



Bridford & Teign Valley Garden Club

Bridfordandteignvalleygardenclub.co.uk

August Newsletter 2024

Regency House

On Thursday 19th September at 2pm we will be visiting Regency House, Hemyock, EX15 3RQ. This is a 5 acre plantsman garden, which has walled vegetables and fruit garden, lake, ponds, bog plantings and sweeping lawns. There are also horses, Dexter cattle and Jacob sheep. The entry fee is £6 and teas are £4 a head. If you need any more information and to let him know you are going please ring Joseph Dunkley on 01647 252377.

Summer Gathering

The evening sun shone on the elegant garden of Ed and Liz Aldridge in Longdown where the Bridford and Teign Valley Gardening Club held their Summer Gathering on Saturday 13th July. All 17 of us were able to sit outside in comfort on the terrace, between the olive trees, overlooking the fields and hills of the Teign Valley to enjoy our meal. Between the courses our exhibits were thoughtfully judged by Corony Edwards.

The French's romped away with the prizes, Gill winning the Rosebowl Cup with her beautiful flower arrangement, on the theme of The Riviera and Paul winning the Betty Shaw Cup for his 3 sprays of roses and the Denning Kemp Cup for his scarlet potted pelargonium. Anne Rice won the Horticulture Cup for her wide selection of salad vegetables.

We then had our desserts, a chocolate orange torte and a lemon tart from Sweet Sensations, Gidley'Meadow, Christow, a delicious finale to our gathering.

Many thanks to Ed and Liz for hosting this event and providing such generous hospitality and to Corony Edwards for the judging.

Lewis Cottage

The Garden Club outing on Thursday 1st August was to Lewis Cottage, near Spreyton. Several started their adventure, meandering around the narrow lanes and crossing fords in the labyrinth of narrow roads in mid-Devon before finding the “oasis” at Lewis Cottage, a 4-acre garden that reflected the free spirit of those gardening there. Members meandered around formal lawns with topiary hedges, a conventional vegetable garden and borders of mixed flowering perennials, as well as places created for winter colour from the stems of many dogwoods. A few of the more sure-footed among the group scrambled up and down the woodland walk and around the dew pond, before enjoying fantastic home-made cakes and tea. Wonderful!

We are still waiting for summer to start and it's nearly the end of August, let's hope for an Indian summer. However mixed-up our seasons seem to be the jobs still need to be done, it's time to be planning what bulbs to plant for spring, cleaning greenhouses once the tomatoes, cucumbers and aubergines have finished, though that may not be until October. Beans and courgettes are in abundance and autumn raspberries are just starting to turn red. Jams and chutneys made now give us the flavours of summer in the colder months and apples and soft fruit can be frozen for delicious crumbles and pies. Enjoy the fruits of your labours.

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