



Bridford & Teign Valley Garden Club

November Newsletter 2022

A.G.M

Our A.G.M will be on 1st December in the T.V.C.H at 2.30pm

Elections for the committee will be held, if you wish to stand as a committee member please let Paul know.

There will be a quiz and refreshments kindly provided by Francis and Daphne Liversedge

Subscriptions will remain at £6.00 please pay by bacs if possible to "Bridford and Teign Valley Garden Club",
Sort code 089299,
Account Number 65540398

Annual lunch the lunch will be on Wednesday 11th of January at the Manor Inn Lower Ashton. If you wish to come please select from the menu below and pay by bacs, this makes for less chaos at the AGM

Please email your menu choices to Mike Rosenbloom

rosenblm@waitrose.com

The Manor Inn,
Lower Ashton, Exeter EX6 7QL
Tel: 01647 252304 email:
info@manorinn.co.uk

Garden Club Lunch

Starters

Spiced Pumpkin Soup with garlic croutons, crisp Sage leaves and crusty bread (GF) V

Sticky Honey Bacon Jam Pork Bites with warm flatbread Butternut Squash, Beetroot and Goats Cheese Filo Basket with

Hazelnut and Pumpkin seed topping and ginger beer syrup V* Classic Prawn Cocktail Cocktail
With brown bread and butter

Main Course

Steak and Jail Ale Pie with suet pastry crust with vegetables and mash

Pan fried Lambs Liver and Bacon with red wine gravy, Bubble and Squeak and vegetables

Beer Battered Fish, Chips and peas
Chicken Curry with Rice, Naan bread or Poppodums, Mango chutney and Riata (GF)

Vegan curry: Sweet Potato and Chick Pea V* Vegan

Wild Mushroom, Chestnut, Brie and Cranberry Tart with herb oil chips and salad V* (available as a vegan option)

Dessert

Choice of dessert from the board
Freshly brewed Coffee or Tea with Chocolate mint

2 Course £17.95 3 Course £22.95

*available as a Vegan option Please advise if you are Gluten Free or any allergies

Dunley House

On Thursday 27th October, 20 members visited Dunley House on the outskirts of Bovey Tracey. The dedicated owners, Sarah and Francis Gilbert, gave us a warm welcome, explained the history of the house with its 9 acre garden and escorted us round.

Originally owned by the Buller family from Whimble, the house was built in 1862 and remained a family home until a single lady owned it, who was a recluse and lived in one room in the house. It and the garden were neglected with the garden becoming totally overgrown. In 1981 the house was put up for sale. Sarah and Francis were interested but, with two small children and one on the way, felt it was too big a project. However, in 1982 they bought it and lovingly set about transforming the garden from a wilderness into its present day mature state. It now boasts a well laid out rose garden overlooked from the house towards a horse paddock in the distance. There is also another rose garden enclosed with hornbeam hedges, which was designed and planted on the occasion of their ruby wedding anniversary. It contains 180 red roses called My Love! A sundial, given to them by their children, forms the centrepiece. A pony paddock was transformed into a lawn to host one of their daughter's weddings with a marquee. There are two ponds, a small lily pond with a fountain enclosed by hornbeam hedges and a large, five foot deep pond with a small waterfall. The large pond was built in 2016. The garden has mature oaks, sequoiadendron and a large liquidambar also rhododendrons, camellias, over 40 magnolias, an Arboretum and a walled garden with borders, fruit and vegetables. They have a gardener, Roger Clark, who

came from Kew Gardens and who works one day a week for them. He has given them many beautiful plants and trees. The tour ended with a delicious tea with homemade scones, a selection of cakes and tea. We had this sitting in a large shed.

November Meeting

On Thursday 3rd November we had our first indoor meeting of the year in the Bowden Room in the TVCH. Eighteen members enjoyed David Price's excellent slide-illustrated talk entitled, 'If You Go Down To The Woods Today' and, yes, he did include a picture of a teddy bear's picnic! David based his talk on three local woods, Dunsford Wood at Steps Bridge, Bridford's Rowdon Wood and Scanniciff Copse at Doddi. Dunsford Wood is well known for its wild daffodils and its wooded slopes provide a natural habitat for the Pied Flycatcher, which migrates to and from Africa. He has placed nest boxes for them and he rings the young, with one Pied Flycatcher from Dunsford Wood being reported in Spain. They eat the Winter Moth caterpillar which resides in the woods. Rowdon Wood provides a habitat for the December Moth where the female moth doesn't fly but attracts the male moth by her scent. The female moth lays her eggs on the buds of trees and the caterpillar eats the foliage. The Scanniciff Copse provides a carpet of bluebells and wild garlic.

We have had a very hot summer and an exceptionally warm autumn many gardens are still showing colour where they would usually be in their drab winter hues, my delphiniums are about eighteen inches high and with flower

buds! I wonder how they will fare with tonight's predicted frost.

All of this is due to climate change and we all have to consider how we will be gardening in the future, the reservoirs are alarmingly empty and we must consider water usage and conservation all year round now. Our washing-up bowl is half full of water before the hot water starts to come through, we now save this and pour it on plant pots or the garden as a matter of course whereas it used just to run down the drain, quite a saving of water and if you are on a meter, of money.

For free ways to save water and reduce your bills check out
[Www.southwestwater.co.uk/services/save-water](http://www.southwestwater.co.uk/services/save-water)

It's time to do your winter clearing and tidying but not too much invertebrates need places to shelter in the cold weather so don't tidy your beds to the extent that there are no hiding places for tiny creatures.

Anything for the next newsletter please send to me before January 15th

Happy winter gardening

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hibly@hotmail.com