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Sally Kotsopoulos

Uxbridge Horticultural Society

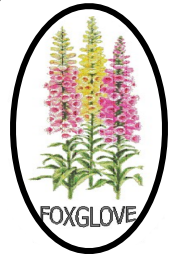


"We Bring Gardening Down to Earth"

www.uxbridgehorticulturalsociety.com



"Your Local Garden Club News"



May 2023 - Series 20, Volume 1

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Celebration of Life - Kim Campbell

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, June 10th from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 at 709 Foster Road, Uxbridge. Please RSVP to Christine Page .

Gardens of Uxbridge Tour 2023

The Gardens of Uxbridge Tour, sponsored by the Lucy Maud Montgomery Society, will be held on June 24th, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Please contact Barb Pratt from the LMMS if you are available to help them out as a volunteer.

Dear Fellow Gardeners:

How great it was to have such a tremendous turnout at our first meeting of the year in April! Welcome to all new members!

We have a change for this month's speaker. As our scheduled speaker is unable to be at the meeting, long-time member **Sharon Bognar** has agreed to speak to us about "**Propagating Your Own Flowers**". For those of you who don't know **Sharon**, you will find that her knowledge is as extensive as her gardens are.

As our weather finally seems to be turning for the better, many of you may be out in your gardens cleaning them up, dividing plants and even perhaps thinning them out. Would you please pot up any spare plants for our May 28th Plant Sale. Please see further details on Page 2.

Congratulations to **Yvonne de Ruiter** who won the Best Bookmark Award at the District 17 AGM for our beautiful 2023 Bookmark. Congratulations also to **Angie Andruss** who took First Place for a few of her entries in both the Flower Show and Photography Show.

We look forward to seeing all your beautiful entries in this month's first Flower Show of the year. Please see page 15 of our Yearbook for May categories and page 34 for details and instructions.

Sandee

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, May 10th: "**Propagating Your Own Flowers**"; Flower Show
 Sunday, May 28th: **PLANT SALE**
 Wednesday, June 14th: "**Birds**" with Paul Oliver; Flower Show

Plant Sale

Our Plant Sale is scheduled for Sunday, May 28th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Sharpe's Parking Lot at 125 Brock Street West in Uxbridge. Please bring your potted up plants to Sharpe's by 8:00 a.m. if possible or they can be dropped off the day before at one of two locations:

1. Pam Kuiper's House: 1 Murray Street, Greenbank
2. Joyce Brown's House: 294 Main Street North, Uxbridge

Please include as much information about each plant as possible - Name, Variety, Preferred Location (sun, shade, part shade, etc.); Blooming Time. Plants will be priced by some of our members once they arrive at the Sale. Members will also be on hand to answer questions about the plants. Payment is by cash, please.

Flower Shows

We encourage you all to participate in our monthly Flower Shows. A number of members have expressed that they are reluctant to do so as they have never shown before. Everyone that shows started at the same place and learned by doing, and we invite you to do the same.

Please see our Yearbook for the flowers, vegetables and designs on the schedule for each month and just go for it. The basic instructions for showing are in our Yearbook and there is also an OHA guide available for purchase which is extremely detailed (\$10.00). If you have questions or need advice, please see **Angie Andruss, Sharon Bognar or Yvonne de Ruiter**, who will be happy to help you.

Bring in your beautiful flowers for us all to enjoy!

Garden Tour - Our Club

In polling our members at the last meeting, there was insufficient interest this year in a Club members only Garden Tour - both people willing to show their gardens and attending such a Tour. So for this year, we will not be having a Garden Tour but will revisit this for next year.

"Everything that slows us down and forces patience, everything that sets us back into the slow circle of nature, is a help. Gardening is an instrument of grace.

... May Sarton

Garden Volunteers Still Needed

We are still in need of volunteers to look help look after maintaining the gardens at the Library, Cenotaph and Seniors' Centre. Please see Agnes Croxford if you are able to help out once or twice for a two period over the summer, and/or help with garden clean-up.



Planting Workshop for Sparks - Pam, Angie, Deb W. & Cathy



Photos from the April Meeting

A Few General Reminders

Yearbook Cover Photo Contest - 2024

As the lilacs come into bloom, don't forget to take pictures for entry into the 2024 Yearbook Cover photo contest.

November Meeting - Silent Auction

Our November meeting will be a Silent Auction with a Master Gardener guest speaker. Contributions of food items such as jams and pickles are very popular and well received, so if you are putting up any preserves over the next months, it would be great if you could put aside a few for donation to the Silent Auction.

Tetanus Vaccination for Gardeners

Various health organizations, including the CDC, recommend that gardeners in particular should begin each season with a tetanus vaccine validation. Adults should receive the vaccination every 10 years. Gardeners are particularly prone to tetanus infection as tetanus lives in the soil and enters the body through cuts and open breaks in the skin. Digging in the dirt and using sharp tools make us particularly prone to infections.

Vegetables are People Too

As you plan and prepare your vegetable patch, keep in mind that vegetables are no different than people. Some people we like and get along with, and others we don't. A number one rule to follow when planting is to ensure distance between plants that are at risk for the same diseases and pests. To get you started, here are some examples:

- **Tomatoes and Potatoes**: both are at risk for a fungal disease called blight. In wet weather or generally damp conditions, blight can rapidly spread across these plants causing foliage to discolour and plants to rot and slowly die.
- **Onions and Peas** (also applies to Garlic and chives with beans): As onions are allopathic which means they leech chemicals into the soil around their roots, they can stunt the growth of other nearby plants.
- **Cabbage and Strawberries**: Most brassicas also leech chemicals into the ground and affect other plants, such as strawberries, which tend to sprawl somewhat aggressively.
- **Carrots and Dill**: Carrots and dill are members of the same plant family, so the risk is that they may cross-pollinate, resulting in weird tasting dill. Dill also attracts carrot fly, a pest whose larvae can easily and quickly destroy your crop of carrots.
- **Cucumbers and Basil**: Cucumbers tend to take on the flavours of their environment and aromatic herbs such as basil can also reduce cucumber yields.