

Gardening Group Report for April by Pauline

On April 1st, our speaker was Martin Fish who is no stranger to the group, having spoken to us on two or three occasions. Martin is a professional horticulturist who writes for several gardening publications and is also a Royal Horticultural Society judge.

He started his career at 16 as an apprentice in the Nottinghamshire Parks Department and by twenty-one was Head Gardener. He is currently Garden Advisor for Harlow Carr and Chair of the Tender Plants Committee and for five years he ran the award-winning Harrogate Flower Show

During Martin's presentation ('Behind the Scenes as an RHS Judge) we found out about the number of people in a judging panel, the training they had to go through and the requirement for re-accreditation after 5 years. Most importantly we found out that the judges had a written criteria to consult to ensure consistency of judging. There was much more to the talk than I could possibly put down on paper and was broken up with many humorous anecdotes about the great and glorious visitors to the Chelsea Flower Show over many years.

Summer Garden Visits

6th May. Himalayan Gardens

The 36-seater coach is now over-subscribed and there is a waiting list. And I'm waiting for confirmation that we can take a 53-seater coach.

3rd June. *No Meeting – Queens Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday*

1st July. Kirkleatham Walled Garden and Mount Grace Priory

5th August. Coldcotes Moor Farm and The Beacon

2nd September Breezy Knees Gardens

Please contact Pauline on 01833 638020 or paulinefawcett59@gmail.com if you are interested in joining any of the coach trips.

Details of prices and timing will follow shortly