 to provide a place for members to buy gardening supplies. We must have been very proud of the new hut built by 3 members in 1993 as the Town Mayor came along to open it; the pride was probably justified as the hut is still going strong! The annual show started in 1978 when initially it joined in with the Flower Club's show at the Parish Hall, the show remained at the Parish Hall until 2000 when the venue was switched to St James' School. After Geoff Sainsbury's death in 1999, Bill Gregson took on the mantle of Chairperson of the club and remained in that post until 2009 when he finally persuaded somebody else to take on the role and Pam Entwistle became Chairperson. Bill and his wife Iris took on the bulk of the Committee work for 10 years and without their hard work it is doubtful whether the club would still exist so we owe them a huge thank you.

Reading through the old minutes and newspaper cuttings it is clear that club members have always been able to enjoy a wide variety of benefits over the years both horticultural and social, club members seem to have always been fond of a good dinner and tea and cakes. We're also socially minded too having raised funds for several charities over the years notably North West Air Ambulance and more recently Water Aid. So many members have supported the club over the last 40 years that it seems unfair to single out any one person. It would be a shame though not to mention our longest serving member Eleanor Friend who has been a member of the club since it started in 1976. Some of you may have been lucky enough to visit Eleanor's lovely garden when she opened it as part of the Open Gardens event in 2015.

Visit to breezy knees Gardens

Although I enjoy most garden visits I didn't expect to see such a wonderful garden which exceeded all my expectations. We set off on a gloomy day on Friday, 1 July armed with raincoats and umbrellas expecting more rain. This occurred on the way to breezy knees Gardens in nursery just east of York. After enjoying home-made cakes and coffee in the cafe we set out along the path with herbaceous plants on either side. This was all very pleasant this but nothing like the planting we are about to see over 20 beautiful acres. The visit began cloudy but the sun began to shine soon after we arrived. The herbaceous border is packed full of perennials many rare and unusual and all looking so healthy.

We past the annual Meadow which looks its best at this time of the year what a treat to see the special collections of peonies and daylilies in the huge square garden surrounded by beautiful hedging. Then on to the June garden with the myriad of blossoms. There were separate gardens dedicated to shrubs, roses, raised beds, rockeries and the cottage garden was extensive enough to grace at least 10 cottages.

We were intrigued to find what grew in the rogues gallery which turned out to be planted with what is commonly called garden thugs because they spread so quickly that they outgrow their neighbours, but these were controlled by being planted and long zinc tubs set out angles to dramatic effect.

The sunshine when we sat on one of the many benches to eat our lunch. This was in the conifer garden where the majestic conifers were enhanced by beautiful grasses. It is surprising to think that nothing was planted before 1999 and there's only 2 full-time gardeners who maintain all the lot!

I think everybody had a good time as we followed in the footsteps of Roy Lancaster who wrote after visiting "what I saw exceeded all expectations and I for one was bowled over".

Mary Alty.



ELTHAM DANCE CLUB

22 Beverley Drive,
Claremont
Leam,
Sussex BN1 1PT
Tel: 01293 24111

The building was provided for the Eltham Dance Society
by David Matthews, presented to the Trustees of the Dance Club
Leam, Sussex.

The building was made possible as the result of the grant
in aid of the Leam Dance Society of £1000.

The club received the generous donation of equipment and
furniture and the services of the building was undertaken by
the generous members of the Dance Club.

Robert William Butler & Partners
2111 Leam Road
11111 Leam Road
11111 Leam Road

The club was inaugurated in October 1961 by
David Matthews.





CLITHEROE GARDEN CLUB
ANNUAL SHOW
 Saturday, August 31st
 St James School, Clitheroe
 Open to public at 2 p.m.
 Admissions Free
 Refreshments available
 Prizegiving and Auction 4 p.m.

NORTH WEST AIR AMBULANCE
*Presented to the Clitheroe Garden Club
 in recognition of all your work and participation
 at the annual air ambulance fund raising event
 on the 12th of September 2011*











September Meeting

It's hard to believe that by the time you read this the September meeting will be only be weeks away. The first speaker, Chris Wilcock, promises to be interesting and thought provoking when he talks about the work of Water Aid. I don't know a great deal about the charity but I do know that we take the benefits of easy access to clean water for granted, some of those benefits may not be quite so obvious to us here in East Lancashire and I'm sure Chris will enlighten us.

Looking ahead (I'm sorry I know it's only August) the December meeting will be a little different when Angela and Phil Dunnett help us to make our own Christmas evergreen arrangements. The general idea is that you bring whatever foliage you want to use but they will also be bringing some of the basic materials and decorations for participants to buy so it would be good to have some idea of numbers. I will send out a reminder by email nearer the time but in case you don't do email please try to let Frances Cullen or me know if you would like to have a go at making your own arrangement. Even if you don't want to make anything on the night come along anyway as Angela will be doing several demonstrations

Open Gardens Report

Club members Beverley and Tony Cooper of Peel Park Avenue, Pam and Simon Entwistle of Littlemoor Road and Brenda and Jonathan Fenton of Queen Street, Low Moor opened their gardens to fellow members, friends and neighbours on Sunday 10th July.

No charge was made but it was suggested that people make a donation if they enjoyed the gardens. Obviously the 50 or so who visited did, because £310 was raised for Water Aid. This charity provides toilet facilities and clean water supplies in third world countries, keeping children safe from water-borne diseases and freeing women from the drudgery of walking miles to collect water that is not always safe to drink.

The date was fixed before it was known that Andy Murray would be playing in the Wimbledon Men's final. But for this there would have been more visitors and more money raised. Memo - avoid Wimbledon in future!

Tony Cooper

Lesley's Garden Visits.

I had a short holiday in Northumberland in July, and visited two gardens for the first time, Cragside near Rothbury and The Alnwick Garden. They are quite close to each other but very different in style. Cragside is situated on a hillside near the border of the Northumberland National Park; the house is famous for being the first in England to be powered by electricity. The Alnwick Garden is situated next to Alnwick Castle which is famous for starring in the Harry Potter films as Hogwarts. Because of its situation Cragside boasts fantastic views from different points in the estate most notably from the formal garden (that's only my opinion). The Alnwick Garden is close to the town and views are limited to the garden although it does have wow factor in the shape of the Grand Cascade and some splendid water features. A lot of money has gone into the development of Alnwick Garden but personally I found Cragside more interesting. Alnwick Garden is very much nature tamed and felt more of a visitor attraction than a garden in spite of its interesting design. Cragside is a much larger site with many wide paths through the extensive mixed woodland but it is possible to drive around the estate to several car parks and in fact there are regular free buses for visitors. For those with 4 legged friends dogs are allowed everywhere at Cragside apart from the house but are not allowed into any part of the Alnwick Garden.

Gardeners' Question Time at Stonyhurst

Those of you who were unable to attend the recording of Gardeners' Question Time on the 1 August 2016 at Stonyhurst will be interested to know that the recording will be broadcast on **9 September** on Radio 4. The panel of Anne Swithinbank, Christine Walkden and Matthew Wilson were as entertaining and knowledgeable as ever.

Tune in and listen to horticultural advice specific to our area.





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Email address: sophiejmiles@hotmail.co.uk

Items for the November 2016 issue should be sent in by late September to the above email.

