



Dawlish Garden Society

Newsletter September 2023



Autumn Programme

Jenny has booked three excellent speakers for us this autumn, please come and join us and bring along a friend

All at the Manor House

Plants of the Canary Islands with Ben Candlin

September 28th, Thursday at 7.00 for 7.15

Many of you will remember the great talk we had from Ben last year on Wildlife Friendly Gardening. Ben is a local horticulturist who has a small specialist nursery in Exmouth and works in local gardens.

Refections in Colour with Sue Minter

October 28th, Saturday at 10.00

Sue is currently Chair of Devon Gardens Trust, following a long career in horticulture, including working at Kew, being curator of London's Physic Garden and Horticultural Director of the Eden Project. She has also written several books and articles on different aspects of gardening.

What's New in The Flower Garden with Tom Sharples

November 25th, Saturday at 10.00

Tom was with Sutton and Dobies for 44 years before retiring, holding several posts there, including travelling and researching new seeds and plants to bring back for growers in the UK. Following retirement he has continued in a consultant position of a training and advisory role and mentoring young horticulturists as they come into the company.

Autumn Plant Sale—October 14th

Outside the Strand Centre 10.00—14.00

Outings Organiser

The committee would like to know if any member would like to take on the role of organising outings/garden visits for society members. If anyone is interested please contact Suzanne or June

Upcycle this Autumn

Here is an idea to use the outside of your pumpkins / squashes for a few weeks this autumn that one of our members tried out last year.



Courgette Trees

Roger Kohl has successfully tried two new varieties of courgettes this summer. He has grown climbing courgettes shooting star (yellow) and black forest (green), to great success as you can see. We shall have to see if we can have some of these plants at the spring plant sale next May for more of us to try out. Great idea if you have any sized plot. Do you have any new ways of growing plants?



Summer Show

Another very successful show was held on August 12th at The Strand Centre, more people came and looked around the show than had for many years. The new sections in the crafts proved popular and the quantity of entries into the flower sections nearly used up all the society's display vases.



The summer plant sale outside sold more plants than ever, with a lot of quality plants going far and wide with people down here on holiday as well as to local gardens.

The Carnival

If you have not seen the carnival float, we now have a permanent trolley that we can use next year as well as for transporting plants etc whenever needed. It was a soggy night which the plants enjoyed and did not dampen the spirits of everyone who was out, especially as our float followed Sparks the illuminated drummers in the parade. June took the photo and Suzanne stewarded that night. Great if more could join us next year.



Community Support

As you will know the society aims to break even financially with the Summer Show. For the last few years the society has made a profit which it has ploughed back into the society activities. This year however, we are passing on most of it to Dawlish Community Transport following their loss due to the arson attack. We have been informed that the insurance payment they will receive will not cover the cost of replacements buses.

For the last few years Community Transport have been vital in our ability to hold plant sales and the Summer Show, as they transport all the plants, tables, stands etc to and from The Strand. So we are sure you will support us in supporting a key community group.

Visit to Cliff and Chris Curd's Garden, Cofton

Several of us marvelled at the variety and amount of produce that Cliff and Chris manage to grow on their plot, when the society visited in June. We were also taken with the chickens and the natural bee hive. Who among us would not like to walk out of our back door and pick peaches or apricots fresh off the trees for breakfast.



Cliff was so busy with his plot being open for NGS this year, that he did not enter the summer show, allowing others to scoop first prizes. We hope he can bring his wonderful produce to next years show for us all to admire.

For enquires contact: Chair, June Cassidy on 439076

or Secretary Suzanne Jones on 889184