
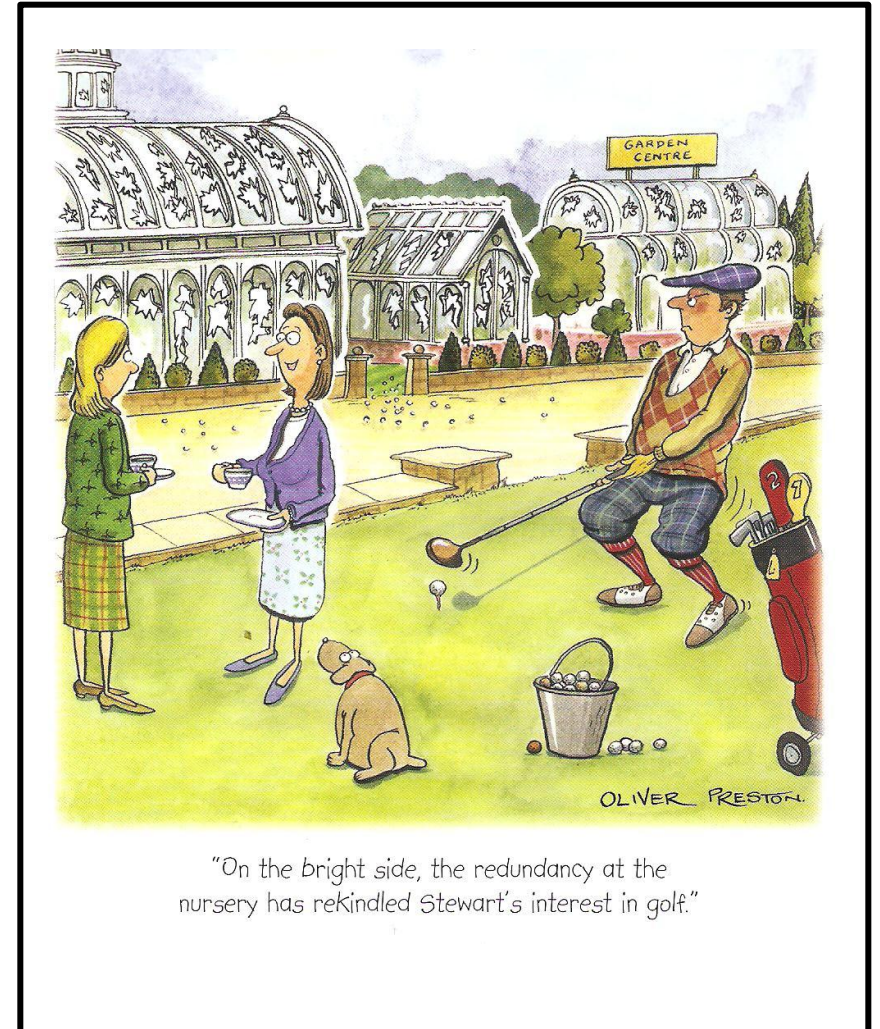


# Ash Parish Garden Club

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

 ash parish garden club



Monthly Newsletter Oct 2019

**ASH PARISH GARDEN CLUB OFFICERS**

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>OFFICERS</u>	<u>TEL NO</u>
Chairman	Mr J Poole "MEADCOTT" Badshot Lea Rd	01252 319621
Secretary	Mrs. B Ames 97 Longacre, Ash	01252 686303
Treasurer	Mr. Ian Chant 145 Carfax Ave, Tongham	01252 329767
Show Secretary	Mrs. B Winton 2 Elm Hill, Normandy	01252 333756
Social Secretary	Mrs. H Chant 145 Carfax Ave, Tongham	01252 329767
Victoria Hall Rep	Mr. Brian Perry 9 Drake Avenue Mytchett	01252 542341
Mag Editor	Mr. Brian Perry 9 Drake Avenue Mytchett	01252 542341
Prog Secretary	Mrs P Slack 16 Firacre Road, Ash Vale	01252 311210

