



Bridford & Teign Valley Garden Club

## April 2022 Newsletter

Many apologies for the lateness of this newsletter which should have been with you two weeks ago.

### **Orchid Paradise**

Our next visit is to Orchid Paradise at Forches Cross TQ12 6PZ, this is on this coming **Thursday 7th** in a change from our usual practice we will meet for tea and cake at 2pm and then we will have a tour of the nursery. **Please contact Sarah Lyte** asap if you wish to go.

On Thursday 3rd March, the Garden Club visited Carrapitt Plants situated near Laployd Barton, NW of Bridford village. Ever wondered where the plants come from in the Teign Valley Nursery? Well some come from Carrapitt, which is a commercial nursery growing dwarf hardy, rockery and alpine plants from seeds but mostly cuttings, for the retail nursery trade.

The club enjoyed a fascinating tour including all aspects of propagation, potting on, labelling etc. The nursery makes its own potting compost from five different ingredients, adjusting fertiliser levels depending on how it will be used. Chemical inputs have been replaced over the years with biological control methods, using commercially available bacteria for fungi control and nematodes, watered on for vine weevil control etc. Row after row of potted plants are grown on, in vinyl houses, before being transported to retail outlets from the Lizard in Cornwall to Dorset and, of course, throughout Devon. There is also a limited on-line business. A

warming cup of tea and biscuits were welcome at the end of our visit on a cold damp day.

Our proposed June outing to Whiddon Goyle has been cancelled as it coincides with the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

The contact for **Lukelands** on **May 5<sup>th</sup>** is now Sarah Lyte.

Anything for the next newsletter please send to me [hibly@hotmail.com](mailto:hibly@hotmail.com)