


# Ash Parish Garden Club

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

 ash parish garden club



Monthly Newsletter Jan 2020

**ASH PARISH GARDEN CLUB OFFICERS**

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**EDITORS NOTES**

Brian –Stories to [ernestperry33@gmail.com](mailto:ernestperry33@gmail.com) hard copy to Chris

**R.H.S. LONDON AND WISLEY**

We are affiliated to the RHS who's benefits include competitive insurance cover, free gardening advice, a free group visit to an RHS garden, (54 members to visit Wisley *club trip in Summer*) access to medals (*Banksian medal*) and show stationery and a free monthly copy of The Garden magazine (*see Brenda Winton if you wish to view*).

Our membership number is 10564709.

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**THIS MONTHS RECIPE****CASSEROLE OF BEEF IN RED WINE**

Cooking time: 2-3 hours on top or in oven. Gas mark 1 or 2

**You will need**

4oz butter  
2 Oxo cubes  
6oz onion  
2 tablespoons red wine  
6oz bacon  
salt and pepper  
2lb beef  
8oz mushrooms  
4 level tablespoons  
bouquet garni  
1 pint hot water

**To do**

Cut the beef and bacon in small pieces  
Peel and slice onion  
Wash the mushrooms  
Crumble the Oxo cubes and dissolve in hot water  
Melt the butter and brown the onion and bacon  
Remove and brown the meat  
Sprinkle in the flour and brown it  
Add the Oxo stock, fried onions and the bacon  
Add the wine, mushrooms and flavourings, being careful not to add too much salt because of the bacon.  
Cover and cook slowly using the longer time, if possible

When re-heating casserole should be brought to the boil before serving.

Mrs. P. Ludgate

**POETS CORNER**

from **The Winter Evening**

What are the casements lin'd with creeping herbs,  
The prouder sashes fronted with a range  
Of orange, myrtle, or the fragrant weed,  
The Frenchman's darling?\* are they not all proofs  
That man, immur'd in cities, still retains  
His inborn inextinguishable thirst  
Of rural scenes, compensating his loss  
By supplemental shifts, the best he may?  
The most unfurnish'd with the means of life,  
And they that never pass their brick-wall bounds  
To range the fields and treat their lungs with air,  
Yet feel the burning instinct: over-head  
Suspend their crazy boxes, planted thick,  
And water'd duly. There the pitcher stands  
A fragment, and the spoutless tea-pot there;  
Sad witnesses how close-pent man regrets  
The country, with what ardour he contrives  
A peep at nature, when he care no more.

**WILLIAM COWPER (1731-1800)**

\**mignonette*

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**WINKWORTH ARBORETUM**

The Unsung Hero Awards shine a light on the hard work that staff and volunteers of National Trust strive to providing on a daily basis, work that is often overlooked, but late in 2019 our own Hero Kathy Wagstaff who helps at the Winkworth Arboretum received her award along with a bottle of Champaign and a large box of chocolates, **WELL DONE KATHY.**

**Spectacular Autumn colour at Winkworth Arboretum**

This year the autumn colours at Winkworth started in mid October, with the maples putting on a great show. The different species meant that we were treated to a range of multi red, orange, yellow and dark pink leaves. As these leaves began to drop the colour was as good both on the trees as on the ground. The photographers came flocking with their tripods and cameras.

Halfway down the azalea steps the Katsura trees puzzled the visitors with the strong smell of burnt toffee which carried a fair distance. I was often asked about this and I explained that it was the leaves creating the smell which continued long after they had fallen. Another Katsura tree grows at the top of the arboretum near the lookout. This one is a County Champion.

Kornus Kousa trees at this time of the year are covered with masses of large fruits which look like strawberries, much loved by birds. More food for wildlife may be found on Sorbus Hill where Dr Fox, the previous owner of Winkworth, planted many species of rowan trees. The red, pink, yellow and white berries attract flocks of Redwings and Fieldfares. The gardeners continue to replant this area with new trees when necessary to keep his dream of planting the hillsides with colour.

As the bright colours of the more exotic trees start to fade it is time for the native trees to colour up. Beech, oak, larch, hazel, sweet chestnut and sycamores change to the deep gold, yellow and brown. Adults and children arrived with bags and small buckets to collect their treasures and happily went home to create pictures and to eat the chestnuts. Another draw for the children was that there were a great many puddles and much time was spent wading through them and jumping up and down. Luckily parents were prepared for this and didn't mind the mud.

Even now, in November, there is still a good deal of colour although it is softer now. The rolling hills which surround the arboretum make a superb backdrop to the views of the lake and meadows. Visitor numbers have been higher than ever this year, keeping the staff and volunteers very busy.

