



Aughton & Ormskirk U3A GARDENING GROUP NEWSLETTER May 2016

Welcome to this the fourth of the Gardening Groups newsletters which we hope you will find of interest. We hope that you are enjoying the newsletter but please let us know if you would like any specific topics covered.

The April meeting was well attended and Steve Halliwell entertained us with an interesting talk on Gresgarth Hall Gardens. He illustrated his talk with excellent photos of the gardens, Steve was indeed a most enjoyable and entertaining speaker.

All meetings start at 2pm in the Scout & Guide HQ. Full details of all meetings can be seen on the U3A website at <http://aughton-ormskirk-u3a.co.uk>

MONDAY 9th MAY 2016

Topic: "A Long Drive to Lhasa Tibet exploring Alpine Plants"

A botanical trip exploring the culture and Alpine plants of Tibet

Speaker: Peter Cordall

MONDAY 13th JUNE 2016

Topic: "Visit to Garden at 79 Crabtree Lane, Burscough"

This visit commencing at 2pm will replace the normal monthly meeting held in the Scout & Guide HQ.

We look forward to welcoming you to the U3A Gardening Group Meetings.

Gardening Group Contact Details:

David Blanchflower Tel: 01704 889736 email: blanch2203@gmail.com

To celebrate one of England's greatest attractions and to mark the 300th anniversary of 'Capability' Brown, the year 2016 has been designated as the Year of the English Garden. The year is intended to spotlight and celebrate the country's fabulous gardens and to inspire visits to these gardens during 2016.

Details of local gardens open to the public can be found on the National Gardens Scheme website at:

<http://www.ngs.org.uk/gardens.aspx>

2016
*Year
of
the
English
Garden*TM
In association with VisitEngland

The Gardening Group Needs Your Active Involvement

If the gardening group is to continue to operate and provide a service to U3A members it needs your active support. Will you please consider offering your services to set out chairs, make tea, organise meetings and be actively involved in the running of the group?

Please contact David Blanchflower 01704 889736

Southport Flower show 18th – 21st August 2016

The Gardening Group has negotiated a discounted entrance fee to this year's Southport Flower Show; the £19 ticket is discounted to £16 if purchased before the end of June 2016. You can purchase online at www.southportflowershow.co.uk/tickets.asp using the discount code U3A or by telephone 01704 547 147 there is a postage fee of £1 with telephone ticket requests but no additional fee when tickets are ordered online. The offer is only valid until 30th June.

Southport
Flower Show

No occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth, and no culture comparable to that of the garden



Thomas Jefferson

Garden Jobs for May

- 1) Do not cut down or tie up the foliage of spring-flowering bulbs, let them die down naturally.
- 2) Divide Hostas as they come into growth.
- 3) Trim lavender plants now, cutting off any old flower heads.
- 4) Top-dress permanent pot plants to refresh the compost.
- 5) Look out for signs of blackspot on roses.



Crabtree Gardens

Our June meeting will be a visit to the garden at 79 Crabtree Lane, Burscough and will replace our normal monthly meeting in the Scout & Guide HQ. This is an excellent opportunity to visit a local garden.

Details and directions to the garden will appear in the June issue of the Gardening Email Newsletter and also on the U3A website at:

<http://aughton-ormskirk-u3a.co.uk/groups/gardening-group/>

Win Tickets to Flower Shows or RHS Gardens

The Royal Horticultural Society is offering U3A members the opportunity to win five pairs of tickets to enter their gardens. (Closing date 5 June)

Win Tickets to the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust

The competition is open to U3A members and offers the chance for individuals to win nine pairs of tickets. (Closing date 13 May)

Full details of both these competitions can be obtained by requesting details from David Blanchflower email: blanch2203@gmail.com



JUNE DIARY DATES

The AGM for the Aughton & Ormskirk U3A will be held on Thursday 2nd June 2016 at 10.30am in Christ Church.

Monday 13th June at 2pm visit to Gardens at 79 Crabtree Lane Burscough Ormskirk L40 0RW