

Dates for the Diary

May

Tuesday 15th

Pruning and Compost Making

by Jenny Bailey

Jenny Bailey is a professional gardener and was a volunteer for "Stroud in Bloom" for two years. She will speak on compost making, pruning and a range of gardening matters.

June

Tuesday 19th

Tulip Mania

by Alan and Jenny Wells

Amongst the most popular of bulbs, their flowers valued for brilliant colours and shapes - no wonder in 17th century Holland they gave rise to 'tulip mania'. Alan & Jenny tell us about them.

July

Tuesday 17th

Summertime in Western Scotland

by Masy Fenton

August

Tuesday 21st

Evening Garden Visit

TBA

Following the 2017 successful visit to Church Cottage, you'll want to keep this date free in your diary for this year's visit.

September

Tuesday 18th

Gardens of China - Ancient and Modern

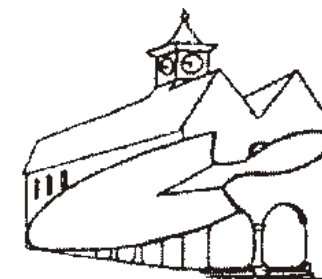
by Duncan Coombs

This month's talk is from a horticultural lecturer at Pershore College who led a group of ten students on a study tour of China in 2006. Their aim was to record the flora of Yunnan and Sichuan, a wild and mountainous region of south west China, famous for its wild flora, many of which are grown in gardens across the UK.

Quiz Answers: 1 Aster; 2 Sweet William; 3 Stinking Billy; 4 Iris; 5 Madagascan; 6 Fruit; 7 Saint Dorothy; 8 Nebuchadnezzar II; 9 Grapefruit; 10 The Garden of Cosmic Speculation; 11 Mango; 12 Rose (or rosaceae); 13 Garden gnomes; 14 False - it's tulip bulbs; 15 Carnations; 16 False - it's 2nd to The Hampton Court Flower Show; 17 Ikebana; 18 Orchid; 19 Sherwood Forest; 20 The Woodland Trust



by kutedymples



Ross-on-Wye **Gardening Club**

Newsletter No. 79 May 2018



Spring is just around the corner

"Although the calendar says May, the weather has taken its time to seem anything like spring. The farmers are at least a month behind and so are our gardens." After a slow start it looks like Spring is finally springing.

Gardening Club Holiday

Unfortunately Eileen was unable to organise our popular 4 day holiday this year owing to difficulties in finding 14+ single rooms. Nevertheless we are hoping to have more success in May 2019 when we plan to visit Newquay in Cornwall. Watch this space.

Put down your trowel, sit down in your favourite spot in the garden and put your little grey cells into action for a few minutes



- 1 Which flower's name comes from the Ancient Greek word for star?
- 2 What common name was dianthus barbatus given to honour the Duke of Cumberland's victory at the Battle of Culloden? And, in contrast ...
- 3 What name do the Scots sometimes call the weed noxious ragwort also in memory of the infamous Duke?
- 4 Which flower is also the goddess of the rainbow in Greek Mythology?
- 5 The Avenue of the Baobabs is a group of famous trees in which African country?
- 6 What is pomology the study of?
- 7 Who is the patron saint of gardeners, horticulture, florists, brides and brewers?
- 8 Which king created the Hanging Gardens of Babylon?
- 9 What fruit comes in varieties Oro Blanco, Ruby Red, Thompson and Pink?
- 10 Which famous 30 acre sculpture garden, created by Charles Jencks, is near Dumfries in Scotland?
- 11 What is the national fruit of India, Pakistan, and the Philippines?
- 12 Apples, pears, plums, apricots, and peaches are members of what family of flowering plants?
- 13 What were brought to Britain from Germany by Sir Charles Isham in 1847?
- 14 True or false. Daffodil bulbs can be used in place of onions in many recipes?
- 15 Which flowers were once known as gillyflowers?
- 16 True or False. The Chelsea Flower Show is Britain's largest flower show?
- 17 What name is given to the Japanese art of flower arranging?
- 18 Vanilla flavouring is derived from which flower?
- 19 The Major Oak, one of the most famous and most visited trees in England, is found in which forest?
- 20 Which charity was founded in Devon in 1972 by farmer Kenneth Watkins?



(Answers on back page)

A Letter from our Chairman

Dear Member,

As you may recall from the last newsletter, I wrote requesting volunteers to come forward and join the committee to "learn the ropes" regarding the running of the club. This was with the view that they could then take on the roles of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer who are retiring at this year's AGM.

The committee set a deadline of the end of May, six months from the AGM, for volunteers to come forward for several reasons

1. It would take six months for new recruits to "learn the ropes"
2. Speakers have to be booked well in advance with six months being a minimum.
3. To give members a chance to put forward ideas for discussion regarding the disposal of our assets and capital.

Unfortunately no one has come forward, so it is with deep sadness that after over 80 years I have to inform you that Ross-on-Wye Gardening Club will be dissolved at this year's AGM.

So please put the date of our AGM, Tuesday 20th November 2018, in your diaries if you wish to be involved with the discussion on what happens to the club's assets and capital and other matters regarding the dissolution of the club.

Philip Dennis

Request for plants and seedlings

If any of you have an over abundance of plants in your garden, or any spare seedlings that you would like to find new homes for please consider donating them to our monthly Gardening Club meeting sales. It helps us balance the books. Many Thanks