

# South West Shropshire Gardening Club

## Newsletter

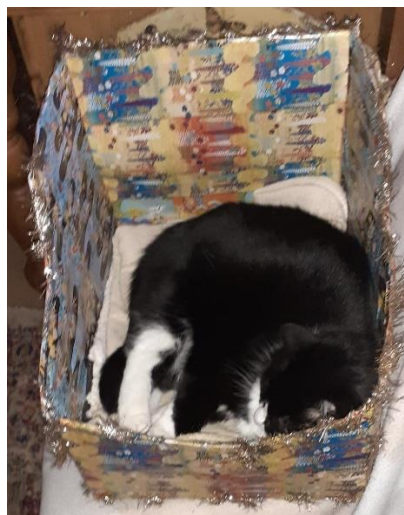


### December 2024

The committee has been busy planning treats to make the December meeting extra special. Some of us spent a very relaxing morning at Mellie's house playing with felt tips, crayons, stickers and aided by cake and coffee. We have made little gifts for members which we hope will inspire you during our "Year of the Bee". In addition to smaller prizes, Mellie has organised a wonderful hamper for the raffle – fortunately bees are a popular theme in merchandise, so we have had plenty of ideas to choose from. There will be decorated tables to sit around while you socialise with friends, enjoying mulled wine and nibbles before the talk. The committee will be wearing their favourite elf hats so feel free to don your festive best (or worst!)



After the humans had enjoyed the contents of last year's hamper, the box became a snugly bed for Mandy's cat, Lucy Mabel!



## **D.T. Brown Seed Order**

I am happy to report that we more than doubled the minimum order of £200 so we are eligible for the usual discounts. Seeds will be distributed at the January meeting as usual. Payment will be due when orders are collected.

# **Old Hall Garden Winter Workshops 2025**

## **Pruning Wisteria – Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 10.30am – 1.30pm**

A practical workshop learning how to summer and winter prune your Wisteria. Learn how to renovate old Wisteria and train new plants too.

## **Pruning Roses - Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 10.30am – 1.30pm**

A practical workshop learning how to prune different types of roses including climbers and ramblers, learn how to get the best from your roses in terms of health and flowers.

## **Pruning Clematis – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 10.30am – 1.30pm**

Participants will learn about the different types (groups) of clematis and then have a practical session pruning the different groups of clematis in the garden.

## **Pruning Shrubs (incl. Hydrangeas) – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 10.30am – 1.30pm**

A practical look at pruning shrubs including different types of Hydrangeas. A hands-on session working on the varied shrubs and hydrangeas in the garden.

## **Seed sowing for Cut flowers – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 10.30am – 1.30 pm**

Learn about the half-hardy and annual plants that can be sown now to provide a plethora of cut flowers for the year. Learn how to sow the seeds and go home with your own pot of sown seeds

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**All workshops will be led by the Head Gardener, Claire Tatler (MHort)**

**All workshops are £45 per person (non-refundable)**

**Tea and Coffee will be provided.**

**Workshops will be held in the garden therefore suitable shoes and clothing should be worn for the time of year**

**All materials will be provided, please bring your own secateurs if you have them**

**Places are limited – please email [head.gardener@wollertonoldhallgarden.com](mailto:head.gardener@wollertonoldhallgarden.com) to book tickets and for payment details**

## Would you like to be a Hedgerow Hero?

CPRE Shropshire is the county branch of the national Countryside Charity which aims to “promote the beauty, tranquillity and diversity of Shropshire’s landscape by encouraging environmentally sustainable use of land and other resources in towns and countryside.” It is participating in the Hedgerow Heroes Project which is now in its fourth phase. Activities include hedge creation; basic hedge-laying and survey training; coppice and hedgerow management and art workshops. Some of our garden club members are involved in this project – have a look at the website and information below if you would like to volunteer and learn. Karen and Ian Aldred are hosting the hedge-laying session on Jan 25<sup>th</sup> at Kempton so if you would like to find out more, I am sure they would be happy to chat to you.



The countryside charity  
Shropshire

### **Come and help us plant hedgerows in the Shropshire countryside!**

We have lots of planting days available this winter on sites all over Shropshire.

Bring a friend or family member and if you cannot spare a whole morning, come along when you can! Spades are provided. Please bring gardening gloves and wear stout boots. Planting is a great experience, working outside in interesting locations with like-minded people doing something really practical for nature in lovely Shropshire countryside. Hot drinks and biscuits/cake available at most sites.



