



Oxenhope

Gardening Club News

October 2025

Welcome to October's newsletter.



Before

A Change to Gardening Club meeting times: meetings will now start at 7.45 pm instead of 7.30. Doors will be open at 7.15pm.

Last month, I made one of my frequent visits to the garden at Crathes Castle in Aberdeenshire. Even up here in the north of Scotland they are having to adapt the garden to meet climate change. For years, one area of the garden had retained a rather tired display of hybrid tea roses: the paths were uneven and it was a largely unvisited and unloved part of the garden.

Over the last year this area, which is sheltered and south facing, has been transformed with plantings of drought tolerant, heat loving plants

mainly from Australia, South Africa and New Zealand, such as *Trachycarpus Fortunei*, *Ashodelines*, *Knipfofias*, *Agapanthus* and *Salvia turkestanica*. New wheelchair friendly paths have been installed and it is now a much-loved part of the garden. This transformation would never have been possible ten years ago, so rapid has been the effects of climate change. **Sandra**



After

The speaker for October is Dean Charlton: The Journey of Hooton's Walled Nursery.



Dean is a young gardener who recently featured in the Gardener's World programme from the RHS show at Wentworth Woodhouse.

Dean was a student at Great Dixter for six years and is now on his inspiring journey to develop and grow a traditional nursery in the heart of Hooton Roberts, a village near Rotherham. He only uses peat free compost and traditional propagation techniques. Dean will be bringing plants to the meeting.

Plant of the month: *Hydrangea Paniculata* Great Star



I saw this hydrangea variety in the garden at Stillingfleet when we visited in August and was struck by the delicacy and shape of its flowers. This arching cultivar has beautiful, fluted florets that look like miniature propellers. The incredibly fragrant flowers are pure white and star-shaped with narrow, slightly twisted petals which can reach up to 50cm long, giving the effect of moths flying round the flower heads.

The flowers fade to a rich pink in late autumn and the blooms are ideal for cut flower arrangements. This stunning hydrangea blooms all

summer long, is hardy, and particularly animal friendly, as it has been designated as an RHS plant for pollinators. 'Great Star' is a robust, well-branched shrub which can reach 2 metres high with ovate green leaves and. A beautiful addition to a cottage garden or woodland border, it can also be grown in a large patio pot. It thrives in full sun to partial shade and grows best in non-alkaline, moist soil.



Just a reminder to mention that it's a good time now to be splitting plants and taking cuttings for our plant sale next June!

Thank you!

Gardening news and events:

York Museum Gardens: Curious and Creative Gardening Tour: October 9, 15, 21

Join the Gardens Team to learn about the initiatives and interventions made to make York Museum Gardens more wildlife friendly. Take a tour around over 10 acres of grounds, discovering inspiration for your own garden or workplace green spaces. You'll learn about climate change and biodiversity, discover the importance of insects for the food chain and how to manage your green space throughout the seasons to create wildlife habitat, and adopt a new perspective with some native weeds.

Harlow Carr The Garden Library: The Embroidered Language of Flowers. until October 31.

Harlow Carr Bath House Gallery: The Creative Collection- By Hand. 1st October to 9th November.

Harlow Carr: Northern Fruit Group Apple Display & Identification. 24-26 October.

Tea and coffee rota

A big thank you to the great team who volunteer to help with the rota. If you can help, please sign the rota sheet on the refreshment counter.



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