



Bridford & Teign Valley Garden Club

Bridfordandteignvalleygardenclub.co.uk

December Newsletter 2023

AGM

On Thursday 7th December, seventeen members gathered for our AGM. Paul welcomed members and signed the minutes for 2022 before giving his Chairman's report. See below.

Paul asked members to vote whether the excellent Garden Club website should be allowed to include external content? A vote was held in favour of keeping the website content for members only.

The AGM and discussion was followed by hot drinks, wine and mince pies and then the popular gardening quiz, ably led by Joseph Dunkley, ended in a tie between the 'Naked Sheep' and 'Wild Things' teams. Well done to both.

Annual Lunch

Our next gathering will be the annual luncheon, which will be held on Friday 12th January at the Manor Inn Lower Ashton, 12.00 for 12.30.

Please contact Paul French if you haven't booked but would like to come to the lunch.

Subs

We are keeping the subs at £6.00 for the year. If you haven't paid yours yet you can pay by bacs to Bridford and Teign Valley Garden Club

Sort code 08 92 99

Account number 65540398

Chairman's Report for 2023

Well what a funny year 2023 was weatherwise but we would not be real gardeners if we did not moan about the weather. I want to take this opportunity of thanking all the committee members for their support and contribution to our club; Chris & Mike, Sarah, Ann, Hibly, Joseph and Jo. Special thanks to Hibly for keeping members informed via the newsletter and Daphne for the contributions to the Parish Magazine, Francis and Daphne for doing the AGM catering once again. Also, to Jan who has created our wonderful website, with photos he takes on our visits. Thanks everyone.

My personal highlights of the year are as follows, we did miss a number of activities so your choice might be different: the annual luncheon at the Manor in January was very enjoyable. Sutton Mead in Moretonhampstead on a wet May day was also an interesting visit and great tea. I always enjoy our local village garden safari's and this years in Dunsford was blessed with good weather, a good variety of gardens and great tea at the Walled Garden. Rain found us again for our Summer Gathering at Jo and Jan's but a great meal and bon amie was enjoyed by all. Cadhay Garden in August was a dry day out, where we were treated to the last garden tour by the out going head gardener. What an interesting garden it was too, and an amazing coincidence to bump into Mary Rogers, our previous Sec. before she and David moved to Dorset. (also on a Garden Club visit). I found our first indoor talk on Bumble Bees fascinating. I learnt a lot and have purchased their ID cards to see which come to our garden next year. Hope you did too.

We had our usual display at the Christow Show, which was very colourful, thanks to everyone who contributed and particularly Jo for her artistic arrangements. We attracted attention, some membership renewals and new members whom we hope to see soon.

More recently your committee has been engaged in setting up a new programme for 2024. We have tried to stay closer to home this year and avoid clashes with the WI etc. We are excited about it and hope you will be too. Note not every meeting will be held on the first Thursday of the month. It starts with the annual luncheon on Friday 12th January from 1200 noon at the Manor Inn, when we also hope to start distribution of the new printed programme.

I look forward to a new year, with more exciting talks and visits. Thank you.

Paul French, BTVGC Chair.

The first talk of the new year will be on February 1st at 2.00pm In the TVCH will be titled "What Is Rewilding, Does My Garden Make a Difference?" and the speaker will be Laura Fairs who leads rewilding courses at Embercombe.

Happy Christmas and a bountiful New Year to all,

Please send anything for the next newsletter to hibly@hotmail.com