

The Donheads Gardening Club

2021/22 CALENDAR

January 13th	No Meeting
February 19th	Talk Via Zoom by Robin Walter 'Living with Trees'
March 8th	Talk Via Zoom by Brigit Strawbridge 'Dancing with Bees'
April 19th	Talk Via Zoom by Castle Gardens 'Seasonal Colour & Interest'
May 10th	Discount Evening - Castle Gardens, Sherborne
May 22nd	Garden Visit and Plant Sale - Tulip Tree, Donhead St Mary
June 12th	Garden Visit to 'Carpenters' & 'Glebe Cottage' Donhead St Mary
July	Visit to Iford Manor
August	HOLIDAY TIME
September 13th	'Dorset lavender farm project' - Jo O'Connell
October 11th	'House plants for Christmas' - Castle Gardens
November 8th	'Winter Cheer & Spring Tonic' - Chris Birchall
December 13th	Christmas Get-Together with Musician Emily Farewell

2022

January 10th	Talk from Clive Whitbourn 'Wildlife in our Gardens'
February 14th	Horatio's Garden Talk
March 14th	AGM and Seed Swap

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



Contact Details:

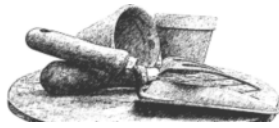
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The Donheads Gardening Club

Newsletter No. 76
Winter 2021



*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.76 • December 2021

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).

As the late summer ran into autumn, we enjoyed a few weeks of absolutely glorious weather which was such a welcome bonus. I am sure we all found that our gardens continued to perform well and benefit from the warm autumn sun. The leaves are now starting to turn in earnest and as we are well aware the dramatic change of weather over recent weeks has brought Biblical quantities of rain at times.

Our monthly meetings in the Donhead St Mary hall resumed in September after a gap of eighteen months due to the pandemic. It is so nice to be able to meet in person again and we hope very much that we will be able to continue without interruption for the foreseeable future.

The next time we meet will be for our annual Christmas get together in the hall on Monday 13th December. We are looking forward keenly to being entertained with music from local violinist Emily Farewell who has kindly agreed to play for us on this occasion. Emily also played at the Thomas Hardy weekend event in the hall two or three years ago, where she astounded the audience with her musical prowess and gave a very entertaining performance. We will have a 'bring and share' buffet as in previous years, and a garden themed Christmas raffle. With the hall decorated for Christmas, and wine, soft drinks and plenty of bonhomie on offer, this promises as always to be a very enjoyable social event, and we hope that many of you will come along to support it. Any contributions of garden related raffle prizes would be gratefully received, and a further note about delivery or collection of these will be sent out nearer the time.

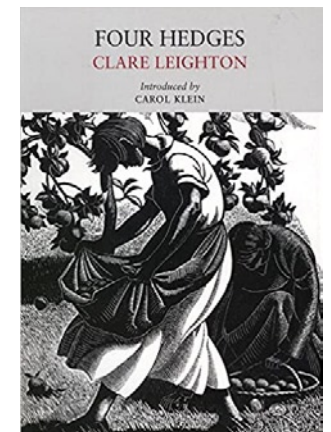
Our first gathering in 2022 will be on 10th January with a talk from Clive Whitbourn. Clive is a National Trust Area Ranger covering North Dorset and South West Wiltshire. He has a wealth of experience managing woodland and wildlife and will be enlightening us on the 'Wildlife in Our Gardens' - what to look for and how to look after it.

On February 14th we will have what will doubtless be an inspiring talk from a representative from the gardening team of Horatio's Garden at Salisbury Hospital.

Monday 14th March is our AGM and Seed Swap. If you have managed to keep some seed from your gardens this summer then please bring them along to the AGM and we can have a pick and mix of seeds! We will also be giving out plug plants of Pelargoniums and Petunias to anyone who would like to take part in our plug plant growing on competition.

In line with the very present topic of climate change - I was contacted recently by Chris Harwood who lives in Barkers Hill and who is starting an organisation called ClimateChangeActivist.org (motto: we don't march, we plant trees). Chris would be very glad to hear from any of you who would like to get involved and support him growing saplings for his very worthwhile project to plant 'millions of trees' to help fight climate change. Chris is hoping to have their first Donhead Sapling Planting Day next spring. For more information please visit their website <https://climatechangeactivists.org/> Or contact Chris by email chrisandsue61@hotmail.com

Finally, a nice way to round this letter off is with a book recommendation from one of our members. The book is called 'Four Hedges' and is written by Clare Leighton who was one of the finest engravers of the twentieth century. The Publisher describes how 'When Claire Leighton settled in the countryside in the 1930s, gardening became her passion. By observing the seasonal changes in the garden, she grew familiar with its wildlife and character, forming a bond which fed her work as an artist and contributed to the happiest years of her life. Illustrated with her own ... engravings, this is the story of the garden she carved from meadowland deep in England's Chiltern Hills.'



We look forward to seeing many of you hopefully at our Christmas gathering on 13th December.

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