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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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**SMALL PLOT WINS BIG AT GARDEN SHOW**

*An innovative and well-considered design by John Lewis Gardens takes gold at the BBC Gardeners' World Live competition*

They say it is better to be proud of a small garden than frustrated by a large one. Now the old adage has been proved true, thanks to an eight-metre-long garden that has scooped one of the horticultural world's most coveted prizes. Despite being half the length of the average UK backyard, Home Solutions by John Lewis Garden took gold at this year's BBC Gardeners' World Live competition after judges praised its considerable ambition, stunning planting and skilled delivery.

'The idea was to create a believable, workable space that was fun, functional and relatable,' says the garden's designer, Shaun Beale, Partner and landscape manager at Longstock Park Nursery, which forms part of Waitrose & Partners' 4,000-acre Leckford Estate in Hampshire, which is celebrating its 90th birthday this year.

Essentially, it had to be a garden that visitors could envisage creating at home, as opposed to one they could only dream of, which is why all the plants were sourced from our nursery, while the outdoor furniture and studio were supplied by John Lewis & Partners. If there's one thing I want people to take from this it's that they shouldn't feel restricted by size; as long as you plan ahead, you can create the most inspiring and enjoyable outdoor spaces.

The show garden was built in ten days with the help of, Partners from the supermarket's head office in Bracknell, as well as a team of landscape gardeners from John Lewis Home Solutions, an online service for booking accredited trades people.

Popular features included a wild flower meadow to encourage pollinators, a water feature fashioned from disused cattle troughs and two topiary rabbits inspired by the garden at Raymond Blanc's Oxfordshire restaurant, Belmond Le Manoir aux Quaf Saisons. Visitors were also really interested in the *Cornus kousa* "Venus" plants, whose giant porcelain-white flowers looked incredible, as well as the myrtle, which has been used in royal wedding bouquets for the past 200 years,' adds Shaun.

The grapevines also drew a lot of attention perhaps because people weren't used to seeing them in the context of a garden. They were inspired by the vineyard on the Leckford Estate, which produces a sparkling wine called Leckford Estate Brut. With more than 100,000 visitors each year, BBC Gardeners' World Live is one of the largest gardening shows in the UK. 'One of the things that really impressed our panel was the garden's size, as well as its layout,' says Bob Sweet, the event's horticultural director. 'It was a size people could relate to and everything was extremely well considered.'

The judges weren't the only ones fascinated by the garden; there was a constant queue of people waiting to experience it and Gardeners' World presenter Adam Frost said on more than one occasion that it was a garden that just puts a smile on your face. It also drew praise from TV gardener and Weekend columnist Alan Titchmarsh, who said: 'It's lovely. Shaun Beale is a great plantsman. I'm very envious, particularly of those vines.'

Daniel Tapper

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## **THIS MONTHS RECIPE**

### **CREME CHANTILLY for 4 to 6 portions**

#### **You will need**

Half pint double cream  
2 tablespoons Marsala or sweet sherry  
2 tablespoons icing sugar  
2 to 3 meringue shells lightly crushed  
Raspberry sauce  
Half lb raspberries  
2 tablespoons icing sugar to taste.

#### **To do**

Place cream, Marsala and icing sugar in a bowl, whisk until just thick.  
Stir in meringues.  
Place in a lightly greased pudding basin  
Place in freezer or top compartment of refrigerator.  
Leave until set.  
Place in refrigerator for about an hour before serving.  
Serve or liquidise raspberries.  
Sweeten with icing sugar.

*Mrs. P. Ludgate*

**POETS CORNER*****The Nymph Complaining for the Death of Her Faun***

I have a garden of my own  
But so with roses overgrown  
And lilies, that you would it guess  
To be a little wilderness.

