

Baldernock Gardening Club: August 2023 Newsletter BOS: There's no such thing as a guilt-free glass of wine in the garden

Good morning all,

After the excitement of the Super Blue Moon last week, which, let's face it, few of us would have noticed the difference had we not been told, we are now seeing the return of summer for the coming week. Before you enjoy the feel of the sun on your back as you bend over to haul out another handful of weeds, which have revelled in the previous weeks of 'damp', you may wish to read the article by Rosemary Goring from this weekend's Sunday Times. It is a slightly more realistic view of gardening, without destroying the enjoyment.

There's no such thing as a guilt-free glass of wine in the garden.

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/8b0ebc2e-c9f6-4310-ae42-8452c24fb194?shareToken=4f0c0adf86645d3b8492ff993bce2256>

This shortened newsletter, is just to remind you that our first talk for the new session is on Wednesday 13th September at 19:30 in Baljaffray Church Hall. Our speaker is Melissa Simpson, Head Gardener at Dumfries House. She moved to Dumfries House in 2020 from Hermitage Park in Helensburgh and has many years of horticultural experience, which she has brought to her new post. The development and extension of the gardens over the past few years has been very impressive.

Thank you to you all for your speedy renewal of your membership for the coming year and thank you for helping by paying via BACS. It has greatly simplified the process. The newly printed Club Calendar will be available at the first meeting, but if you can't wait for that, the talks for the coming year are listed on our website.

An outing is being organised to the Japanese Garden at Cowden. This will probably be arranged for the beginning of October and full details will be issued by Caroline Preacher as soon as all the details have been finalised. The registration form should be on the table for Wednesday 13th September.

Susan Brimelow has taken the bold and much welcomed step of joining the Committee. We are delighted with her decision and know that she will contribute much to the running of the Club. We are still looking for more volunteers as we always require new ideas and new energy.

As I have said, this is a shortened newsletter as I rambled on just a couple of weeks ago, but I wanted to get the schedule back on course. That is more than I can say for getting my garden back into order. The sweet peas continue to produce at a prodigious rate, the phlox have been eaten by the deer, the begonias have been eaten by the deer and the slugs have decided to attack the hostas now that the nematode effect has diminished. The climbing roses are having their second flush of blooms and, fortunately, these buds have been too high up even for the deer! A

couple of the trees are starting to turn, but may hold off whilst the sun is shining; a few autumn crocuses are out and the cyclamen have spread - at long last! Oh, and after about four years, two nerines out of twelve planted are flowering. Maybe next year I will get the planned effect. There is a good deal of colour in the garden with the phloxes (not eaten by the deer), the rudbeckia, the dahlias, the heleniums and the one surviving canna. It does all look so much better in the sunshine.

Looking forward to our first meeting and seeing you all on Wednesday 13th.

Best wishes

Willie

