

Lincolnshire Group Oct/Nov 2019 Newsletter www.lincshps.org.uk



Saturday 26th October

Christine Walkden, Gardener, Plantswoman, TV presenter and writer of "no-nonsense" practical gardening books and articles.

"How to Grow 2000 plants in a 20 x 30ft garden" -How to grow lots of plants where you think you no longer have anywhere to grow more trees, plants and flowers.

All Welcome including Guests

Photo by Niddfest

There will be a plant stall at our October meeting but NOT at our November meeting. If you would like to book a craft table please do so with Diane (above).

There will be a garden book stall as usual, please bring along garden books with a post it note giving the price of the book and your name or HPS if you would like to put the price to funds.

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Christmas Wreath Workshop Friday 29th November 2019

£15 payable in advance to cover all materials supplied.

Tutor: Jane Kirk

Venue: Great Coates House, Cooks Lane, Great Coates, DN37 9NW Book with Jane Kirk at the meeting or online - lincshpsworkshops@gmail.com

Checkout our website for next year's 2020 Programme. www.lincshps.org.uk

It is on the noticeboard too.

28th **Sept** we enjoyed an informative and amusing talk by **Andrew Mikolajski**. Here are some highlights:

Sweet Peas. After the benefit of trials and experiment we were informed that the best time to sow Sweet peas is in the second week of October. Root trainers and square pots were dismissed in favour of 5 or 6 seeds in a 2 litre pot of good compost, placed outside exposed to the elements. This produces stronger plants that flower earlier.

Narcissi bulbs can be propagated by chopping a bulb into 8 or even up to 16 segments depending on how brave you are. In a takeaway food tray mix some water and Jeyes fluid. Put on surgical gloves to protect you and the bulb from bacteria. Dip a sharp knife into the diluted fluid, then trim the roots and dry outer bulb casing (tunic). Cut the bulb in half nose to root plate (1,2) then each in half again (3,4). Think chocolate orange wedge. Dunk the segments into the jeyes fluid mix. In a freezer bag put some vermiculite or perlite, dampen it with the jeves fluid mix and add the segments of bulb. Seal the bag keeping air in like goldfish. Put it somewhere dark and warm. When you see shoots in the garden check the bag and pot up the segments in gritty compost in a 2L pot. Bulbs are marble size, 3 years to flowering. This also works with snowdrops.

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Heather Farquhar



Gardening with hardy perennials

Give plants a final feed now to firm the wood and make plants hardier.

Plant bare root roses in Nov burying the graft union 1" under the soil to prevent windrock. When planting out plants from pots, tease out the roots and loose the compost if it has got very dry, as it will not re-wet, plant, then surround with cardboard soak it, then mulch the wet card.

Roses can be pruned and retrained in November. Pull stems down to the horizontal to get more shoots and flowers.

Andrew, (as Bob Flowerdew before him) also extolled the virtues of wee or Liquid Gold as he referred to it. Wee is the best compost activator. 50% wee and 50% tapwater in a sealed polythene bag, a couple of tiny holes and it weeps into the soil if placed under fruit trees or bushes feeding the plants. Plant bulbs in November.

Andrew also recomends that every gardener needs bags of grit for Christmas. (or perlite or vermiculite which is lighter and easier to wrap.)

Your thoughts:-

...."Loved the speaker today. There was a real buzz in the room and lots of favourable comments after the meeting. Well done speaker finders!"

...."I thought the speaker was great and heard lots of favourable comments good afternoon all round."

Plant Sales

...."I am happy to report that there were several new plant sellers today as well as existing ones. Fourteen members selling."

Check out the noticeboard for opportunities to help with the running of your HPS.

Seed Packing

Ann and Bob Armstrong are organising this again sometime in Nov. Please put your name on the list at the noticeboard if you are interested in being involved.

Woodlands, Peppin Lane, Fotherby, Louth, Lincs. LN11 0UW

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Bluebell Arboretum a guided tour with nurseryman Robert Vernon looking at late autumn colour and ornamental bark.

1st Nov 1-3pm

RHS members £7.95, non members £9.95 Annwell Lane, Smisby, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leics. LE65 2TA www.bluebellnurserv.com

GLOW Winter Illuminations at RHS Garden Harlow Carr, 21 November – 28 December

Thursday–Saturday, 4.30pm–8pm
Special lighting effects bring a touch of magic and colour to the garden's magnificent trees and shrubs
RHS Member £5, Non member £10
Crag Lane, Harrogate, North Yorkshire
HG3 1QB



Winter Craft Fair Sat 2 & Sun 3 November, 10am-4pm

Admission £1 pp. Local crafters and makers, all presenting their own

work in the Coach House venue.
The Bauble Barn is Open
Mon – Sat 9am-5pm & Sun 10am-4pm
Doddington, Lincolnshire. LN6 4RU

Artisan Food Fair Caston Sunday 17th November, 11am – 3pm

Local food and drink producers plus the 12-acre gardens open for you to enjoy Easton Walled Gardens, Easton, Grantham, Lincolnshire. NG33 5AP

Our next meeting is 23rd November
Rosie Hardy of
Hardys Cottage Garden Plants "The Trials and Tribulations of a
Chelsea Show Garden"

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