



HARDINGTON GARDEN CLUB

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2021

CLUB NEWS

This month's meeting is our AGM and our last for 2021. The committee would like to thank everyone for bearing with the ever changing situation over what has been nearly two years of uncertainty. We would also like to thank you for your continuing support when the club moved to East Coker village hall which meant we could meet with the extra space needed for social distancing but we will be very glad to get back to our village hall for this month's meeting and for 2022.

The committee will always keep abreast of any government guidelines for our 2022 meetings, which will go back to being held on the 4th Wednesday of the month, and we hope our full and varied programme, compiled by Ali Trickett, will go ahead without any disruption.

At the end of each village hall meeting we would like to bring back our refreshments, a board will be available for volunteers to sign if they wish to help with the serving of these. The club provides the milk, tea, coffee and sugar the two volunteers required each month are just asked to help serve and provide biscuits or cake for the members.

Within this Newsletter you will find the agenda for the AGM and we hope you will take note of the changes taking place within the committee. Annie Mollett is standing down as Treasurer at the meeting and David Amos has put himself forward as replacement. If there are no objections or other candidates put forward he will be proposed and seconded at the meeting.

Sally Thompson has put herself forward as a member of the committee "without portfolio" and if we do not have someone proposed or seconded in the role of chair, a post which is still vacant, Sally will be voted on to the committee taking us up to our limit of nine. This number will include Rosie Richards who is standing down after many years of producing and editing the Newsletter but is staying on as Vice Chair; Andy and Kate Palmer, joint secretaries; Ali Trickett, programme co-ordinator; Jacqui Watkins, publicity with Tim Watkins and Mike Bickerton members "without portfolio".

At the AGM we will be asking members if they are happy with the format the plant sale now takes. For the past two years because of social distancing rules we have held the plant sale at various locations around the village. We have asked for donation for plants instead of pricing individual plants and then have then split the proceeds between 1 or 2 charities and the garden club. The general feedback is that most people are happy with this arrangement but we would like to know your thoughts. We have two dates in May - the 7th or 14th, to allow for the weather, but if both dates look unfavourable, and we are allowed to meet indoors, the sale will be held in the village hall on the 14th.

You will also note from the agenda that last year's AGM was held virtually with the accounts and minutes for 2019's AGM sent out to all members via email last November so there are no formal minutes to be signed at this year's meeting.

If you are unable to attend the AGM but you would like to put forward any thoughts please let Andy and Kate know so we can raise them at the meeting.

This week's club meeting:

Doors open at 7pm at Hardington Village Hall AGM for 7.30pm prompt start and meal at 8pm. Don't forget to **Bring your own drinks and glasses!**

January meeting:

Wednesday 26th January 7.30pm in **Hardington Village Hall**.
Soup supper and quiz.

∞ Volunteers Needed ∞

Please let Kate or Andy know if you are able to make some soup for the January meeting.

A reminder to those members who renewed their membership in January 2020 that at this January's meeting subs of £15 per person will be due. This can be paid by BAC's or Cheque. A full list of names will be available from the Treasurer.

Kate and Andy

HARDINGTON GARDEN CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - HARDINGTON VILLAGE HALL 17th NOVEMBER 2021 – 7.00pm

∞ AGENDA ∞

Welcome - Rosie

Apologies - Ali Trickett, Sue Fowler, Margaret Casey.

Minutes of the last AGM - Due to last year's exceptional circumstances the annual general meeting was held virtually with all documents sent out to members on the 23rd November 2020. No formal minutes to sign.

Club Report - Andy Palmer - to include summary of year's events, programme (poster will be on view), newsletter with giving thanks to Rosie and Annie, raffle - thanks to Ron Ahern and Jo Szmaj. Are they happy to continue through 2022?

Treasurer's Report - Annie Mollett

Election of Committee

Proposer and seconder for Chair -?

Proposer and seconder for election of David Amos as Treasurer and Sally Thompson (if a Chair is not elected) (Andy to propose, seconder from the floor)

Andy to ask for a proposer and seconder from floor for all remaining committee members (maximum of 9) Rosie, Andy, Kate, Ali, Jacqui, Tim, Mike.

Reminders - Refreshments Rota for 2022 (board will be available to sign)

January meeting will be a soup supper and a quiz.

