



Bridford & Teign Valley Garden Club

January 2023 Newsletter

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Annual Lunch.

On Wednesday 11th January, twenty seven members met at The Manor Inn at noon for the Annual Garden Club Luncheon. There was plenty of chat as members were able to catch up with one another over well-presented, tasty dishes accompanied by the Inn's usual friendly, efficient service.

February Meeting

Our next meeting is on Thursday 2nd February in the Bowden Room, TVCH at 2.30pm when our guest speaker will be Benedict Lyte, talking on the subject of "Gardens of Australia and New Zealand".

Benedict is a horticulturalist of 30 years experience, he has worked in many gardens in the UK, recreated a garden in Australia, curated an arboretum in New Zealand and on return to Australia to the Sidney Botanic gardens. He now works for English Heritage.

For further information please ring Sarah Lyte on 01626 439678.

March outing

Our first outside meeting of the year will be on **Sunday** 5th of March to East Worlington House.

Contact Sarah as above

Please send anything you think our members may be interested in to me via email hibly@hotmail.com

The RHS has good advice for gardeners and below you'll find some tips to more sustainable gardening?

1. Plant a Tree

Trees are brilliant at drawing down carbon from the atmosphere.

If all 30 million UK gardeners **planted** a medium-sized tree in their community, school, workplace or garden and nurtured it to maturity, they would store enough carbon equivalent to drive you more than 11 million times around our planet.

2. Switch from mains to rains in your garden to save carbon. Make your pledge on mains2rains.uk

Use a water butt containing water that falls onto your roof instead of turning on a tap from the mains supply, or use a watering can instead of a hosepipe. So far 6.6 million litres of water have been pledged to save on the RHS mains2rains website, equivalent to taking 82,385 baths - saving enough carbon equivalent to charge 1.3 million smartphones.

3. Go Peat Free

Peatlands are the world's largest carbon store on land. They provide valuable ecosystems for plants and animals and act like sponges, reducing the risk of flooding.

When we take peat for our gardens, carbon is released and habitats are damaged. Keeping peat in bogs – not bags – is a crucial part of the fight against climate change. Our planet's billions of acres of peat hold more carbon than all the world's forests combined.

4. Make Your Own Compost

Carbon saving quantities linked to home composting (as opposed to buying bagged retail compost) are equivalent to 1.85 miles (driven by average car) saved per kg of home compost made. Every 1kg of homemade compost typically saves over 0.1kg fossil CO2 emissions, which could save more than 5.1 kg carbon, per gardener, every year.

Looking forward to a year of interesting and informative meetings,
Happy planning, Hibly