



Newsletter

Nidderdale Hardy Planters

Issue 9
Spring 2010

What's on this year?

Your committee has decided that instead of the club finishing evening meetings after May, we will continue meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month throughout the summer. Those meetings will be in the form of visits to gardens in the area.

Yorkshire has some of the loveliest gardens in the country so we have plenty to go at. We are starting very close to home so you can get used to the idea and won't have far to travel while fuel is so expensive. Make your own way to these gardens.

As usual, we have arranged two coach trips: the first on Sunday 13 June to Felley Priory and Renishaw Hall and the second on Sunday 18 July to Ness Botanic Gardens, Bluebell Cottage and Lodge Lane Nursery.

We start off our next lecture season in September with a nosy look at some fantastic gardens in footballers' wives country....not to be missed. In November we welcome Noel Kingsbury—very well known as author and garden designer—his talk is provocatively entitled "Women and men garden differently" - what can he mean!?

The rest of the programme promises everything from alpines to pests and diseases; from fruit and vegetables to plant protection. Did you see the Head Gardener of Bodnant, Troy Scott-Smith, in the tv series showing the developments there? We welcome him to tell us more about it in May next year.

Make the most of it—it's your club!

Do you rush away after the lecture? Or do you stay to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit? It doesn't cost you anything and it is a chance to chat to other members and share your views and experiences about the Club or gardening in general. Many of our members have a lot of knowledge which they are happy to share with the less experienced of us and your committee members are very willing to listen to any suggestions you may have. Do also think about volunteering to wash up.

Membership Renewal..... Our Membership Secretary, Jane Saxby, will be writing to you at the end of July with application forms and envelopes for return by the beginning of September. When your forms and payment are received she will send your Membership Card and the Autumn Newsletter in the post ready for the beginning of the new season.

Not yet a member?..... Join us on the second Tuesday of the month from September to May at 7.30 at Holy Trinity Church Hall in Knaresborough—just beyond the junction of Gracious Street and Windsor Lane. Membership is currently £9 for a full year (£15 couple) —members' guests and other visitors pay £3 a meeting.

!! DON'T FORGET !!

Annual Plant Auction 2010

Tuesday 13 April at 7.30

Whilst you are working in the garden in the next few weeks, please think about potting up a few plants for the auction. It is a great way to help the finances of the club at the same time as helping other members to increase the variety of plants in their gardens—especially if you have anything particularly interesting! It's got to be better than chucking the bits in the compost bin (you do make compost, don't you?!). Sorry, it is too complicated to do our 50/50 system—all plants will need to be donated 100% to the club.

Some dates for your diary

Gardeners Fairs and Special Events

All details in the Yorkshire Gardens

Yellow Book

Sat, Sun, Mon May 1 to 3	Constable Burton Tulip Festival
Sun May 2	Harlow Carr—NCCPG Plant Fair
Sun May 9	Newby Hall—Spring Plant Fair
Sun May 30	Creskeld Hall—Specialist Nurseries
Sat Sun June 5 & 6	Old Sleningford Hall—Plant Fair
Sat Sun June 12 & 13	Burton Agnes Hall—Gardeners' Fair
Sat Sun June 26 & 27	Yorke House—Art in the Garden
Sun Sept 12	Harlow Carr—NCCPG Plant Fair



Evening Garden Visits—make your own way there

Tuesday 8 June

Spring Close Farm, Gill Lane, Kearby LS22 4BS

Large mature yet evolving quiet country garden, divided into rooms sheltered by clipped yew and beech hedging. Tranquil water garden leading to a new orchard with ha ha and stunning views over the Wharfe valley. Underplanted roses, mulberry trees and herbaceous borders with archway to walled garden with small greenhouse and enclosed cottage garden.

Directions: 3 miles west of Wetherby on A661, turn south at the bottom of Spofforth Hill to Sicklinghall. One mile after the village turn left at Clap Gate towards Kearby. Please meet outside the garden at 6.30pm. We will all go into the garden together.

Entrance £5.00 to include refreshments (pay at the gate)

Tuesday 13 July

Hillbark, Church Lane, Bardsey LS17 9DH

Award winning established country garden. Three south-facing levels with distinct intimate areas, hidden corners and surprise views. Evergreen structure blends with formal topiary and perennial flowers. Small ornamental ponds, summerhouse overlooking gravel, stream and rock gardens. Large natural garden pond with ducks, marginal planting and a bridge leading to woodland.

Directions: 4 miles south west of Wetherby. Turn West from the A58 onto Church Lane, signed to Bardsey. The house is on the left before the church. Please park with care and meet outside the garden at 6.30pm. We will all go into the garden together.

Entrance £5.00 to include refreshments (pay at the gate)

Tuesday 10 August

Goldsborough Hall, Church Street, Goldsborough HG5 8NR

A beautifully restored 11 acre garden and formal landscaped grounds in a parkland setting with a Grade 2*, 17th century house. Gertrude Jekyll inspired replanted 120ft double herbaceous borders and rose garden. Specimen trees and woodland walk. A member's garden.

Directions: 2 miles south east of Knaresborough. Turn off A59 Knaresborough to York road into Goldsborough village. Car park is 300 yards past the Bay Horse pub on the right. Please meet in the car park at 6.30pm. we will all go into the garden together.

Entrance £8.00 to include refreshments (pay at the gate)

<p>Your committee</p> <p>Ann Hill (chair)</p> <p>Tricia Hesford (acting treasurer)</p> <p>Jane Saxby (membership secretary) 01423 864183</p>	<p>Chris Abbott</p> <p>Maureen Boland</p> <p>Ruth Cumberland</p> <p>Jean Drummond</p> <p>Jo Pickering</p> <p>Tricia Staines</p>
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Garden Visits by coach - 2010.