ANDREW MARVELL (1621-1678)

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**TURNING LOST CORNERS INTO SPECIAL SPACES**

The first major outdoor gardening show of the year, RHS Flower Show Cardiff, took place recently. And, with recycling on everyone's minds these days, one of the star attractions was the Regeneration Gardens -all designed by recently graduated landscape architects and garden designers who were asked to create spaces with reusable materials. A favourite of mine was 37-year-old Brent Purtell, a first-time designer from Surrey who created The Xardin Urban Gallery, to revitalise an inner-city space.

Inspired by the abstract art of Agnes Martin and Ben Nicholson, as well as by Japanese rock gardens, the idea was to provide an attractive space where street artists are encouraged to display creativity. A central pool, lit by dappled light coming through evergreen foliage, was surrounded by art displayed on the perimeter walls. The overall effect was unexpectedly calming.

'At least 80% of the garden was made using recycled material,' says Brent, 'including concrete in the gabion cages around the steely-grey eucalyptus trees and at the four corners of the garden, which worked well with the feel of a Japanese rock garden. At the back of the pool there was a lump of concrete rubble, still with steel reinforcement bars poking out - the core was drilled out to turn it into a water feature. I flicked paint over my initial drawing to get the positioning of the planting in the water, and the street art was done by three students at Cardiff Metropolitan University, who worked on one wall each - it was great to be able to get local students involved.'

Wouldn't it be wonderful if forgotten corners of urban areas could have this much thought in their regeneration? Congratulations to Brent for a thought-provoking garden design.

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**CHRISTMAS SOCIAL HANDICRAFT ITEM**

Every year during our Christmas social we all judge items made by yourselves, this year we would like you to  
**“MAKE A CHRISTMAS ADVENT CALENDAR”**, using any media

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## GARDENING CALENDAR OCTOBER

October is the time to start tidying up and preparing for winter in earnest, while still enjoying the harvest.

### Harvest

If you have apple or pear trees, now is the time to pick the fruit.

### Protect

Move any tender plants, including houseplants, into a conservatory or greenhouse – don't forget to check that any heaters you have are working properly.

Container gardeners should remove any drip trays and raise terracotta patio pots with bricks or special pot feet (from garden centres) so they don't sit in water over winter and crack when it freezes. This is also the time to stop all feeding, as your plants are slowing down for the winter.

### Plant

Now is the time to plant up your spring bulbs, excluding tulips, which should be planted up in November.

### Tidy

Fallen leaves are an important natural resource, so don't simply discard them: clear up fallen leaves into black bin bags or create a separate pile next to the compost heap to make leaf mould ready for next October's soil conditioning.

*Continue planting spring bulbs, but leave tulips until next month*

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## THE BEAUTY OF OUR CHALK DOWNLANDS

Surely there is no better place to be on a warm summer's day than on a chalk downland nature re-serve enjoying spec-tacular views of the English countryside.

Here are just two of our favourite Wildlife Trust nature reserves.

### ***Broughton Down nature reserve, near Stockbridge***

This steep-sloped nature re-serve is best enjoyed from its peak, which offers incredible views across the Test Valley to Danebury Hill Fort and Stock-bridge Down. Don't forget to look beneath your feet too, for the chalk grassland is alive with plants and insects.

Plants found on the reserve include horseshoe vetch, wild thyme and common rock rose as well as pyramidal and frog orchids. Get a little closer and you may spot the bloody-nosed beetle plodding through the grass. This round, black beetle is so-called due to its unusual defence mechanism; it exudes a distasteful, blood-red fluid from its mouth to deter predators!

In summer, large numbers of butterflies skip from flower to flower; including chalkhill and adonis blue butterflies, as well as the striking dark green fritillary and rare silver spotted skipper. The down is fringed with mature woodland offering shelter to tawny owl, kestrel, buzzard and great spotted woodpecker.

The area is a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) but has archaeological interest too, with interesting features such as its ancient droveway and round barrow. The western end of the reserve includes the round barrow known as 'Plum Pudding' - an ideal spot to sit and enjoy the view.

