

# Dorset Group

## Newsletter

October 2023

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www.dorsethps.org.uk



# HPS

HARDY PLANT SOCIETY

Gardening with hardy perennials

Hello everyone...

We have something to celebrate this month – it's our 25<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Dorset Group of the HPS was established in October 1998. Elaine Lofthouse was one of our founder members, and our warmest thanks to her and many others, both past and present, for their/your dedication in making this Group such a great one to belong to.

As announced in the September Newsletter, due to ill-health Terry and Mary Baker have had to cancel their visit to us, so we're welcoming back Martin Young as our speaker next Saturday talking about plants originating in north America – and with our climate changing it's becoming ever more important for us to understand where our plants originate from, and their needs, in order to grow them well in our gardens here.

Other important points to note are:- we are now opening up Celebrity Meeting tickets to non-members; and the unfortunate cancellation of our planned Christmas social in December, but we'll try to make up for it by offering some festive nibbles and drinks at the November Celebrity speaker meeting.

Don't forget to bring your plants for the plant sales table 😊  
Looking forward to seeing everyone next Saturday ..... Ed.

### Wimborne Community Garden - introduction

Many of you may already be aware of the Wimborne Community Garden (WCG) established in 2022 to enable the local community to meet, share gardening skills and grow fresh food, particularly benefitting the Food Bank. Before the main talk at our meeting next Saturday, Jane Benson, founder of the WCG, will be giving us a brief introduction to the WCG.

### Saturday 23rd October – change of speaker

#### 'Born in the USA' with Martin Young

We're welcoming back Martin Young to talk about all those plants we grow which originate from the USA – there are lots of them, some you may be surprised about.

Martin is fairly local to us, is very involved with Plant Heritage Dorset, and used to have his own nursery. He will be bringing plants and books for sale – bring your pennies!

#### Timings:

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

2.30pm – Jane Benson from the Wimborne Community Garden

2.45pm – 'Born in the USA' with Martin Young followed by Q&A.

Notices and raffle draw.

4.15pm approx. end of meeting

### Dates for your Diary

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

*change of speaker*

'Born in the USA' with  
Martin Young (see text)

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

##### Celebrity Speaker Event

**Ticket Only** (see opposite)

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

#### Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December –

Gardeners' Question Time  
and Christmas Social –

**CANCELLED - see text**

**2024**

#### Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January – talk

'The Fair Maids of February'  
Mickey Little from Avon  
Bulbs talking about  
snowdrops

#### Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February -

##### AGM followed by talk

'For the Love of Roses' -  
Gillian Taylor talking about  
her passion for roses

#### Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March -talk

'Creating Beautiful Borders'  
Wildgoose Nursery

#### Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April – talk

'Thugs and Whimps' with  
Marina Christopher

## Cancelled - Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December – our planned Gardeners' Question Time & Christmas Social

We're sorry to announce that this is not going to happen, it appears the hall has been double-booked! Instead, we will be making our November Celebrity event a little festive with drinks and nibbles.

## Book your Ticket for our Celebrity Talk - Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November

### 'Developing the World Garden' with Tom Hart Dyke

**Tickets: members £7, non-members £10**

'We are now opening this up to non-members...so, if you haven't yet booked your ticket for you and your friends... don't dally 😊

Tom Hart Dyke is an English horticulturist, author and plant hunter from the well-known Hart Dyke family. He is the son and heir of Guy and Sarah Hart Dyke at the family seat of Lullingstone Castle, Eynsford, Kent, and the designer of the World Garden of Plants located there. He is an exciting and passionate speaker about his fascinating collection of plants and will also be talking about his 9 month kidnap ordeal in the Colombian jungle.

**The booking form containing full instructions, is attached to the email with this newsletter.**

We're operating the same method we've used previously this year ie bring your completed form with your cash or cheque in an envelope to our meeting and drop in the Events box. If paying by bank transfer the form can be brought to a meeting or scanned and emailed to the specified email address. Full details are in the form.

**NB:** For those without email we will have some forms at the meeting so just bring your cash or cheque.

## What do you think of the talk you've just heard?

As per last month, please give us your feedback on the talk as you leave the hall by dropping your lanyard into one of the boxes on the reception table in the lobby, marked with 😊 and ☹️ This will really help your committee with choosing speakers/topics in the future.

## New Treasurer needed for 2024!

We're still looking for a new Treasurer from next year, please consider helping us with this. You'll be comfortable with numbers and handling cash, and ideally familiar with using a spreadsheet. You will not be left in the lurch as Richard has kindly offered to give support initially if needed. The Treasurer is an officer of the Committee, so participation in committee meetings and decision-making is also important. Please speak to Richard or Rowena ASAP if you think you might be interested, or alternatively, email the group secretary.

## 2024 Membership Subscriptions

We're not chasing you, but you can pay your 2024 membership subscriptions now if you wish. New members joining now will take their membership through to the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

Annual subs are still £5 per person, and payments can be by cash or cheque (brought to meetings) or bank transfer. Full instructions are in the form attached to the same email with this newsletter.

For members with no email we will have some forms printed for you at the meeting next week.

## 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). Please donate your plants to help DHPS funds. If you are a keen propagator you can sell your plants for your chosen price. Check our website for how the '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. 😊