

Hello Members! Welcome to Garden Club

I usually open this Newsletter with a snippet about the weather. This time I could fill the entire publication! As I write, I am admiring pigeons dabbling in the many impromptu wild-life pools in the garden (pigeonless photo below) and wondering what effect the greenhouse flooding will have upon the heated cables which are still trying to coax dahlia tubers into life.



It has been a difficult Winter and early Spring. Some of you to whom I have spoken have, like me, lost a number of plants this winter. Gone, I think, is my beloved *Melianthus*, the *Ceratostigma wilmottianum*, my favourite mauve *Salvias* and the Torbay palms in the Urns. Funny how weeds don't seem to be troubled! Anyway, it's a good excuse to visit the Malvern Spring Show (11-14 May). On that subject, please don't go on the Saturday! - **IT'S THE CLUB PLANT SALE** (see below). We just need some more of the lovely Good Friday sunshine to bring the plants on a bit.

The May issue of *Gardeners' World* magazine is now on sale. This includes the 2 for 1 Gardens entry card & guide for 2023.

## ALPINE PLANT LIST

Our April speaker, Richard Horswood, kindly provided a list of plants mentioned during his talk – "Alpines in the Wild and in Cultivation". This has been posted up on the website.



*Physoplexis comosa*

## The Website Forum

So far just over 50 Club members have joined the Forum on the Club's website. This is a very useful tool which enables members to communicate with other members rather than having to go through a Team member. It gives the opportunity to share or seek information or to get a conversation going about a particular topic. It also gives the Club the opportunity to post Notices as information arises rather than having to wait until the next round robin e-mail.

This is a private area of the website which is not open to non-club members. If you would like to join, please go to the Forum tab on the website, and "sign up". You will need to create a password and await approval which may take 24 hours. Any probs let me know.

Please rest assured that the Forum is not intended as an alternative to your e-mailing direct. We're always happy to receive and answer your e-mails

..... coming up soon

We will be continuing with our live/zoom meetings. With regard to the meetings in the hall, we have always advertised that “Doors Open at 7pm”. In the future, **we will not be admitting members to the hall prior to 7pm**. This is to enable the Team and any additional helpers sufficient time to set up for the meeting and provide training sessions.

<b>3 May</b> <b>Dr Sylvia Travers</b> <b>Restoration of Walled Gardens</b>	<b>7 June</b> <b>Richard Barnes</b> <b>Garden Photography</b>
<p>Dr Sylvia Travers has a PhD in pomology* and plant science. Sylvia oversaw the construction and planting of the Paradise and Kitchen gardens at RHS Bridgewater. She specialises in the design, creation and restoration of kitchen gardens and is committed to no-dig, regenerative, inclusive horticulture.</p> <p><b>** Sue Knight will have cards for sale at this meeting.</b></p> <p>*the science of fruit growing</p>	<p>Those who joined one of our early zooms in December 2020 may remember Richard. He recommended the Victorian tradition of picking a posy of flowers from the garden for Christmas Day which resulted in our Christmas flower count survey. A retired landscape architect, Richard is also a garden photographer.</p> <p>Richard will be joined by his wife who is a professional artist – she will have cards and prints available for sale.</p>

**Plant sale – Saturday 13 May 3pm**

The plant sale will take place at 18 Grange Park, Henleaze, BS9 4BP. Even if you do not need any plants, please feel free to come along and meet and chat with other members. There’s plenty of room to sit and socialise in the garden. Please bring the sunshine with you, but we have a few umbrellas!

Please note that prior to the plant sale we have invited new members for a special welcome, but the plant sale itself will not open until 3pm.

**PLANTS**

**\*\*CARD PAYMENTS\*\***

The Organising Team has agreed to purchase a card reader so that we are able to take card payments. We very much hope that this will be up and running and available for use in time for the plant sale. We will, of course, still take cash if that is your preferred payment method. An update will be given nearer the time.

If you have plants that you would like to donate to the sale, please bring them along to the above address between 4pm and 6pm on Friday, 12 May. This will give us the opportunity to assess, price and then set up on the Saturday morning.

All plants should please be of good quality, nicely potted, pest, disease and weed free and labelled with the name (common or botanical name is fine) and colour if not in flower. It is advisable to pot up any cuttings or divisions as early as possible rather than at the last minute.