

The Donheads Gardening Club
2020 CALENDAR

- January 13th** 'Hens in the Garden' - Charlotte Fyfe
- February 10th** 'Kingston Lacy Kitchen Garden Restoration' - Andrew Hunt
- March 9th** AGM followed by Seed Swap & Spring Bulb Competition
- April 6th** 'Ultimate plants with more than one season of interest' - Andrew Humphries
- May 11th** Discount Evening + Talk - Castle Gardens, Sherborne
- June 8th** Beyond the Border with Anna Pavord
- June 14th (Sun)** Open Gardens gardens around Donhead St Mary
- July 23rd (Thurs)** Garden Visit - Windwhistle, Middle Coombe
- August** HOLIDAY TIME
- September 14th** 'Dorset lavender farm project' - Jo O'Connell
- October 12th** 'House plants for Christmas' - Castle Gardens
- November 9th** 'Winter Cheer & Spring Tonic' - Chris Birchall
- December 14th** Christmas Get-Together

Some of these events may be subject to change
check the club's website for updates



Contact Details:

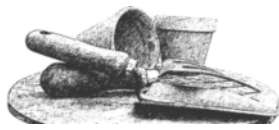
Vicky Daniell 01747 828 161 • Email: vdaniell66@gmail.com
Orchard House, Watery Lane, Donhead St Mary SP7 9DP
Website: www.donheadsgardeningclub.co.uk

The Donheads Gardening Club

Newsletter No. 73
Spring 2020



*Affiliated to: The Royal Horticultural Society,
The Wiltshire Gardens Trust & The Gardens Group, Sherborne*
www.donheadsgardeningclub.co.uk



THE DONHEADS GARDENING CLUB

Affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society, The Wiltshire Gardens Trust & The Gardens Group, Sherborne

Chairman: Vicky Daniell 01747 828161 • Treasurer: Roger Giles 828663 • Secretary: Jamie Daniell 828161

Newsletter No.73 • March 2020

Unless otherwise stated all meetings are held at Donhead St Mary Village Hall at 7.30pm. Visitors and guests are always welcome (for whom a fee of £5.00 is requested). Refreshments available from 7.00pm (a donation of 50p is suggested).

After what has been an extraordinarily wet winter it is heartening at last to see the promise of spring with the days drawing out and signs of life beginning again in our gardens - all be they very wet!

We have some interesting talks and tempting home-grown events in the programme for the months ahead, with two particularly special additions to the calendar in June. Firstly, we are very pleased to announce that Anna Pavord, the gardening correspondent for The Independent, will be coming to talk to us in the village hall on Monday 8th June. Apart from her regular contribution to the Independent, Anna Pavord is the author of a number of books on plants and gardening. She is also an associate editor of Gardens Illustrated magazine and has contributed to many others over the years such as Country Life and Country Living. We look forward to welcoming her to the Donheads Gardening Club, on what will I'm sure be a very popular and well attended special summer evening event.

Another addition to the Club calendar in June is an Open Gardens afternoon in Donhead St. Mary. With the kind permission of some of our members, we will have the opportunity to visit and enjoy their gardens on the afternoon of Sunday 14th June. The four or five gardens in question are all in relatively close proximity making it possible to walk from one to the other. We will be combining these garden visits with afternoon tea in the village hall, offering us a chance to recuperate and reflect while at the same time raising funds for Horatio's Garden. Spending an afternoon enjoying some of our own local gardens seems an appropriate way to support this very worthy charity.

Following on into July we have the opportunity to visit another very special garden in a truly stunning setting at Windwhistle, Middle Coombe. Annie Garnett has kindly invited us to enjoy her lovely garden on the evening of July 23rd. This will also be an opportunity for any members who collected plug plants at the AGM to bring them along and show them off in their maturity.

Back to the present. We are pleased to welcome two new members, Lloyd and Kerry Collins who joined the club in October; and more recently Eugenie Hiscock. We hope that you will enjoy all the forthcoming events, opportunities and social aspects of our club.

The next event in the calendar is our AGM on Monday 9th March. There will be a complimentary glass of wine on offer as well as the usual cups of coffee or tea. We will as ever invite and welcome any questions or suggestions that you may have regarding topics and visits you would like to be considered for the future. If you have been nurturing the King Alfred daffodil bulbs that we handed out in the autumn, do bring them with you for judging and also any seeds that you may have saved from your garden last year which can be included in the Seed Swap. We would also encourage you to bring along any perennial divisions that you have no need of yourselves, which again may prove tempting to other members. Lastly, a reminder please to bring your cheque books or cash with you as the £15 membership fee is due for renewal in March.

At our April meeting on Monday 6th, Andrew Humphries the Head Gardener of the West Lodge Estate at Iwerne Minster will be talking to us about the exciting new garden he has been creating at West Lodge over the past three years. Prior to managing West Lodge, Andrew was based at the beautiful garden of Wollerton Old Hall in Shropshire. Please note that this April meeting will take place on the first Monday of the month (6th) rather than the usual second Monday 13th, as this is Easter Monday. Please make a note in your diaries now to ensure that Andrew isn't faced with a hall of empty chairs!

Our popular annual discount evening at Castle Gardens in Sherborne is booked for Monday 11th May. Following a short talk in the Butterfly House we will be let loose amongst the plethora of plants to wander at our leisure filling our trolleys with plants, tools, compost etc - all with a 25% discount applied. Please remember to take your Gardening Club membership card with you.

With thoughts of summer in mind, could I mention at this point that with the help of Roger and Christine Giles, Penny Short will again be running the plant stall at the Four Villages Spring Fete on Sunday 24th May. Any plants or divisions that you could offer Penny for the plant stall would be very gratefully received. There will be a reminder in the Donhead Digest nearer the time, with further information as to where and when to drop any plants off.

We look forward to seeing you soon. Vicky

Please check our website for details of all our forthcoming club meetings and events. www.donheadsgardeningclub.co.uk