

Dawlish Garden Society

Newsletter June 2023



Coming Up This Summer

Our summer programme starts with a visit to Cliff and Chris Curd's productive garden.

Now you have seen it on Gardeners' World, come and visit it live..... Chris and Cliff Curd are opening their very productive garden for two private visits for the Garden Society.

Friday June 23rd and Saturday June 24th at 2.30pm
Entrance Fee £5 for National Garden Scheme book in advance, pay on the day

Tea and cakes available at a small extra charge

On both days there are 12 spaces for a guided tour by Cliff and a further 8 spaces to wander on your own, so pre-booking essential.

To note – there are steep and uneven paths around the garden – no access for wheelchairs

Parking on Church Road – Bus stop for Bus no 2 in Cofton at the top of the road or at Cockwood Bridge.

June 29th Meeting

Hornets, Gentle Giants with Stephen Powles

You might remember that Stephen is a retired Vet and came to talk to us about making our gardens hedgehog friendly last year.

The Summer Show—August 12th

Our showcase of flowers, fruit, vegetables along with crafts, art, cookery and photography. The programme is now out, if you have not got a copy we will have copies at the June meeting, the full programme is on the website and they can be found in the Library, Park Road Pets, and the Dawlish Farm Shop. There is something for everyone, so go ahead and take part this year. We will also have a summer plant sale outside the Strand Centre at the same time.

If anyone would like to help out in setting up on the Friday, clearing up on Saturday, or acting as a steward on the Saturday we will be coming out with requests nearer the time.

Thank you in advance

The Spring Show

We had a successful Spring Show on March 30th, with many new people entering.

The overall winner of the John Hayday Trophy was Gill Harvey

With Jenny Lancaster, Sally Gidney, Valerie Forrester, Pam Brown, Suzanne Jones, Roberta Stather and Alison Pressey winning individual classes.



This spring we presented the Dawlish Garden Trust with a cheque for £100 to support their work.



For enquires contact: Chair, June Cassidy on 439076
or Secretary Suzanne Jones on 889184

A Busy Spring

A group of us undertook a joint visit with the walking group and U3A to Cotehele for its daffodil festival, we enjoyed ourselves despite the rain.



Toby Buckland's Garden Festival, Powderham at the end of April was enjoyed by many members over two sunny days.

On May 17th again jointly with the walking group the society visited Stonelands on a lovely late spring day. Enjoying the knowledge and hospitality of Saul the head gardener, with the added enjoyment of tea and cake on the terrace this year.



In May we had three stalls in the town, we joined The Coronation street market on the 8th, and despite the rain we were able to talk to many people about gardening and of course sold some plants.

Our big spring plant sale on May 13th was a big success selling well over £1,000 worth of plants, thank you to everyone who contributed with plants, and help on the day—and of course everyone who took plants home to enjoy.

Our final stall was at Turn the Tide on May 29th, again a very enjoyable if long day with Steve's and Roger's Hedgehog House the star of the show. We promoted sustainability in the garden and of course sold more plants along with giving away small tomato plants to children for them to enjoy growing and eating the produce.

Treasures Report from AGM

I reported at the AGM that our annual funds are stable and have for the last few years shown a trading surplus. However, our expenditure is double our income when we look at the average of the last 5 years. The reason for our apparent stability is our reliance of the sales at our spring plant sale. Without this we would be in serious deficit every year.

It is not a sensible way to proceed, and with rising costs both for speakers and the hire of the hall, we need to increase our income from other areas. Mindful that our membership has been £6 since 2003, the committee put to the members at the AGM a break down of our finances with the proposal to increase our membership to £10 from 2024, along with guests meeting entry rising to £3.

The members at the AGM voted unanimously for this proposal.

The society will continue to run as a 'not for profit organisation', and will continue to hold plant sales.

It is an honour to be part of the society

Dick Sulch

