



Gardening with hardy perennials

South Wales Group

Newsletter

Winter 2023-2024

Diary of Events

Saturday 9th September

Talk: Jane Moore:
Structure and Design in your garden

Saturday October 14th

Talk: Roger Lloyd:
The Impatient Gardener

Saturday November 11th

Talk: Julie Ritchie
Winter into Spring

Saturday December 9th

Talk: Paul O'Neill
Plants I have killed

Saturday January 13th

Talk: Helen Picton
Why wait for Spring?

Saturday February 10th

Talk: Rob Evans
Dahlias

Saturday March 16th

AGM followed by
Talk: Dr Andrew Ward
Gardening in a changing Climate
[Andrew will be bringing plants for sale]

All indoor meetings start at 2 o'clock in the Williams Memorial Hall, Main Road, Coychurch, Bridgend CF35 5HD.

Indoor Meetings

These will be held at Williams Memorial Hall, Main Road, Coychurch, Bridgend, CF35 5HD at 2pm. Members are welcome to meet for lunch at the White Horse in Coychurch, prior to indoor meetings and where it's often an opportunity to meet the afternoon's speaker. To book, phone (01656 360129) and ask to sit with the HPS.



Saturday 9th September 2023

Jane Moore Structure and Design

Jane is currently Group Head Gardener for Brownswords Hotels. She has written for The Times, Guardian and English Garden as well as a presenter on Gardener's World. She has won numerous awards for her writing and Gardening. Her talk will advise us on strong plants that bind the garden and stunning flowers that make a good garden shine. Jane will bring signed books for sale.



Saturday 14th October 2023

Dr Roger Lloyd: The impatient Gardener

We visited Roger and Jenny Lloyd's beautiful 3 acre garden in June. The garden, which was previously a field, was started five to six years ago. In extraordinary little time, the garden has grown and matured and is filled with over 1200 cultivars, with many rarities. Roger's enthusiasm and obsession with plants is highly infectious.



Saturday 11th November 2023

Julie Ritchie: Winter into Spring

Julie is the owner of Hoo House Nursery, which has been offering Perennials and Alpines for over 30 years. They maintain a list of over 900 varieties. Julie's talk will highlight plants that give interest through the quieter times in the garden. She will be bringing plants for sale.



Saturday 9th December 2023

Paul O'Neill: Plants I have killed!

Paul and Liz O'Neill's 4 acre garden is in Llwyngarreg, West Wales. Their objective has been to grow plants that we admire in an aesthetically pleasing way, creating drama and colour all year round. Paul will entertain us again telling us of some of their failures and disasters. Paul will bring plants for sale.



Saturday January 13th

Helen Picton: Why wait for Spring?

Helen, along with her husband Ross, have taken over Old Court Nursery and Gardens and continue to take it forward, expanding the seasons of interest. They have a great range of unusual plants, including over 300 varieties of snowdrops and 100 different ferns. Her talk will look at the often overlooked beauties which can make the winter garden a magical place to be. She will be bringing plants for sale.



Saturday February 10th

Rob Evans: Dahlias

Rob is the owner of Pheasant Acre Plants, near Bridgend, which specialises in bulbs. He has won numerous Gold Medal awards at RHS Chelsea Flower Show for his bulb displays. Rob will be sharing his enthusiasm for dahlias, talking about his favourites and giving us tips on growing these plants.

Saturday March 16th

AGM

Doctor Andrew Ward:
Gardening in a changing climate.



Andrew is the owner of Norwell Nurseries which specialises in rare, and unusual perennials. The garden and Astantias was featured on Gardeners World in March this year. This talk looks at the consequences of Global Warming and at beautiful, interesting, unusual plants that are amenable to weather extremes. He will be bringing plants for sale.

Meetings

Plant of the month

We are looking for members to give a short ten minute talk on any plant, or group of plants, of their choice before the main talk. If you would be willing to volunteer for this, please contact Susan Lewis or any committee member.

Members Plant Sale

In September and February, the speakers will not be bringing plants for sale, so we propose to hold a Members Plant Sale, so please bring any surplus plants as this helps to raise money for our funds.

We will continue to have a plant raffle at every meeting, so contributions of good plants are welcome.

Summer Weekend Trip June 2024

We are planning a long weekend trip to Oxfordshire in June next year. The final dates and itinerary are still being worked out. Full details will be available at the November meeting, and bookings will start then.

If you are interested in joining us on this trip, then please let Jean or Catherine know.

Some Winter and early Spring dates

Saturday February 24th AGS South Wales Show, Llanwern School, Newport

Saturday April 20th Cowbridge Physic Garden Plant Sale

Saturday April 27th Narberth Big Plant Sale

Sunday and Monday May 5th and 6th Cae Hir Gardens

HPS South Wales Group: Contact Information

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Committee Members:

Jean Baker, Sally Greenway, Marian Hawkins, Helen Porter, Susan Lewis, Catherine Ramsay, Richard Williams.