Sunday 13 June

Felley Priory and Renishaw Hall.

Felley Priory is a privately owned Elizabethan house with a walled and hedged garden. The garden has been designed by its plantswoman owner as a garden for all seasons with yew hedges, topiary, snow-drops, hellebores, an orchard of daffodils, herbaceous borders and an old-fashioned rose garden. There are pergolas, a medieval garden, a small arboretum and borders filled with unusual trees, shrubs, plants and bulbs and a grass-edged pond. There is also a small plant fair of rare plants. Visitors have described the garden as charming, interesting, restful, yet stimulating. Picnicking is allowed in the car park.

Renishaw Hall has been the family home of the Sitwells for nearly 400 years. Our tour gives you access to the gardens, museum, galleries and a Food Fayre. The garden was laid out in 1895 by Sir George Sitwell in the classical Italianate style. The restored gardens retain the yew hedges, pyramids, statues, long vistas and ornamental ponds, but also added are large mixed borders and rose and clematis gardens (1,000 roses burst into bloom in June). There are a host of exotic plants, many rarely hardy in this part of the country. On either side of the formal gardens are more naturalistic plantings with specimen trees, unusual shrubs and towering rambling roses.

The Sitwell museum tells the story of this extraordinary family and this year the Art gallery is showing a collection of John Piper paintings from the Hall's private rooms. Also on show is the Art Collection of Sir Osbert Sitwell which includes many unseen items by Picasso, Whistler and Cecil Beeton. The Gallery Café has seating for 60, and you are welcome to sit outside at the courtyard tables, sheltered by the old walls of honey-coloured stone. A continental atmosphere in a very English location! There is a varied menu plus cream teas and - continuing the food theme - there is a Food Fayre on the day we visit.

Sunday 18 July

Ness Botanic Gardens and Bluebell Cottage and Lodge Lane Nursery

Ness Botanic Garden is one of the major botanic gardens in the UK. Arthur Kiplin Bulley, a passionate plantsman created the garden in 1898, part of which he opened to local residents. You may remember the talk given by Dilys Davies. After his death his daughter Lois presented the Gardens to the University of Liverpool. The gardens today remain a tribute to her father. As you would expect the plants are the stars. The 64 acre garden includes a rock garden, native plant, herb and water gardens with lilies and primulas, pine woods, herbaceous borders, and terrace gardens with many climbing plants etc. The Gardens house the National Collection of Sorbus as well as other significant specimens eg *Pieris Forrestii* which was collected for Bulley by George Forrest in Yunnan. An indoor attraction is the all year conservatory, tropical and arid house plus an alpine house. There is also a plant centre and café.

Bluebell Cottage This 1½-acre garden is on a quiet rural lane in the heart of Cheshire and is packed with thousands of rare and familiar hardy herbaceous perennials, shrubs and trees. There is also a 2 acre wild-flower meadow and 2 acre bluebell wood. The owner, Sue Beesley, will provide us with tea and coffee.

The adjacent **Lodge Lane Nursery** is an RHS partner nursery and specialises in hardy herbaceous perennials and other unusual plants, with a typical stock of over 1500 varieties. Sue Beesley is a regular speaker at horticultural and social groups around the north west. Sue is also exhibiting at Tatton this year.



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hardy plants for hardy planters

Flower Power - Fairs of Distinction - provide specialist plant fairs in Cheshire, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Lancashire and you may be interested in some of these in Yorkshire

www.flowerpowerfairs.co.uk

4 April	Newburgh Priory Coxwold
18 April	Sutton Park near York
3 May (BH Mon)	Wytherstone Gardens Pockley
16 May	Duncombe Park Helmsley
30 May (BH Mon)	Constable Burton Leyburn
20 June	Skipton Castle
27 June	Ripley Castle
30 August	Newburgh Priory Coxwold
26 Sept	Duncombe Park Helmsley

Speaker Programme 2009 to 2010

14 Sept 2010	Kevin Pratt. Gold medal winner at Chelsea, garden designer and national collection holder	Kevin will give us a nosy look at footballers' and racing drivers' gardens....the ones not open to the public. You will remember when he came to us in April 2009, he teased us with the "no-expenses-spared" gardens he designed in footballers' wives country.
12 Oct	AGM followed by Rob Potterton of Potterton's Nursery	Rob had to cancel his visit to us last year, so we look forward now to his talk on "Alpines and Bulbs—Mountain to Market".
9 Nov	Noel Kingsbury	Noel is internationally known as a writer - about plants, gardens and the environment, as well as being a garden designer. His subject "Women and Men garden differently"!
14 Dec	Dr Roger Brook and Christmas Party	Roger will talk about Plant protection—cold frames etc. Do come to this meeting—it is a great opportunity to increase your knowledge and have a sociable time with other members of the club.
11 Jan 2011	Steve Wright—Horticultural lecturer at Bishop Burton	Steve is also Scientific Officer with the Agricultural Development Advisory Service and will talk about "Friend or Foe? Pests and Diseases".
8 Feb	To be arranged	
8 March	Dr Ronald McParlin Gardening journalist	All round horticulturalist with broad practical knowledge will talk about "Fruit and Vegetables"
12 April	Plant Auction	Please split and grow as many plants as you can spare and bring to sell at this meeting—all proceeds to the club.
10 May	Troy Scott-Smith Head Gardener at Bodnant Gardens	Bodnant Garden is one of the most beautiful gardens in the UK, spanning some 80 acres, situated above the River Conwy.