

# Dorset Group

## Newsletter

November 2023

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[www.dorsethps.org.uk](http://www.dorsethps.org.uk)



# HPS

HARDY PLANT SOCIETY

Gardening with hardy perennials

Hello everyone...

*We hope you all enjoyed Martin Young's talk last month, I was certainly amazed by the sheer number of plants that originate from the continent of north America.*

*We also had a brief introduction from Jane Benson of the Wimborne Community Garden where we heard how well it's currently doing, and about its future projects... hopefully more on that in due course.*

*We still have a few tickets available for our Celebrity talk next weekend, so, if you haven't yet booked your ticket, or you know of anyone outside of DHPS who may be interested... it's not too late... see below.*

*As you know, we unfortunately had to cancel our planned December Christmas Social, so, to add a little festive spirit to the meeting next week ALL refreshments will be complimentary, and there will be the usual tea and cake, and some wine and nibbles..... Ed.*

### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November - Celebrity Talk

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

We really looking forward to hearing Tom Hart Dyke – he is an English horticulturist, author and plant hunter who has been developing his 'World' garden in the walled garden at his home in Kent. 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.

Tom will be bringing his books for sale.

#### Timings:

**1.45pm** - gate opens – **complimentary** refreshments (tea, cake, wine etc), raffle

**2.30pm** – talk starts, followed by Q&A and Notices

**4.30pm approx.** end of meeting

**NB: please note there will be NO plant sales table at this meeting.**

### Book your Ticket for our Celebrity Talk next weekend

We still have a few tickets available for both members and non-members... so, if you haven't yet booked your ticket, or you know of anyone who might be interested... be quick ☺

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

As it's only a week away – you can book your ticket by telephoning **07468 853009** or email [Events.DorsetHPS@gmail.com](mailto:Events.DorsetHPS@gmail.com) and say how many tickets you want (stating 'member' or 'non-member'. Payment can then be by cash or cheque at the door – or you can pay by bank transfer – full bank details are in the booking form attached.

### Dates for your Diary

#### 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 at his home in Kent, and he'll also talk about his time in captivity in Colombia.

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

##### **CANCELLED**

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

Just in case you've missed previous messages - this is not happening after all. Unfortunately, it appears the hall was double-booked!

So, instead, we will be making our November Celebrity event a little festive with extra drinks and nibbles.

## Recycle your Gardening Magazines

Well done to you, we had a really good selection at last month's talk, keeping bringing those gardening related magazines you've finished with - and help yourself to another one or two. There are still a few of the old HPS specific genus booklets – please ignore the £1 sticky ticket on them – they are all free (as new updated versions are now available).

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

We're continuing with asking for your feedback on the talk you've just heard. As you leave the hall please pop your badge (minus the lanyard) into one of the two boxes on the reception table in the lobby, marked with a happy face 😊 and an unhappy face ☹️

Feedback from everyone like this will really help your committee with choosing speakers and topics in the future.

## New Treasurer needed for 2024!

We're still looking for a new Treasurer from next year, Richard Cooke has been doing the job for some years, and is due a rest! You need to be comfortable with numbers and handling cash, and ideally be familiar with using a spreadsheet or be willing to learn. You will not be left in the lurch! Richard has kindly offered to give support initially to his replacement 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, alternatively, email the group secretary.

## 2024 Membership Subscriptions

We're not chasing you, but you can pay your 2024 membership subscription anytime between now and up to and including the AGM in February. New members joining now will take their membership through to the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

Membership is still £5 per person, and payment 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, available on the Reception Table.

## Feb 2024 Dates for your Diary

Jane Norris is planning to open her Ferndown garden again next February for snowdrop lovers. She has over 140 named varieties and there will be some bulbs for sale too. The garden will be open on the afternoons of 8th -11th & 15th-18th Feb. More details will be in our January newsletter.

## 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. 😊