

## Baldernock Gardening Club: December 2021; a short note on the shortest day!

Good evening everyone,

It has been a dark old day today, with no sign of the sun or even a glimmer through the dank and dark skies. But it is the shortest day of the year, so, as from Thursday of this week, the daylight hours begin to increase again, which has got to be good news. Not much has been happening in the garden this month apart from pruning a few climbing roses and generally tidying up. The perpetually flowering hellebore is the only plant in bloom at present as I don't have any early flowering snowdrops, yet.

As the above sub-title indicated, I have no intention of taking up much of your valuable time as hopefully most of you will be preparing to see family at Christmas. I do hope that omicron doesn't interfere with any of your family arrangements. The Club had a very respectable Christmas Party (sorry, Gathering) in our new hall at Baljaffray Parish Church. As far as I am aware, no infection was transmitted by the socially distanced gathering and I believe all attending enjoyed themselves and enjoyed the chance to catch up with old and new members. The Question and Answer Session was not as devilish as past years and we all listened intently to Ruth Rowlands's cello playing and, I believe, managed to connect all the tunes to the correct lyrics. Our thanks are extended to Ruth and to all the members of the Committee who contributed so much to making the evening the success it was.

The assemblage of members proved that our new home has plenty of safe space for us all, as long as we all follow the rules. Our first meeting for 2022 is

on **WEDNESDAY 12TH JANUARY 2022 AT 19:30 IN BALJAFFRAY PARISH CHURCH.** Our speaker is Ian Stocks and he will be

instructing us on how to grow vegetables successfully. At the time of writing, the Scottish Government's latest restrictions allow us to meet in the Hall, as long as we don't exceed 100 people and all are seated. We can achieve that, but I am aware that a few of you will not wish to risk attending, so I will be investigating the hybrid sessions again. The difference this time is that the Speaker will be present and he has to be filmed for the Zoom audience, so another crash course in the usage of the in-house technology will be necessary. I will write again in the New Year with all the details, but in the meantime, take note of the **DAY** and the **DATE**.

The only other thing I have to say is to wish you all, Members and Subscribers, a very Happy, Peaceful and infection free Christmas and Festive Holiday period. Let us

all hope and pray that 2022 is a much better year and we are rid of this pesky virus. I thank you all for your support throughout the year; you have been marvellous and I trust your gardens will bloom even more gloriously in the coming months. Above all, though, stay safe, stay warm and stay healthy.

Seasons Greetings to you all,

Willie

