



# Hordle Gardening Club Newsletter April 2019



**Easter is upon us** and the weather for the holiday weekend is looking good. No doubt a lot of us will be tending or just enjoying our gardens - or possibly going out and shopping for our garden.

I've been doing some clearing, and came across some large grey C-shaped grubs under some rotting wood. They looked pretty gruesome, but on Googling them I realised they were stag beetle grubs, and not the cockchafer grubs which ruin lawns and plant roots. So I covered them back up and will move the wood later. For your information these two grubs look very similar, but the stag beetle grub's horns are curvy whereas the cockchafer grub's horns are straight. Also, only stag beetle grubs will be found under rotting wood.

If you're doing some clearing out of your garden things then look at the item below regarding the Hordle Fair and saving your gardening related items for us to sell.

And lastly, do you know it's 'World Naked Gardening Day on 4th May??' 🤪

## Speaker of the Month

This month's talk will be for all of us who like growing Fuchsias, and those who have a competitive streak will be keen to learn 'showing' tips ready for our Closed Show in July. Derek Dexter is our speaker and he will also be bringing Fuchsias for sale.

May's speaker will be Sandy Worth demonstrating how to propagate plants, which should be really interesting and useful for us to grow on plants for our stall at the Hordle Summer Fair.

## Exhibit for the Monthly Meeting

**April meeting** - a fun item - 1 naturally wonky vegetable either grown or shop purchased, but must NOT be altered in any way.

**May meeting** - one floating flower head in a bowl; dish; saucer; or cup of water. Maximum size of utensil 15cm or 6". Must not be from a pond plant eg water lily.

## Bring in your Spare Seedlings for the Plant Sale Table

If you're growing anything from seed and have some seedlings left over after you have potted up the ones you want to keep - just bring them along, as they are, to any of our meetings and donate them to the plant sale table (labelled) and other members can buy them for a small fee.

*more over the page...*

**Club meetings** are held on the 4th Friday of the month, doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start, at the Hordle Pavilion, but please check your programme

## Dates for your Diary

### Friday 26th April -

"Growing & showing Fuchsias"  
presented by Derek Dexter

### Friday 24th May -

"Propagation of garden plants"  
presented by Sandy Worth

**Thursday 6th June** - evening visit to  
Ferns Lodge NGS garden in  
Hordle - see the Events Board

**Thursday 27th June** - day trip to  
Minterne Abbey Gardens near  
Dorchester.

### Friday 28th June -

"Scented plants throughout  
the year" presented by  
Marcus Dancer

### Friday 26th July -

Closed Show (members only)  
Schedules sent with March  
Newsletter and also available  
on the website..

### Friday 2nd August -

Annual Club BBQ—6.30 for  
7pm. Please bring your own  
drinks.

**Wednesday 14th August**—Skittles  
Social Evening at The Walkford  
pub in Walkford. £7 per  
person. Add names to the list  
at the May meeting.

**Saturday 31st August** -  
Hordle Summer Fair

### Friday 27th September -

"Growing Sweet Peas for  
exhibition or pleasure"  
presented by Jim MacDonald.

web: [www.hordlegardeningclub.co.uk](http://www.hordlegardeningclub.co.uk)  
email: [hordlegardeningclub@outlook.com](mailto:hordlegardeningclub@outlook.com)

## Hordle Gardening Club - Open Gardens

We are doing our 'Open Gardens' again this year. These will be open ONLY to HGC members. We're trying a different format where **YOU** choose when to open your garden according to when you think it's at its best.

If you would like to share your garden with other HGC members, please let us know your details on the form at the Club meeting, specifying which month you think your garden is at its best, then we can talk it through with you.

Just think - a different garden to visit regularly, locally, through the spring/summer/autumn. Sounds good to me.

## Evening Garden Visit - Thursday 6th June

We're looking forward to visiting Ferns Lodge, in Cottagers Lane, Hordle. This is a NGS garden opening especially for us on this evening. Please ensure your name is on the list and bring £7.50 per person to the next meeting.

*"Captivating ½ acre garden! A cacophony of foxglove, camellia, azalea, tulip and lupins. Recently landscaped, brick paths guide you from cottage to summerhouse to gazebo where climbers from honeysuckle to jasmine attack the senses. Venture past the barn with its sedum roof to the 3½ acre Victorian garden in restoration (wellies are a must), with its mighty oaks, rhododendrons and Monterey pines. "*

## Visit to Minterne Abbey Gardens, nr Dorchester

**Thursday 27th June** is the date for our day trip. The cost is £21 each, to include garden entry and coach. There is a waiting list for this in case anyone drops out, but please note if you cannot come, let us know as soon as possible so we can put you in touch with someone who wants to come.

## Club 'Closed Show' Friday 26th July

Are you growing for our 'Closed Show'? This is a chance for us to compete, in a fun and friendly way, and show off what we've been growing. You should have received the details and entry form with the March newsletter, and it's also available on the HGC website. Do enter and have a go - it's fun and not deadly serious!

## Hordle Summer Fair - Saturday 31st August

*We need your plants and other garden related items for sale.* Our stall at the fair this year is going to be slightly different. We will have two pitches, one for plants and garden related items for sale (plants, bulbs, pots, books, tools included etc).

**Please note NO Bric a Brac this year.**

The other will be for children to create a 'tray garden' - all for fun and getting children involved.

## Just for fun -

### What is it?

*What is the name of the plant in the picture.*

*Tell us at the meeting, or we'll tell you.*



## What Happens at our Meetings

A reminder that doors open at 7pm with the talk starting promptly at 7.30pm. After the talk coffee/tea will be served and the Raffle drawn. (Donations of raffle prizes are always gratefully received)

We have various gardening magazines available for you to borrow - usually in front of the bar shutters. Keep an eye out here for other items eg Thomson and Morgan seed catalogues - order from Keith and take advantage of our club discount.

Each month we have an 'Exhibit of the Month' table (see below) and a Plant Sales table (also see below) as well as the Raffle table. Monies raised go to Club funds for future events & speakers.

## Exhibit of the Month Table

Join in, and win points - and points mean prizes 😊

Our 'Exhibit of the Month' table, is to encourage you to show us what's growing in your garden, the subject for each month will be advised in the Newsletter.

This is fun with a serious (ish) edge to it because it is judged (but not too harshly), so we can learn and pick up tips for showing plants, flowers, foliage etc at their best. Do join in 😊

Points will be awarded at each meeting, with a cup presented to the overall winner at the AGM.

(1st = 4 points, 2nd = 3 points, 3rd = 2 points, and for entering = 1 point)

## Plant Sales Table

Your donations of plants for the sales table will be very welcome every month.

Also, if you're growing from seed over the next few months and have unwanted seedlings left over after you've potted up those you're keeping - then bring the seedling tray/pot to a normal meeting for the Plant Sales Table, so members can take a spoonful of seedlings home for the cost of a small donation.

**Let's get growing!**