



Loose Leaf

Celebration Time Granted

On 26 January 2012 we will have our club meeting with our guest speaker Steve Blow at 7.30 in Christchurch Hall.

At 5.30 that day a festive celebration meal has been arranged at: THE CLYDESDALE INN Wetherspoons.

The meal will be a traditional roast dinner and soft drink for the price of £7.00 (plus £2.00 for dessert payable to restaurant on the night). This event is pre-bookable and open to all club members. Those members who live in South Lanarkshire area and are aged over 60 will receive a refund on the night of seven pounds as South Lanarkshire Council have awarded us a grant of £7.00 per eligible person. In the event of non attendance there will be no refund. Please complete the attendance sheet with payment. Please advise any special diet requirements. After the meal we will walk up to the hall for our meeting.

Welcome to the first of our festive celebrations all of your committee wishes you good health and happiness throughout the festive season and beyond.

This month has seen us increase the visibility of the club to the extent that Scots Magazine have requested to feature our activities as a link in their Whats On Feature of their Electronic Magazine.

All the best for 2012 it looks fun and interesting.

Dobbies Garden Centre have kindly donated the majority of raffle prizes for the 2011/2012 session, as we had bought previous prizes from them.

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Every path and every plot,
Every blush of roses
every blue Forget me not,
where the dew reposes.
Garden Days Robert Louis Stevenson

February Snowdrops Trip

The details are still to be confirmed and tickets will be available at the January meeting, please give your name to Tracey if you are interested and as details are confirmed they will be provided to you.

Excursion to Scottish Gardeners Forum (SGF) and AGM

An interesting and informative great value excursion with excellent speakers, good food and much laughter. Including the election of our President Roger Evans to the SGF committee. A review of this event will be featured in the next SGF newsletter together with an article about our website. We plan to attend next years event on 27 October 2012 and will advise details nearer the time.

Feed the birds

The RSPB's Feed the Birds Day was on 29th October and was a reminder that garden wildlife needs extra help during the chillier months.

You don't need to be a wildlife expert to provide a nutritious meal for your garden birds and most ingredients can be found in your kitchen cupboards. Garden birds are getting hungry and the RSPB is urging everyone to get their aprons on and their leftovers out. Birds appreciate our help with extra food all year round, but now is the prime time to step up the feeding in back gardens in time for the cold snap. Calorie rich foods like mixed seed, nyjer seed and peanuts as well as kitchen scraps like mild grated cheese, cooked rice and pasta, unsalted bacon and cooked potatoes are great for birds, and provide them with energy in the winter months. A supply of water is also essential for bathing and preening. Birds need to keep their feathers in top condition to ensure they insulate effectively and a dip in a clean bird bath will ensure this.

The Scots Magazine

The world's most widely read Scottish Interest publication first published in 1739.

Will feature Lanark Garden Club Syllabus in its eZine from January 2012.
www.scotsmagazine.com

Woodland Trust

National Tree Week

26 November to 4 December 2011

<http://www.naturedetectives.org.uk>
Information, activities and products for all and free trees for community organisations with space to plant them.

ANAGRAMS for fun:0)

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Synopsis of Talks for the previous meetings

With the title *Wild, Wet, Woodland* David Rankin of Kevock Garden Plants confronted a full house on 27th October. Surrounded by an impressive selection of his own plants, David enlightened his audience.

Wild Gardens . remember do not manage themselves. Discreet attention is always required even to stop nature upsetting the natural balance you require.

Wet gardens . will usually stay wet. Using moisture loving plants a thriving garden can be achieved. Even as the snow melts, some plants will find this the time to grow.

Woodland Gardens . this description still applies with the minimum of trees. Using colour, shape and texture and the right type of tree, even small gardens will have space beneath the trees for other plant life. Wind and shade need to be considered for achieving your dream garden.

The evening concluded with a members' plant sale to swell club funds.

The new session opened 29th September 2011 at which Paul Mathews from Glasgow Council used the intriguing title *Round in the World in 80 Plants* to offer a delightful selection of some of the wonders of the plant world. We know the Romans introduced us to the grapevine, but the humble snowdrop was also their work, and who realised a number of plants relied solely on bats for pollination. Gardening changed in the mid 19th Century when Asia, India and the Far East markets became accessible, giving our diets a wealth of new experiences from chillies to chocolate. From South Africa to South America, Paul produced an impressive glimpse of vibrant exotic and sometimes bizarre plants awaiting the intrepid traveller. Like the animal kingdom, some flora is becoming extinct, although many plants have managed to adapt. We can even boast 37 varieties of orchid in Scotland. With 74 Botanic Gardens in the UK (250 worldwide) the battle is on to reintroduce endangered species back to the natural habitat, so all is not lost.

Scottish Gardeners Forum Quarterly Newsletter now available online and by email FOC

shows what's on for other gardening groups and societies. www.scottishgardenersforum.org.uk

or follow the link from our website

Next year's AGM 27 October 2012