Kathy Wagstaff

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## **2019 YEAR END SHOW RESULTS**

### **Most Points Section 1 FLOWERS:**

1<sup>st</sup> 99pts Hazel Chant, 2<sup>nd</sup> 73pts Penny Slack, 3<sup>rd</sup> 57pts Beverley Ames

### **Most points Section 1 FRUIT & VEG**

1<sup>st</sup> 63pts Penny Slack, 2<sup>nd</sup> 32pts Rowene Munn, 3<sup>rd</sup> 31pts Brian Cresey

### **Most points Section 1 FLOWERS+ FRUIT & VEG**

1<sup>st</sup> 112pts Hazel Chant, 2<sup>nd</sup> 83pts Brenda Winton, 3<sup>rd</sup> 73pts Beverley Ames

### **Most Points Section 3 Cooking & Craft**

1<sup>st</sup> 45pts Hazel Chant, 2<sup>nd</sup> 39pts Laura Chant, 3<sup>rd</sup> 33pts Brian Cresey

### **Most Points All Sections All Shows**

1<sup>st</sup> 158pts Penny Slack, 2<sup>nd</sup> 157pts Hazel Chant, 3<sup>rd</sup> 93pts Laura Chant

**MOSS-COVERED WALLS INSTALLED TO CLEAN CITY AIR****Ruby Prosser Scully**

WALLS blanketed in moss are popping up in major cities, along with promises that they can help reduce air pollution -but can a few square metres of plant matter really tackle the smog?

Berlin-based Green City Solutions believes so. Its moss walls, called CityTrees, are about 4 square meters in size. It says they can filter up to 80 per cent of pollution particles out of the air, including the tiny ones linked to respiratory and cardiovascular diseases.

The walls collect rainwater, which is pumped through an irrigation system to the plants, powered by solar panels. These also drive fans to increase airflow through the plants. As a result, the firm says its product filters 3500 cubic metres of air an hour, which is equivalent to the total volume of air breathed by 7000 people in that time.

Around 50 City Trees have been installed in European cities in bus stops and busy streets where people are exposed to harmful particles emitted from passing traffic - one of the biggest sources of air pollution. The European Commission is interested in the idea and is funding a dozen moss walls in Berlin over the next year. Each CityTree costs about \$60,000.

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**CLUB EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES –**

- |  |   |                |              |
|--|---|----------------|--------------|
| 8 <sup>th</sup> Lightwater                 | AGM and Mini Show                                       | Jackie Hayler  | 01276-475622 |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Hardy Plant Soc. Humphris | Adapting perennial planting for the 21st Century A.     | Sandra Hartley | 01372-727715 |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> Worplesdon                | Winning Water Gardens, with John Negus                  | Sheila Dyke    | 01483-481841 |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Onslow Village            | The Gardens of the War Graves Commission, by R. Dowling | Anne Bradbeer  | 01483-563421 |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Sandhurst                 | Planning and Planting a border, with Geoff Hawkins      | Chris. Dresler | 01420-768965 |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dorking Gardeners         | Best of British, with Paul Whittle                      | Anne Cole      | 01306 740710 |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> Horsley                   | Herbaceous Borders, with Geoff Hawkins                  | Terry Lazenby  | 01483 284232 |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> West End                  | Garden Inspiration, with Mark Saunders                  | Judith Douch   | 01483-475133 |

**GARDENING CALENDAR JANUARY**

January may seem like the dead of winter, but there is a lot to be done in your garden during this month.

**Plants**

Your plants will need protection and maintenance during this time of year. Brush snow from evergreens and conifers to stop the branches from bowing, breaking or splaying out under the sheer weight. If wet weather conditions have made ornamental grasses and other perennials fall flat, start cutting these back to give them a fresh start.

**Protect**

After plenty of rain, mulch beds and borders with leaf mould, manure, compost or shredded bark – a layer of around five to 10cm is ideal. Check protective fleece and straw is covering still-tender plants such as tree ferns.

**Feed**

Feed new plantings in late January with slow-release fertiliser such as Blood, Fish and Bone, and water, but leave the application of faster-acting organic fertilisers such as Growmore until the beginning of March.

Wildlife also will benefit from your help at the beginning of the year. Start putting food and water in your garden for hungry and thirsty birds. To stop ponds and bird baths freezing over, leave a tennis ball to bob on top of the water.

**Tidy**

January is also an appropriate time for tidying your garden and maintaining and repairing your garden furniture and decking. Recycle cut trees by shredding them for mulch or compost. Repair and stain or paint fences, pergolas and wooden furniture if weather conditions permit. Scrub slippery garden decking and paving with hot soapy water; Patio Cleaner is useful for dirtier surfaces. Ventilate greenhouses and conservatories on hot sunny days, and wash the glass of the greenhouse to let in more light.

*Be sure to put out feed for birds throughout the winter months*

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**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

<b>SPRING SHOW</b>	<b>11 April</b>
<b>PLANT SALE</b>	<b>9 May</b>
RHS Malvern (spring)	7 - 10 May
RHS Chelsea	19 - 23 May
<b>SUMMER SHOW</b>	<b>6 July</b>
Gardeners World Live	18 - 21 June
RHS Hampton Court	6 - 12 July
RHS Tatton Park	22 - 26 July
<b>AUTUMN SHOW</b>	<b>12 Sep</b>
RHS Malvern (autumn)	26 - 27 Sep