

SNAPE GARDENING CLUB - NEWS



SNAPE GARDENING CLUB

ISSUE NO 3 | MAY 2022 |

April has treated us to the most spectacular blossom, the hawthorn & blackthorn are flowering in readiness for the hedgerows to fill out, the bluebells are glowing & the cow parsley is beginning its laneside performance.....what a wonderful month it has been! Rain has been in short supply however, & with the forecast set to give us sunshine & warmth next week.....rain butts, watering cans & hoses at the ready! The May newsletter is packed full of information and thank you to people who are sending in reviews and contributing to the "swap table" at the meetings.....Happy reading everyone



NYCC COMPOST WEEK – This is running from 1st-7th May and compost bins are on sale for £12 & £15.....with a **buy one get one half-price offer!** www.northyorks.gov.uk

The bright cheery daffodils have finished their display & to ensure the bulb receives its "goodness" for next years flowers it's time to deadhead. This prevents them making seed & instead allows photosynthesis to transport nutrients back to the bulb. But where to deadhead????



This principal applies to all "leave in the ground" Spring bulbs e.g. daffs/tulips. Be sure to place a marker in the ground for Autumnal bulb division.....once they have died back you won't find them!

JOBS TO DO THIS MONTH – Sow annuals, prune hardy fuchsia, plant out Summer bedding (after last frost) sow chard, spinach, peas, salad leaves & sweetcorn, after flowering prune Winter/Spring blooming clematis. Keep on top of those pesky weeds.....see page 2 for weed article!



WHAT'S INSIDE THIS MONTH'S ISSUE.....

- DAVIDS' PLANT OF THE MONTH – ROSES PART 2
- MEMBERS REVIEW
- JOBS TO DO
- CLUB OFFERS & TRIPS

PLUS SO MUCH MORE...

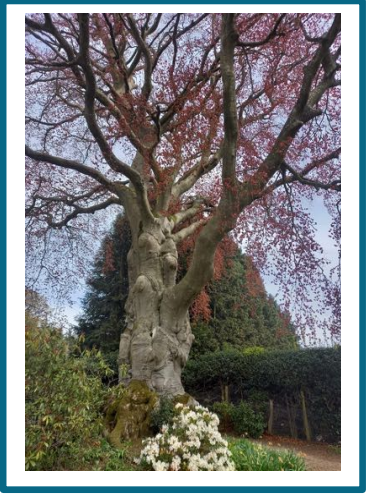
 DEARWORZEL@GMAIL.COM

Send us a photo, recommend a place to visit or have a query we'll do our best to help.....

- GIVE IT A TRY –

dearworzel@gmail.com

Eggleston Hall Nursery & Gardens is described as a “jewel amongst the hills” & is found 6 miles north of Barnard Castle. It takes your breath away as you enter the enchanting walled garden, it’s crammed with row after row of a huge variety of healthy, well priced plants.....no shopping baskets here just large trolleys! You need time to browse as there is so much to choose from! There is a garden trail beyond the nursery with beautiful planting including a stunning 475 year old copper beach. The cafe served delicious locally sourced produce with something for all.



LOVE IT OR HATE IT, IT'S A NECESSARY TASK.....LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT WEEDS

"1 years seed is 7 years of weed".....who wants that!

- There are perennial and annual weeds & both need treating differently.
- Annual weeds can be hoed out & left on the soil surface to rot or picked up if you're in the neat & tidy collective. They come "away" easily and don't appear "hefty"!



Groundsel spreads quickly & is a carrier of rust fungus!

- Perennial weed such as dandelion, ground elder, docks etc are a different matter!
- They root by rhizomes or long tap roots, they are vigorous survivors & will regrow if sections remain in the ground.....in some case up to 2 metres a season in the earth.
- They need digging out or treating with a commercial weedkiller. There are glyphosate free options available. If the weed is in close proximity to a treasured plant then "paint" the leaves with the weedkiller protecting surrounding foliage.



Cleavers (stickyweed) & creeping buttercup



A home composter will not achieve the heat required to kill off the seed and root, so send it off in the green bin or submerge in water until soggy, smelling & decayed & then compost at home.



Hairy bittercress & couch grass



Some weeds appear pretty.....but don't be fooled it's what they are doing underground.....it's a weedy rouse!

STRULCH

Strulch is a lightweight organic garden mulch.

