



Bridford & Teign Valley Garden Club

April 2023 Newsletter

Welcome to the April newsletter, it's a real pleasure now to see things greening-up and bursting into life after what has felt like months of rain all we need now is a rise in temperatures to assure us that summer is on its way. There's a lot in this newsletter so please make a cuppa and read at your leisure.

Visit to Haldon Grange

On Thursday 20th April 16 members enjoyed a sunny, spring afternoon visiting Haldon Grange, Dunchideock, a peaceful and well established 20 acre garden, parts of which date back to the 1770's. Owners Ted and Mary Pythian have handed over the work maintaining and developing it to their son, Andrew, who is the sole gardener! He gave us a comprehensive guided tour round this hugely impressive family gem, which boasts one of the largest collections of rhododendrons, azaleas, magnolias and camellias. The garden also contains many mature and rare trees, including the 300 year old Haldon Oak and is complemented by a lake fed by a stream cascading through ponds. The view up the large lawn, containing rare Waxcap Fungi, to the house was stunning with a Japanese Maple framing a carpet of bluebells, fritillaries and other wildflowers. From the top of the recently planted 6 acre arboretum were splendid views towards Exeter and Woodbury across the red Devon soil. Below the trees, Andrew has planted large artistic circles containing, respectively, lilacs, magnolias and bird rhododendrons, which when matured will be amazing. After our instructive walk through this lovely garden, members enjoyed a welcome

tea with the choice of a variety of delicious cakes and there was an opportunity to buy plants raised by Andrew.
Below is the link to pictures of the afternoon on the garden club website

<https://www.bridfordandteignvalleygardenclub.co.uk/haldon-grange-dunchideok>

Canonteign Falls Plant Heritage Open Day

Canonteign Falls have a Plant Heritage Open Day June 11th Celebrating their National Collections of Ferns during the Plant Heritage 45th Sapphire anniversary year.

Members may be interested to go to this.

Link for information and tickets below

<https://www.canonteignfalls.co.uk/events/plant-heritage-open-day-celebrating-our-national-collections-of-ferns-during-the-plant-heritage-45th-sapphire-anniversary-year/>

For those without internet the number to call for information is 01647 252434

Reminders

Sutton Mead the visit will now be on **Tuesday 9th May at 2.00pm**
The cost is £10 for a guided tour tea and cake. Please let Sarah Lyte know if you will be going.

Goodwill Gardens, the visit will now be on **Tuesday 6th June**

Subscriptions if you are receiving this newsletter and have not yet paid you annual subscription please pay now by bacs if possible to Bridford and Teign Valley Garden Club

sort code 80-92-99

account number 65540398

When you have paid please let Sarah Lyte, our membership secretary, know via email sarahmlyte@gmail.com

Christow Show

Don't forget you cottage garden plants for the Christow Show display.

Summer Gathering

The Summer Gathering will be on July 22nd at Jo Macdonald's house Easternhill Farm EX6 7BW

The competitions are

Horticultural cup – three different coloured vegetables.

Denning Kemp cup – Flowering plant in pot no more than 7ins diameter.

Betty Shaw cup – cut flowers. Five stems of the same species.

Rose Bowl – Flower arrangement on theme "Coronation"

So get your thinking caps on and your green fingers at the ready!

Horse manure

Horse dung is available to Garden Club members. Contact David Broomfield on thumper166@hotmail.co.uk. Choose your quantity; options are a quad trailer load, this is approximately a 1 ton dumpy bag load, delivered for £10 or a tractor trailer load, this is approximately 6 tons for £30. If access is limited there may be a problem with the tractor trailer load.

Anything for the next newsletter please send to me by mid May
hibly@hotmail.com

Happy spring gardening, Hibly

www.bridfordandteignvalleygardenclub.co.uk