**To book your place go here:**  
**[www.cpreshropshire.org.uk/help-us-plant-hedges](http://www.cpreshropshire.org.uk/help-us-plant-hedges)**

or email Sarah Jameson on  
[admin@cpreshropshire.org.uk](mailto:admin@cpreshropshire.org.uk)  
or ring 01547 528 546

### **CPRE Shropshire Hedge planting dates 2024-25**

**Saturday 30 November:** Clee Hill, Ludlow  
**Sunday 1 December:** Clee Hill, Ludlow  
**Saturday 7 December:** near Bishop Castle  
**Tuesday 10 December:** Purlogue, near Clun  
**Friday 13 December:** Discovery Centre, Craven Arms  
**Saturday 14 December:** Longdon on Tern, near Telford  
**Tuesday 17 December:** Gatten, near Pontesbury  
**Monday 30 December:** Pennerley, near Bishops Castle  
**Saturday 4 January:** Bishops Castle  
**Wednesday 8 January:** Clunton, near Craven Arms  
**Saturday 11 January:** Pennerley, near Bishops Castle  
**Tuesday 14 January:** Brockton, near Much Wenlock  
**Tuesday 14 January:** Gatten, near Pontesbury  
**Thursday 16 January:** Little Stretton  
**Saturday 18 January:** Newcastle on Clun  
**Monday 20 January:** Gatten, Pontesbury  
**Thursday 23 January:** Clee Hill, Ludlow  
**Saturday 25 January:** Kempton, near Lydbury North  
**Saturday 25 January:** Nantmawr, Oswestry  
**Sunday 26 January:** Craven Arms  
**Monday 27 January:** Craven Arms  
**Thursday 30 January:** The Bog, Stiperstones  
**Saturday 1 February:** near Bishops Castle  
**Saturday 1 February:** Longdon on Tern, near Telford  
**Saturday 8 February:** Cardington  
**Saturday 8 February:** Longdon on Tern, near Telford  
**Sunday 9 February:** Wrekin, near Telford  
**Thursday 13 February:** Habberley, near Pontesbury  
**Saturday 22 February:** Berrington, near Shrewsbury  
**Friday 28 February:** Meadowtown, Minsterley  
**Saturday 8 March:** Plox Green, Minsterley

More sites will be added in due course, so do keep checking back!

Part of CPRE Shropshire’s Hedgerow Heroes project, now in its fourth year.  
For more information go to:  
[www.cpreshropshire.org.uk/hedge-project](http://www.cpreshropshire.org.uk/hedge-project)

## **Next meeting: Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

“Great Aunt Aquilegia has been abducted by aliens and other flights of fancy” – a talk by Andrew Wyton

**SOUTH WEST SHROPSHIRE GARDENING CLUB**



**Great Aunt Aquilegia's been abducted  
by Aliens - and other gardening flights of  
fancy by Andrew Wyton  
plus Christmas drinks and nibbles!**

**Wednesday 18th December at 7.30 pm  
Lydbury North Village Hall**

FREE TO MEMBERS (annual membership £20), GUESTS WELCOME: £5  
For more information contact Angie Salmon on 01588 661025 or email  
angiejsalmon12@gmail.com  
www.gardeningshropshire.co.uk Also on Facebook.

We are a friendly club of like-minded garden enthusiasts. We meet at  
Lydbury North Village Hall on the 4th Wednesday of the month: interesting  
speakers, refreshments, forums, advice, outings, seed offers, plant sales.



South West Shropshire Gardening Club:  
celebrating over 30 years of gardening in Shropshire



In the garden a fertile imagination reflects on plants and their purpose. Thoughts, insights and memories tumble over themselves, jostling to be heard. This talk is the result. Word pictures that just might strike a chord and raise a smile with other like-minded garden optimists everywhere. A jovial evening will be had by all along with Christmas cheer.

## **Membership**

Membership costs £20 to cover attendance to all our meetings for a year (from October); early access to trips and events with subsidised tickets; seed offers and plant sales. We are also affiliated to the RHS so you are able to borrow our discount card which provides 50% discount for two people to any RHS garden. Such a bargain!

Payment can be made with cash, cheque or card at our meetings or by transfer to:

South West Shropshire Gardening Club

sort code 20-53-22

account number 80754803.

Please add your name as reference and email Alleyne to let him know: [aandpcopestake@hotmail.com](mailto:aandpcopestake@hotmail.com)

## **Rosemary Meddins**

Last week I received the sad news that Rosemary Meddins died recently. Many of you will remember her from the very early days of the club. Friends have described her as hard-working, conscientious, efficient, bubbly and good company. She was a people person and will be sadly missed. Her funeral is in Lydbury North, on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> at 1.30.

### **Flower of the Month**



Congratulations to Mandy Ford who won the November competition with this stunning Abutilon Red Tiger.

### **Baubles and Berries**

In December we are changing the competition to something more festive. Please bring a table decoration which incorporates baubles and berries – anything else you use is up to you! Let your creativity go wild or just have fun making something festive.... Last year my holly trees were smothered in berries – this year I can only see a total of five berries (which will probably be gone by 18<sup>th</sup>!) However, I have found a way round this problem but that is my little secret...

Please note that to be fair, we can only accept **one** entry from each participant.

I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 18th. If you are unable to attend our next meeting, then I will take this opportunity to wish you have Very Happy Christmas and all the best for 2025.

Angie Salmon  
Chair