It has a neutral pH Reduces weed growth by 95%

Enriches soil & its structure Last upto 2 years

Helps to retain moisture

It's embedded with minerals & along with its structure deters snails and slugs

STRULCH proved popular last year with members so we can bulk buy giving a great saving. Combined orders up to these numbers = *great savings!*

12 bags @ £14

25 bags @ £11

48 bags @ £8.50

1 bag covers approx. 4.5m²

COMPOST

SOME BAGS OF PEAT FREE & MIRACLEGROW COMPOST ARE STILL AVAILABLE.....see David

David is experimenting with both of these products to see which is the best performer.....watch this space later in the year for the results!

*What are your experiences let us know:
dearworsel@gmail.com*

NEXT GARDENING CLUB MEETING:

WEDNESDAY 18TH MAY AT THE
INSTITUTE

MAGNIFICENT HANGING BASKETS – TALK
& TEACH SESSION

£15 for all materials or bring your own to
make up – let David know your option please

SNAPE GARDENING CLUB SUMMER PROGRAMME



Our programme through the Summer months consists of 3 visits.

Please let David know your intentions, either way!

We have to pre-book numbers and transport needs to be arranged, so your replies would be gratefully received.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 15TH – LITTLETHORPE MANOR, RIPON *THIS IS AN AFTERNOON VISIT*

This is a return visit to this magnificent garden. I'm sure you will recall that over the last few years a "Physic Memorial Garden" has been developed. We did have a *work in progress* talk a while back and I am sure that this will be another beautiful addition to the grounds.

There is a minimum number of 20 for this visit & the cost will be £12.50 to include tea/coffee & cake!

SATURDAY JULY 23RD – RHS BRIDGEWATER *THIS IS AN ALL DAY VISIT*

By popular request a return visit to the "new" RHS garden in Salford.

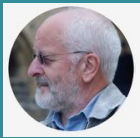
There will be no entry charge as this is covered by the Snape Gardening Club RHS affiliation (up to 55 people)

I do need to book a coach so require some indication of numbers. I will then confirm the cost for the coach & will then require firm commitment/payment.

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 17TH – FOXGLOVE COVERT NATURE RESERVE, CATTERICK CAMP

THIS IS AN AFTERNOON VISIT

Jenny has kindly re-organised our trip to the interesting & varied, volunteer run, reserve. There will be a guided tour & a £5 per person contribution is requested for future site development.



DAVIDS' PLANT OF THE MONTH – ROSES part 2

This continues from last month & aims to give a simple guide to "pruning".

Each rose has a different pruning approach depending on its growth & flowering habit. Firstly, remove dead, weak & crossing stems and of course dead head regularly. Pruning cuts should be made on an angle, sloping away from the stem & close to the bud or leaf node.



Hybrid Tea Rose

The large flowered bush rose (hybrid tea) – Pruning encourages new growth to carry a season of flowers. When first planting, hard prune to stimulate vigorous growth from low down in the plant, in subsequent years remove shoots growing into the centre of the bush. Cut back remaining stems to about 20cms at an outward facing bud. If this stem is from last years growth cut to about 5 cms above last years cut. When this has been done 3 or 4 times, cut back into old wood to a new basal shoot.



New Basal Shoot

Cluster flowered bush roses (floribundas) – The charm of these roses lies in their mass of flowers. More buds are retained on longer stems so that they develop into flowering stems. The only pruning difference between a floribunda & a hybrid tea is that they are not cut back so much – perhaps to 30cms or so.



Floribunda Rose

Patio or Polyantha Rose – Simply, these are a smaller floribunda. After the basic pruning steps have been taken, flowering stems are reduced by 2/3. This pruning will keep them compact and free flowering.



Shrub roses – Many different types, some require specific pruning, generally flower on old wood. So have a permanent structure, maintained by regular light pruning to give a balance of old & new wood. Pruning a shrub rose is like pruning other flowering shrubs.



Standard roses – These are one of the other types on a long leg! Take care to create & maintain a balanced shape – pruning hard on the weaker side & less so on the stronger side will help with this.



Climbing & rambling roses – Pruning creates a strong, well shaped plant that bears many flower shoots. It needs training horizontally. Initial fan training will allow flexible stems to be trained horizontally & give maximum flower coverage. The 2 types require a different pruning approach!

Climbers – once they have filled their space, their framework is regularly renewed, removing some old unproductive growth in favour of vigorous new shoots (similar to bush roses) Trim back any overlong stems at any time whilst tying in & dead heading. Prune flowered side shoots by 2/3rds to stimulate new buds for next year.

Ramblers – Prune in Summer after their single flush of flowers is over. Thin out excess growth, trim side shoots & remove completely one or more stems (cut them into sections to remove them easily from the structure)

*Pruning tips....
Sharp, clean secateurs
Sturdy gloves.....plasters
& antiseptic!*

