

# Dorset Group

## Newsletter

March 2023

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# HPS

HARDY PLANT SOCIETY

Gardening with hardy perennials

Hello...

*Let's talk about something much nicer than the weather! We have planned, and are really looking forward to, a Day Trip in June to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. More information is below, and the Booking form with full instructions is attached to the same email with this newsletter.*

*Looking forward to seeing you all next Saturday ..... Ed.*

### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March – 2.30pm talk

'Garden Designs for the Average Garden – Realistic and Achievable' with Julie Haylock.

Julie is a garden designer based in Somerset, a winner of BBC Gardeners World Live Gold Medal, Taunton Flower Show Gold medal award and the Western Daily Press Cup for Best Show Garden. We're looking forward to her talk at the time of year which is ideal to be planning changes in our own gardens.

#### Timings:

**1.45pm** gate opens – refreshments, raffle, plant sales

**2.30pm** Start of talk, followed by Q&A and DHPS Notices

**4.15pm approx.** end of meeting

### Combined Membership & Programme Card

Your combined Membership and Programme Card will be issued at the meeting next week - don't forget to pick up yours.

### Plant Sales Table at this meeting

Plants are growing at last... your donations to the plant sales table are very welcome, including those you'd like to sell with the double ticketing system.

### Day Trip to Kew – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June

**Please note that initially this is for members only – we may open it up to non-members later.**

For this event we're introducing a new system to book your ticket, where you **first** obtain a unique Booking Reference, by email or phone.

Once you have obtained your booking reference, the method of payment, and getting the booking form to us, is very similar to our membership subscriptions procedure you all used recently. This will really help to do away with queuing at the Events Table at meetings.

The new style booking form is attached to the same email as this Newsletter. Please read the instructions carefully. As usual, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask.

### Dates for your Diary

#### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March – talk

Julie Haylock helping us with 'Garden Designs for the Average Garden - Realistic and Achievable'

#### Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – talk

Andrew Humphris talking about 'Parham Walled Garden'

#### Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May – 2.30 – 4.30

##### Our own Plant Fair

(see notes overleaf to book a table to sell your own plants)

#### Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June – Day Trip

**Kew Gardens** – booking form is attached with the March Newsletter email.

**Members only at present**

#### Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September

'Coping with Climate Change in the Garden' with Sally Morgan

#### Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October

Terry Baker and 'Terry and Mary's Favourites: Peonies, Hollyhocks and Foxgloves'.

#### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November

##### Celebrity Speaker Event

**Ticket Only (details later)**

with Tom Hart Dyke talking about 'Developing the World Garden' in his walled garden in Lullingstone, and also about his time in captivity in Colombia.

## Our Plant Fair – Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May – 2.30 to 4.30pm

We're keeping fingers crossed that last year's gorgeous weather will be repeated for this year's fair!

The Plant Fair is open to the public to come and buy as well as our members. Last year's layout will be repeated with plant sale tables in the car park, and refreshments will be on sale in the hall.

If you're a keen propagator and/or have split your perennials then for £10 you can have your own sales table and sell your plants with no further payment to us. Or perhaps share a table with a friend. You can sell anything you like – not just perennials. May is an ideal time for vegetables, annuals and all sorts. Please just ensure they are well rooted in their pots ie not potted within days.

Alternatively, you can donate your plants to our 'Donations Table' where funds raised go into DHPS funds towards events and speakers.

**To book a 6ft table** (or space if you have your own table) email the Group Secretary on [dorsethps@gmail.com](mailto:dorsethps@gmail.com) giving us your telephone number so we can contact you.

You can also sign up for a table/space using the Plant Fair form on the Information Table at the meeting next week.

## Information Board at Meetings

At the meeting next week, we will have a new 'Information Board' placed on a table next to the kitchen 'hatch'. Here you'll find the latest information about events, and also signup sheets for the Plant Fair tables, and volunteering for baking cakes and helping at meetings.

## Volunteering – Baking and Helping

We're still asking for more bakers and helpers. But at the meeting next week we're trialling a new system and asking helpers to sign up and commit to bake or help at the **April** meeting, which will cut down on the number of phone calls the committee makes for each meeting.

If you were on the volunteers list last year (including bakers) have you signed up for this year? You may not realise Liz started a new list from scratch this year.

## Propagating Snowdrops via Twin-Scaling Workshop

June/July – date to be confirmed. Propagating using the 'twin-scaling' method is good for bulk propagating and ensures you get an exact replica of your bulb. Jane Norris will run this at her home in Ferndown. Please email the Group Secretary to register your interest and for more details.

## Fire Safety Procedures at Meetings

Please ensure you sign in at every meeting - this applies to helpers and visitors too.

In the event of fire evacuation, an accurate list will be essential to confirm that everyone is out of the building. We will be reminding you of the evacuation procedure at meetings. Everyone should congregate at the muster point in front of the school nearby (turn right out of the Village Hall gate). Do not congregate in the Village Hall car park as emergency vehicles would need access.

## What Happens at our Meetings

The **Membership Year** runs from January to December

**Speaker Meetings** are normally January to April, and September to November. This leaves the summer clear for our gardening ventures, trips etc

**Doors open** at 1.45pm with the talk starting promptly at 2.30pm. Giving time to look at the Plant Sales table, the Information Table and buy your raffle tickets. (**NB:** the AGM and Celebrity Speaker meetings may be slightly different so please check)

**Committee Members** can be identified easily with their red lanyards.

**Refreshments** £1 for tea/ coffee & £1 for a piece of home-made cake. To help us use less electricity, bring your own mug or travel mug.

**Raffle Tickets...** £1 for a strip of five tickets

**Plant Sales Table** is at most speaker meetings (except the Celebrity meeting). You can donate your surplus plants or you can sell them for your chosen price, and pay us a little commission. Check our website for how this 'double-ticketing' system works and guidance on plant presentation

**Volunteers...** The more volunteers we have the less often we ask for your help. If you'd like to help on the day of a meeting, and/or enjoy baking a cake, just check the Information Board table for the sign-up sheet, or email us. To show our appreciation for your help you get a strip of raffle tickets. ☺