



dawlish-gardensociety.uk

Dawlish Garden Society

Newsletter May 2021

Spring Plant Sale

For anyone who has not heard we sold over £1,300 of plants, double any plant sale before. This is thanks to all the growers, who kept themselves busy during the latest lockdown, volunteers on the day and everyone who came to purchase a wide range of plants. The money will go to supporting the society and towards a new gazebo to keep the rain and the hot sun off everyone working and buying at future sales and events.



Visit to Stonelands

On May 19th, 17 of us visited Stoneland's Gardens and had a lovely guided tour by the Head Gardener Saul Walker. The rhododendrons were beautiful and the blossom was at its best on the cherry and malus trees as we walked up the drive.

Our next outing will be to **High Gardens at Kenton on Friday July 2nd**, and this will be by car sharing. We plan to be there for 2.00pm and numbers have been requested so that there can be sufficient cake for us!! So let Suzanne know if you would like to go and if you would like a lift, by Monday June 28th.



Upcoming Meetings

May 27th

Glorious Roses with Elizabeth Holman

We are limited to 40 people and no refreshments due to restrictions, so let us know if you would like to come, although we think there could be space to just turn up on the night.

July 1st

The Hidden History of Dawlish Garden Society with Suzanne Jones. We hope to have a small exhibition, refreshments and an open door to anyone who would like to come. However, we need to wait and see what the guidance will be then.

Summer Show

The show is on August 14th and the show schedule is now out, so time to get planning what you are going to enter. With this May so cold and wet, there is still time to sow and plant vegetables and annual flowers, or if you bought one of Roger's tomato plants you can enter those classes. The event is reduced in size this year to allow more space in the Strand Centre for people to circulate with social distance. However there is still plenty for people of all ages to enter, old and young, novices and experienced.

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

Keep up to date with our web-site dawlish-gardensociety.uk

See you there

Jenny's Garden Makeover

It was time to face up to the fact that keeping the garden under control had become beyond us!

The issues were: too much open ground for weeds to colonise and two directional sloping in the garden.

We engaged Kate James, and hatched a plan to create a low maintenance garden that didn't involve much bending down to weed, as that was part of the problem.

The front garden was stripped of plants and numerous weeds to be replaced with hard landscaping. A step was installed to deal with the slope. In front of the window, a raised bed was made and filled with favourite plants rescued from the initial clearance. It has been a huge success – so much easier to manage!

In the back garden, two bitty borders were returned to lawn – making the space look bigger and more coherent. The weed infested area that was once a veg plot had a covering of chippings and a small raised bed made to home strawberries and rhubarb. The existing soft fruit bushes were repositioned for ease of cropping. The remaining plants from the front have been replanted in any gaps. Trees pruned and terracing is being installed for safer access to them.

Even though the rain has halted the final work, now we no longer go into the garden and feel our hearts sink, but experience a feeling of excitement when we look at the transformation and breathe a sigh of relief!



Kate James studied at Bicton College and qualified with an RHS level 2 certificate in Horticulture and Garden Design, she works mainly in the Exeter area.

You can contact her on 07815758904 or gardeningearthy@gmail.com.



May 29th—
June 6th

Through nature, children become curious, imaginative, and creative, and with temperatures warming up, it's the perfect time to get outside, with your children or grandchildren. Garden Organic (gardenorganic.org.uk) has got lots of fun gardening activities for you to try, such as building a butterfly pie, growing a crazy cress caterpillar or cooking up a tasty pizza wheel in your garden. You don't have to be a child to try them out either.

So, enjoy your garden, build memories and most of all spend time together.

Powderham Flower Show

Is back on June 11th and 12th, all detail can be found at tobygardenfest.co.uk. If you had a ticket for last year they are honouring them, just get in touch with your details and they can issue a new ticket if you have lost your old one.

The Idea

Britain's bees are running out of food. As we pave over our gardens, build new roads and houses and change the way we farm, it means that the flower-rich habitat that our incredible insects love is in decline. The Big Bee Challenge is a three-year campaign to encourage Radio 2 listeners to do what they can, in the space around them, and help create a better environment for our pollinators.

The Big Bee Challenge 2021

Launching on Zoe Ball's Breakfast Show on Monday 7th June, we're asking children (between 6-12) to be inspired, get creative and submit their garden designs, with plenty of help from our celebrity supporters, high profile gardeners and conservationists, and our friends at BBC TV (Countryfile, CBBC, The One Show)

The Prize and Party In The Garden

The winning garden design will be built by the RHS at an NHS property. We'll be hosting a buzzing celebration against the backdrop of the winning design with the competition winner and special guests, live on Zoe Ball's Breakfast Show on Friday 20th August.