### ***St Catherine's Hill nature reserve, near Winchester***

Standing proudly on the edge of Winchester, St Catherine's Hill is a fantastic spot to enjoy wildlife, ancient monuments and the most spectacular views over the city and its surrounding countryside.

Flower-rich chalk grassland cloaks this hill, which is home to the delicate flowers of musk orchid, frog orchid and autumn lady's tresses. Other wild flowers, such as rock-rose, salad burnet and wild thyme supply plentiful food for dazzling downland butterflies like the chalkhill blue, brown argus and small blue.

When the M3 was cut through Twyford Down and the old A31 Winchester bypass was buried, adjacent arable land was converted to chalk grassland and we were able to expand the reserve. These seeded areas are now the most colourful parts of the reserve from May to September.

Rising about 70m above the River Itchen floodplain, this hilly chalk outcrop rewards those who tackle the 100 steps to its peak. The ramparts of the former Iron Age fort are the most conspicuous sign of thousands of years of human occupation.

Buried ruins of a Norman chapel give the site its name and several rectangular burial mounds along Plague Pit Valley mark the location of mass graves. Look out too for the mizmaze - one of England's eight surviving historic turf mazes.

Find out more about how to visit these and other nature reserves at [www.hiwwt.org.uk/nature-reserves](http://www.hiwwt.org.uk/nature-reserves).

Caroline Meeh, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

## AUTUMN SHOW RESULTS

		PTS			PTS			PTS	
Most pts FFV	1st	91	Penny Slack	2nd=	50	Brenda Winton	2nd=	50	Beverley Ames
Best in Show FFV			Class 174			Hazel Chant			
Best Dahlia			Class 138			Hazel Chant			
Best Pot Plant			Class 166			Penny Slack			
Best Fuchsia			Class 158			Brenda Winton			
Most Points Veg	1st	49	Penny Slack	2nd	28	Brian Cresey	3rd	22	Rowena Munn
Most Points Fruit	1st	9	Penny Slack	2nd=	5	Rowene Munn	2nd=	5	Brenda Winton
New Exhibitor			Wendy Ashby						
Top Vase			Class 161			Rosemary Underwood			
Top Tray			Class 192			Penny Slack			
Most Pts Cookery	1st	22	Brian Cresey	2nd	8	Penny Slack	3rd	5	Carol Callaby
Most Pts Handicraft	1st=	14	Hazel Chant	1st=	14	Penny Slack	3rd	11	Carol Callaby
Best Exhibit Handicraft			Class 211			Hazel Chant			
Most Pts All Classes	1st	113	Penny Slack	2nd	68	Hazel Chant	3rd	67	Brian Cresey

## CLUB EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES –

**Please contact secretaries direct for further details.**

8th Ashford Fungi, friend or foe, with Peter Herring

B. Baghapour 01784-247907

8th Banstead A Modern Kitchen Garden by Mark Dobell. Banstead Prep.

