

Grosmont & District Gardening Club

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2020

A message from our Chairperson

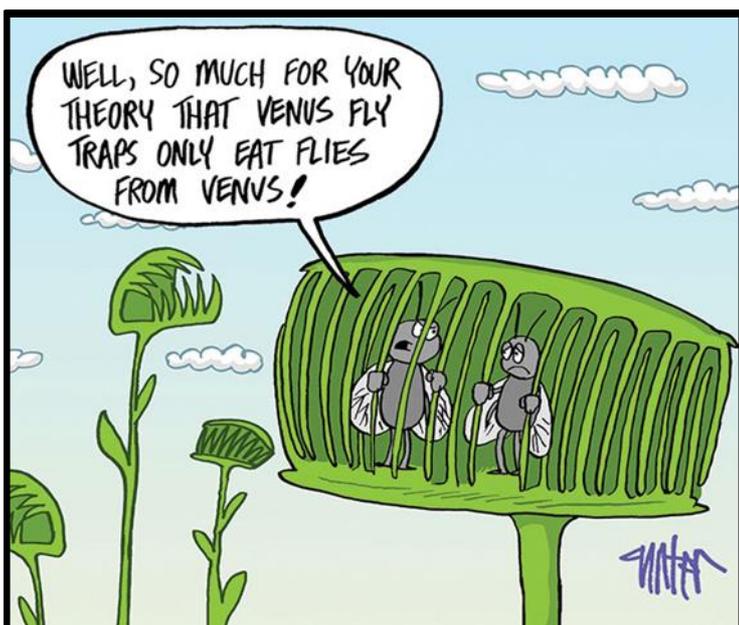
Hello Members and Friends,

We enjoyed a splendid social evening at The Brooks, sporting our distinctive hats. (It did look a bit like an asylum away day.) Everyone entered into the spirit of the theme and the competition for a winner was very close. The gardens were a treat providing an excellent safe space for us to mingle at an appropriate distance.

As you know, we had hoped to resume our monthly meetings in October, but the rules have now been tightened which will make it impossible. Although we will keep any changes under review, we may not be able to meet until the Spring. Our AGM is due in November. We have the options either to conduct it by Email, or postpone it until you all have the chance to take part. Perhaps you could let the committee know if you have a view on this. We will keep you updated with our monthly newsletter. It looks like 2020 will be memorable for all the wrong reasons, but if we stay well and safe we must count our blessings. 2021 is not far away when we can emerge like beautiful butterflies invigorated and joyous.

Best wishes

Christine (Chair)



Preparing for the Autumn, by Marion.

Autumn is a wonderful time, especially when the sun shines. In my veg garden I have been sowing winter greens, like pak choi and some winter lettuces, which I will probably cover with fleece if the weather gets bad. Now is also the time to plant autumn planted Onions if you wish to have an earlier crop next year. Mostly this season is about harvesting all that lovely fruit and veg you've been nurturing through the spring and summer. All your hard work pays off now.

Although you may be doing more hard work processing and freezing what you can't eat immediately. I've also been round our hedgerows picking blackberries, to go with our apples for apple and blackberry jam – a favourite of mine! Our hazels have produced a bumper crop of hazelnuts, which I pick before quite ripe and store for a month or two before eating.

In the rest of the garden there is much joy in the autumn colours, from lovely Asters, Dahlias, fruiting trees and leaves beginning to turn. My lovely Liquid Amber is now beginning to live up to its name and shrubs like Euonymus alatus are beginning to glow red in the autumn sunshine. You can keep the flowering going a bit longer by deadheading regularly. If you have plans to do some shrub or tree planting, then now is the time to order bare rooted plants, which will be delivered from November. These plants are in general much cheaper than those in pots. It is a particularly good way of buying hedging, but a surprising number of ornamental plants can also be purchased this way.

There also is one other very important thing to remember to do at this time of year – when the sun shines, stop, look around and enjoy this time of mellow fruitfulness!



Mad Hatter's Social

The early September sunshine shone for some of the club members to enjoy a socially distanced evening in Marion's beautiful garden. The competition for the best hat was tough but was won by Rowena!

Here are some highlights!



Members Spotlight



Name: Marion Stainton

Garden Club Member since: 2008

1. Describe your garden

I have a 2.5-acre country garden on a north facing slope. The veg garden is part walled and enclosed and there is an orchard, ornamental, shrub and shade borders, wooded area and meadows. The garden also has some lovely views over the Golden Valley.

2. What is your earliest memory of gardening?

Surreptitiously planting nasturtium seeds in a neighbour's garden, when aged about 4.

3. What is the best piece of gardening advice you have been given?

Celebrate your success and forget the things that didn't work so well – those happen to every gardener, however experienced.

4. Which garden tool could you not live without and why?

I have a daisy grubber with a sharpened edge, so I can weed and hoe with the same tool, whilst down on hands and knees.

5. Favourite plant/flower?

Probably whatever is in flower and looking glorious. At the moment at the moment it would be Asters or maybe Fuchsias.

6. Lockdown garden projects?

The summerhouse garden at the Brooks has been enclosed and the layout changed a bit. It's not finished yet.

7. You can have a famous gardener spend a day with you in your garden. Who do you choose?

Christopher Lloyd. Sadly, not possible as he died a few years ago, but I love his ideas on colour and plant combinations.

Thank you Marion

Hillview Hardy Plants Annual Autumn Sale.

For the first two weeks in October, including Sundays, we will be having a sale where plants will be 50% off.

We would like to invite your gardening group members for a preview on 28th-30th September as it has been so difficult to get out this summer and all talks have been cancelled.

This will mean that you get the 50% discount early and get first choice of all the plants. Bring a copy of your membership card or mention this email.

We look forward to seeing you!
Ingrid Millington and all at Hillview



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Allensmoore Nursery

"It's our penultimate weekend of gate sales on both Saturday and Sunday 🌸🌸🌸🌸 however the rail crossing is closed again at the Tram Inn on Sunday ONLY, no access from the Abergavenny Road, access from the east side only (Ross Road side)"

(Taken from their Facebook Page)

Contacts

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Committee Members

Chair	Christine Williams
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Minute Secretary	Jenny Bond
Programme Secretary	Paula Crawford
Press Notices	Chris Robinson
Social Media	Clare Perks
Newsletter	Jan Eastment
	Sarah Bell

Many thanks to all who have contributed to this newsletter. If anyone would like to share pictures of their gardens, prize roses or amazing veg, don't be shy! Please do email them for us to see and we can put them in the next newsletter! We hope you are all staying safe and well and will keep you posted on future events as and when the situation improves. With our very best wishes, Grosmont & Distict Garden Club.