



Aughton & Ormskirk U3A GARDENING GROUP NEWSLETTER JULY 2016

Welcome to this the fifth of the Gardening Groups newsletters which we hope you will find of interest.

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/groups/gardening-group/>

MONDAY 11th July 2016

“Oh Dear! What can the ‘Machair’ be? “

A look at threatened habitat in Hebridean Islands and its flora

Speaker: Steve Halliwell

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NO MEETINGS IN THE MONTHS OF AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER

In 2015 the Gardening Group shutdown because no one was prepared to volunteer to help run the group.

The group re-opened in February 2016 and it was indicating at that time that the group would only continue if members played an active part in its running. It would appear that U3A members want a gardening group but do not wish to be involved in the work of running the group. If no one is prepared step forward to assist in the running of the group then the July meeting could well be the LAST MEETING OF THE GARDENING GROUP.



Southport Flower show 18th – 21st August 2016 – Discounted Tickets

This Offer Closes on 30th June

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.

Grow your own cut flowers

Sweet pea (Vase life: 3-7 days)

The ultimate 'cut and come again' cut flower! Once a popular glasshouse cut flower, these beautiful blooms are mainly garden grown nowadays. There are plenty of colours to choose from, but a good mix of shades makes the prettiest posies. Old fashioned Grandiflora types often have the best scent such as Sweet Pea 'Heirloom Mixed'. But the popular modern varieties such as Sweet Pea 'Alan Titchmarsh' combine fragrance, larger blooms and longer stems that are ideal for flower arrangements.



Gardening is learning, learning, learning. That's the fun of them. You're always learning.

Helen Mirren



Garden Jobs for July

- 1) Cut back faded perennial plants to keep borders tidy.
- 2) Continue to tie in and train new growth on climbing plants.
- 3) Prune lupins to encourage further flowers.
- 4) Keep an eye out for pests on plants, early treatment is best.
- 5) Cuttings can still be taken from shrubs and herbaceous perennials.



JULY DIARY DATES

**MERE BROW METHODIST CHURCH
OPEN GARDENS
SUNDAY 10th JULY - 12 NOON – 5PM.**

UP TO 12 GARDENS/VENUES TO VISIT, LUNCHESES, PLANTS, HOLMES BRASS, MUSEUM, ARTEFACTS DISPLAY, REFRESHMENTS ETC. VINTAGE BUS WILL RUN BETWEEN GARDENS FOR VISITORS, FROM 11AM – 2PM BBC RADIO LANCASHIRE WILL BE DOING THEIR LIVE BROADCAST 'LANCASHIRE OUTDOORS'

ADMISSION £5 each, CHILDREN FREE.