



Dawlish Garden Society

Newsletter Spring 2024



Outings and Visits 2024

Visit to Lanhydrock April 9th

This is by train, taking the 9.37 from Dawlish to Bodmin Parkway, it is then a mile and three quarters' walk to the house and gardens along the carriage drive.

Toby Buckland's Garden Festival at Powderham May 3rd & 4th

The society still have some group tickets at £10, which is a £5 saving from on the day.

Visit to a NGS Garden at 65 Teignmouth Road, Teignmouth in July

This will be a private evening visit between 6-8pm, with wine and cheese. The garden is on the route of the 2 and 22, so no need to take the car. No need to book, however we will ask for numbers nearer the time for catering purposes.

Wells Bishop's Palace and Gardens September 18th

This is a coach trip to Wells, the cost is £27 and includes the coach and the entry to the Palace and Gardens. There will also be the option of a guided tour for £4 if pre-booked. You should also have time to visit the cathedral or have a browse around the town. We are taking bookings at our meetings or by contacting suzanne@dawlish-gardensociety.uk



Annual General Meeting

Our AGM is on March 28th at 7.15pm, there will be a vacancy on the committee if anyone would like to join, see the AGM agenda for details.

Spring Plant Show

This is also on March 28th, exhibitors can set up between 6.45 and 7.15 when the AGM starts. This year there is a new category for Hyacinths, which replaces the collection of 9 Daffodils. The entry form has been posted alongside this newsletter or can be found on the website. There is no entry charge, just bring your completed forms on the night.

Spring and Summer Meetings

From March with the lighter and warmer evenings we are back to Thursday evening meetings. The meeting starts at 7.15, however if you have a flower for 'Flower of the Month' you need to have it on the display table by 7.10 at the very latest.

April 25th All About Hanging Baskets with Brian Carlson

May 30th, More about Vegetables From Your Garden with Cliff Curd

June 27th, Foraging, Medicine and Magic with Ian and Caroline Lycett-King

Trouble Hearing the Speakers at Meetings?

The Town Council is in the process of purchasing a dedicated modern sound system for the Manor House, which should assist those who are hard of hearing. In the meantime the system that we currently borrow from the History Society has been repaired. The society is also going to reserve the front two rows of chairs on the left hand side for those with hearing issues. We have been advised that this is the best place in the hall to hear as you are closer to the speaker and the current sound system projects sound forwards.



For Sale

Dave Chattock is moving and he has a manual push along (not electric) moss rake for getting moss out of lawns. If anyone would like it please give him a call on 01626 866349.

The Growers and Gofers Group

The committee is aware that some of our members are keen growers of plants, and contribute a lot to the plant sales and Summer Show. Therefore we have set up a Growers and Gofers Group, which is just an email group, so that people can share what they are growing for sale, to try and not end up with 100 of one plant and nothing of something else. It is also for sharing equipment or pots. They will also be the first to be called on when volunteers are required for events. If you would like to become a member of this group please contact Suzanne.

Dividing Perennials

Spring is the time of year for dividing perennials, some require dividing every 2-3 years others every 6-10 years. The exception is Peony, Oriental poppies and Siberian iris, which should be divided in the autumn.

Wait until there are a couple of inches of new growth, then lift the whole plant and divide it up using a sharp knife or spade. Or you can prize it apart with your hands or a couple of garden forks. Cut out any dead wood/dead central crown, and replant all or part of the rest of the plant, having 3-5 growth buds is the best size for replanting. If you have viable root sections over, why not pot up and keep them moist in a shading spot until established and then you can share it with friends or pass it to the society for one of our plant sales.

Dawlish in Bloom 2024

The competition this year will be by a photograph, and there will be two classes. However, this year the competition will be part of the Dawlish Garden Society Summer Show. Details will be out in April when the show programme is released.



The Daffodil, (*Narcissus*)

The nodding yellow/golden heads of the daffodil are a bright and cheerful sign of spring. In Dawlish the Tete-a-tete planted along our roadsides are particularly welcome. We have to thank the Town Council and Dawlish in Bloom for these displays.

The Daffodil was first written about as early as the 4th century BCE in the Eastern Mediterranean. The first time the flower was mentioned in England was in the 12th century, it is likely though that the bulbs came over with the Romans. In the 16th century a huge collection of daffodils were sent from Constantinople to Queen Elizabeth's Chancellor, which he had planted along the Thames Embankment. Over the next two centuries a numbers of growers took up the cultivation of the plant. This flower came into its own at the time of a special conference in 1884, where a systematic order of all known varieties was carried out. In the 20th century the RHS reclassified into ten main divisions.

In 1911 at the investiture of the Prince of Wales the daffodil was officially adopted as the national flower of Wales

In the Spring Plant Show we have three of the divisions as below

1. **Trumpet**—defined as the trumpet is as long or longer than the petals



2. **Cup**—defined as the cup is more than one third, but less than equal to the length of the petals

3. **Multiheaded**—one stem with more than one flower on it.

The show does not have categories for the other divisions of daffodils, such as the double daffodils, Cyclamineus daffodils, defined by their swept back petals, or the Bulbocodium daffodil where its petals are insignificant.

All Narcissus benefit from early planting in August / September, although can be planted up to November at about 4 inches deep.

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