

# Barnstaple u3a

## PRACTICAL GARDENING GROUP

### Monthly Programme for 2026

- MARCH 19<sup>th</sup> STROLL AROUND RHS ROSEMOOR GARDEN  
A chance to stroll around the lovely Springtime garden and buy a plant or two. Meet at the entrance at 10.30. Bring your RHS membership card.
- APRIL 16<sup>th</sup> VISIT TO UPPER GORWELL HOUSE  
The venue is in Goodleigh Road, Barnstaple, EX32 7JR. It is a 4 acre garden overlooking the River Taw and its microclimate allows many rare and tender plants to flourish, more details nearer the time - Cost £7.50 on the day.
- MAY 21<sup>st</sup> TOUR OF TAW VALLEY ORGANICS  
A fascinating behind the scenes tour around a specialist plant nursery. The location is Uppacott, Tawstock, Barnstaple, EX31 3LA. Refreshments available. Meet 10.30. Cost TBA
- JUNE 18<sup>th</sup> VISIT TO EAST WOODLANDS FARMHOUSE  
Home to Ed and Heather Holt, there are several garden 'rooms' full of plants, shrubs and trees overlooking the north Devon countryside. Cost £6 on the day. The garden is in Alverdiscott, Newton Tracey, EX31 3PP - see their website for precise details of directions.
- JULY 16<sup>th</sup> VISIT TO TAPELEY PARK GARDENS  
Home of the Christie family, these delightful gardens are near Instow, at EX39 4NT, overlooking the River Torridge. For the entrance follow the tourist signs and not the postcode. Tea rooms available. Cost £6.50 on the day.
- AUGUST 20<sup>th</sup> A RETURN VISIT TO A DAHLIA PARADISE  
The garden is owned by Ron and Yvonne Bimson of Lower Field House, Lake, Tawstock, Barnstaple, EX31 3HU. The dahlias should be at their best in August. There is limited parking so please car share. Arrive for 10.30. As before, they charge £5, all of which is donated to Children's Hospice South West, to include a cream tea & coffee/tea.
- SEPTEMBER 17<sup>th</sup> A RETURN TRIP TO MARWOOD HILL GARDEN  
We visited last Spring so now we return for the autumn experience. Members to meet in the top car park at Guineaford, Barnstaple, EX31 4EA at 10.30, Cost £8.50 on the day. Includes a talk about key plants in the garden to be given by a staff member. Refreshments available.
- OCTOBER 15<sup>th</sup> VISITING SPEAKER: ALAN FRENCH WILL TALK ON THE WINTER GARDEN  
Well known garden expert Alan French will talk about The Winter Garden and will bring plants for sale. Start 2.30pm at Fremington Methodist Church Hall. Cost £5 – please make every effort to come and hear our first visiting speaker!
- NOVEMBER 19<sup>th</sup> END OF YEAR GET-TOGETHER

### Possible Special Trips

- AUGUST 7/8<sup>th</sup> TAUNTON FLOWER SHOW - £20 or £17 (Fri & Sat) or £18 or £16 for group of 10 or more

*Please confirm with the Group Leaders before each event whether you intend to come*