Diana Beck 01737-271243

8th Ewell The Capable Mr. Brown, with Russel Bowes. Bourne Hall

Lynne Mason 0208-393-9257

8th Ewhurst Beth Chatto Gardens, her gardens and me, by Steve Austin

Anne Dyball 01483-271812

8th Merrow Designing a winter border, with Tracey Bull

Veron. Plested 01483-569498

8th Pirbright Vegetable Growing in raised beds, by Barrie Newman

M. Standing 01483-833321

8th Worplesdon Ferns and their companions, by George Lockwood

Sheila Dyke 01483-481841

9th Ascot Social and therapeutic benefits of horticulture. Ron Davis

Peter Cleare

9th Ashtead The Wild Flowers of the Dolomites, by Colin Cheeseman

Jennie Pilfold 01372-373348



- 9th Grayshott Adventurous Container Gardening, by Stuart Lees  
Ros. Henshall 01428-607879
- 9th Hurst Green Gardening for Beneficial Insects, with Vanessa Jones  
Brian Parrott 01883-723916
- 9th Witley Fascinating Fungi, with Peter Herring  
Gina Ellerton 01483-488460
- 10th Egham An Evening with Margaret, by Margaret Lister  
Chris. Harberd 01784-452146
- 10th Nat.Veg.Surrey The Potato, with Alan Wilson. East Horsley Village Hall  
Sally Coleman 0208-399-8809
- 10th Plant Heritage Where are UK Horticulture & Landscape going? Nick Coslett  
Wendy Bentall 01276-858256
- 14th Elstead Friend or Foe? The Good, bad & ugly! By Geoff Hawkins  
Alison Gravett 01252-703318
- 14th Yateley In the not-so-bleak midwinter, with Timothy Walker  
Hazel Goddard 01252-874532
- 15th Tilford The Seasons, with Geoff Lunn  
Janet Arm 01252-783133
- 16th Camelsdale Tulip Mania, with Lesley Chamberlain  
Craig Hooker 01428-642526
- 16th Onslow Village An introduction to Mayfield Lavender, by Lorna Maye  
Anne Bradbeer 01483-563421
- 16th Puttenham/Wanborough Fascinating Fungi, with Dr. Peter Herring  
Cornelia Zielke 01483-810911
- 16th Sandhurst Autumn Flowering Perennials, with Rosie Hardy  
Chris. Dresler 01420-768965
- 16th Whitehill/Bordon Sweet Peas for Exhibition and Pleasure, with Jim McDonald  
Stephen Miles 01420-478845
- 17th Bramshott/Liphook The Beth Chatto Gardens, her plants & me.  
Steve Austin Ann Haussauer 01428-723045
- 17th Chiddingfold Frozen yet moving still, by Ben Pope  
Els Trovo 01428-684548
- 17th Churt National Trust Gardens, with David Hunt  
Sue Styles 07795-598-982
- 17th New Soc. Camberley AGM and Plant Sale  
C. Thompson 01252-837640
- 21st Shalford/Chilworth/Peasmarsh Growing for Showing, with Barry Newman  
David Bunting 01483-561532
- 22nd Milford Wildflowers, with Ray Broughton  
S. Miskimmin 01483-421509
- 23rd Dorking Gardeners Allotment gardening in Russia, with Marina Roberts  
Anne Cole 01306 740710
- 23rd Horsley Daffodils and Narcissii growing & showing, John Goddard  
Kay Clifton 01483-283615

**AWARDS FOR GARDENERS**

**More than 200 gardening enthusiasts came together on Monday 16 th September for the annual Rushmoor in Bloom awards evening at the Princes Hall in Aldershot.**

The annual gardening competition, now in its 33rd year, is organised by Rushmoor Borough Council, and encourages residents of Aldershot and Farnborough to take pride in their gardens, communities and green spaces.

Awards were presented in 13 different categories and there were also three special awards. They were presented by the Deputy Mayor of Rushmoor, Councillor Frank Rust, and the Chairman of the Rushmoor in Bloom Forum, Rosemary Possee.

The Best Young Gardener award was presented to seven-year-old Jamie Greenwood, who impressed the judges with his imaginative garden at his home in Wisley Gardens, Farnborough.

The Best Sheltered Housing Complex/Residential Care Home went to Knellwood Residential Care Home in Farnborough, with the Best Street/Residents' Association or Community Garden, won by residents working on Hawley Community Garden, Farnborough.

The Best Front Garden was awarded to Ann and Bernard Highgate of Chilton Farm Park, Farnborough.

In the categories for local businesses, The Snow Goose, Farnborough, won for the second successive year in the Best Pub or Restaurant Frontage category, and Farnborough Hill Independent School picked up the award for Best Commercial Display of Landscaping.

The winner of the Most Unusual Planted Container award, sponsored by Councillor Charles Choudhary, went to Jacqueline Castle, of Whyte Avenue, Aldershot for her highly detailed and very unusual display of petunias and fuchsias in and old washing machine.