Break for dinner - members will be asked to put forward ideas of the charity/charities/ groups they would like the club to support with fundraising at the 2022 plant sale i.e. Village Hall

Draw raffle

Any other business

Close Meeting

HARDINGTON GARDEN CLUB

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEARS ENDED 31ST OCTOBER 2020 AND 2021

	31/10/2021	31/10/2021	31/10/2020	31/10/21
Cash at bank	1368		1225	
Petty Cash	105		65	
Cash balance as at 1st November		1473		1290
<u>Receipts</u>				
Annual Subscriptions	330		480	
Guests' meeting admission	9		27	
Sale of raffle tickets	82		83	
Plant sales	953		1029	
Social evening	246		544	
Sundry	7	1627	2	2165
<u>Payments</u>				
Speakers	201		75	
Hire of hall	90		145	
Counties m'ship & ins.	130		10	
Gold Club m'ship	0		80	
Printing & Stationery	95		74	
Raffle prizes	35		25	
Social evening	0		544	
Donations	725		1029	
Sundry	26	1302	0	1982
Cash at bank	1725		1368	
Petty cash	73		105	
Cash balance 31st October		1798		1473

Treasurer Annie Mollett



Auditor Ron Ahern



COMPOST BINS

When we moved in to Winyards we purchased three compost bins as a kit in the hope of producing our own compost and mulch but unfortunately they are showing their age with a bit of 'spread' at the tops of the uprights, due to this the removable boards keep falling out. I have remedied this, to a certain extent, by adding some battening to the uprights thus providing a deeper slot for the boards.

This has not reduced the amount of excellent compost produced; although we do need to get the mixture right sometimes by adding more brown material such as hay or straw etc. Scouring the lanes through the summer has provided some, but needless to say, the best source of brown material has been with home deliveries that have provided large amounts of cardboard.

Recently a better solution to the spreading of the boards has presented itself. My sister and brother-in-law have had a new conservatory built which meant the old polycarbonate roof was scrap. They have very kindly given me some of these old panels. They are about 50mm thick and double celled. I have cut them to size so now I have nice new plastic walls to one bin, the others are to follow when we turn and empty each bin. We hope these new additions may also provide some extra heat to the contents thus producing a better quality of compost. It will be good to see the results.



Andy Palmer

CHRISTMAS IS COMING, TIME TO PUT THE SPROUTS ON!

No, not brussels. Grow your own sprouts in a jar.

Here are just a few you can experiment with – Try alfalfa, mung beans (from which common bean sprouts come) radish, lentils, mustard, soy beans, peas, chick peas, broccoli and sunflower seeds.

You need a jar, with a mesh lid that has been sterilised and allowed to cool & enough seeds to cover the bottom of the jar.



Thoroughly rinse the seeds several times in cold water, then put the seeds in your jar, half fill with cold water, cover with a mesh lid (or cloth secured with a rubber band) and soak overnight. The next day drain the seeds well, for several hours; Mesh lids work well, as the jar may be inverted and propped at an angle to drain for long periods. Then continue to rinse and drain 2 times a day. Sprouts are ready to eat at any point after a sprout tail appears. Once sprouts are ready to harvest, rinse one final time and remove un-sprouted seeds and seed hulls

The important thing here is that you purchase seeds that are specifically for sprouting; they will be labelled. These chemical-free seeds have been cleaned and are pathogen-free.

Alice Manning

EVENTS

Castle Gardens

Ben Raskin shares the Wonders of Woodchip for Gardeners and Growers

Sherborne

Thursday 25th November, 6.30 - 9.00pm

Head of horticulture and agroforestry at the Soil Association, Ben Raskin will explain how woodchip is much more than simple mulch, as he shares excerpts from his latest release, 'The Woodchip Handbook', the first and only complete guide to sourcing and using woodchip.

With soil improvement, drainage and temperature control among the benefits to be discovered through practical research from around the world, Ben will provide tips on how to source and use woodchip successfully in the garden.



Register for this free event.

Doors open at 6:30pm and free refreshments will be provided by The Walled Garden Restaurant, before the event starts at 7:30pm.

www.thegardensgroup.co.uk

*Thank you to all this month's contributors. The newsletter would be sparse without your input, we kindly ask for your stories, plans or anything garden related for next months Newsletter. Please send to Alice Manning - hgcnewsletter21@gmail.com by **Friday 21st January.***

"The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature. To nurture a garden is to feed not just the body, but the soul"

– Alfred Austin