

Minutes of the Darrington Garden Club held at the Kyte Hotel December 9th 2015

Chairman - Andy Tagger

Present:- Vera Stones
Gail Jenkins
Phil and Margaret Maw
Freda and Roy Cooke
Mike Wheatley
Allan Bentley
Ann Hutchinson
Wendy Armitage
Hazel Crabtree

Apologies:- Kathleen Hirst
Barbara Abrey
Christine Blakeston

Absent:- Joan Lowe

The meeting commenced at 6pm and Andy read through the November minutes.

Garden competition for next year was discussed - Andy said 'there are some lovely gardens out there which people don't tend to see unless they are delivering the Parish News letter' which is a shame, advertising and ways to encourage entrants will be talked about it in the new year

Litter in Darrington is an on-going situation, there is an article in a the Parish magazine this month reporting a good turnout by people for the big clean-up day, but - to quote a member of the Garden Club 'collecting litter up is a bit like painting the 4th Bridge though that is closed for a while now'.

Andy talked about the Wakefield Met clean up the roads and leafs on the pavement they had been and done some work which is good.

A comment was made that 'Leafs been bad this year, with some (the deciduous variety) still on the trees and it is December'

A report was given about Compost of recycled material by Wakefield Met the members were told 'they are still working on it'

An update on the work in the Orchard was given - Andy said that he was absolutely amazed at the size of it which shows up now that the ground has been cleared. The gate is now hung. Weekend working parties are still needed, though a lot of work has been done there is still plenty to do. The remaining trees have had the underground growth cleared from around them. Peter Battie and his men have been brilliant - amazing and hardworking, so a big Thank you to them.

Andy said that a good bonfire needs good preparation, but they did not manage either over the weekend - sorry to anyone who suffered from the smoke created by the fire - but the rubbish has to be destroyed to make a clear space. It is hoped that at some point the ground will be roto-vated.

The O.R Team are planning for what happens next, and their aims are to create a restful / calm / relaxing / easily maintained / reflective / not controversial space for everyone to enjoy, and again to quote Andy 'if the team can push all those buttons it will be amazing'

It is hoped that seats will be included and maybe small memorial plaques fixed on the big brick wall. If you want to be involved get in touch with the O.R team via the Parish Council Chairman.

The Driving range which overlooks Mr and Mrs Cookes' house has been levelled, but still looks like a mountain from their garden. Top soil is being put on and the Golf Club say that they are hoping to create a putting green on the edge of the driving range.

Andy reported that a Lovely Carol service was held on the 1st of December, Darrington School was involved and provided mince pies, tea and coffee which were free but a donation was welcome - those donations raised £56.

The only downside to the evening was that Andy burnt his fingers lighting the lanterns - used short stemmed matches!

Words like 'wonderful', 'absolutely brilliant', 'amazing' were used to describe the 'Farmer Christmas at - Ripon Farm Services event - regrettably there was very little village support - the question was raised

about the lack of advertising and the fact that it clashed with Womersley Craft fayre - Gail promised to advertise it next year for them.

Mr and Mrs Cooke gave out a large amount of mistletoe

Andy had arranged a Christmas Quiz with token prizes. Even if you weren't there you can take part in the fun (though all the prizes have been won)

This is the biggest part of the quiz - see how you do!

1. The cranberry, so popular in a sauce to go with the Christmas turkey, is known botanically as what?

- a) Needlium
- b) Injectium
- c) Vaccinium

2. What would a gardener do with a dibber or dibble?

- a) Scrape mud off spades and trowels
- b) Make holes in compost from transplanting seedlings
- c) Grade soil particles according to size

3. What is meant by a resistant vegetable variety?

- a) A variety that is resistant to being attacked by pests or diseases
- b) A variety that is not resistant to being attacked by pests and diseases
- c) A variety that doesn't like being moved

4. The Royal Horticultural Society runs a large garden at Rosemoor. Which county is it in?

- a) Kent
- b) Devon
- c) Warwickshire

5. What general term is given to the trees and shrubs whose leaves fall in autumn?

- a) Deciduous
- b) Evergreen
- c) Ambidextrous

6. What is the popular name for the flowering house plant *Impatiens walleriana*?

- a) Marguerite
- b) Black-eyed Susan
- c) Busy Lizzie

7. What is the name given to the technique of clipping trees and hedges into ornamental shapes?

- a) Topiary
- b) Bonsai
- c) Renewal pruning

8. Why do gardeners practice crop rotation?

- a) To grow bigger vegetables
- b) To make the garden appear organised and efficient 
- c) To help prevent a build up of pests and diseases in the soil

9. Which part of a tree can be used to make cork?

- a) The bark
- b) Root tissue
- c) Pulped seeds

10. The love apple is the original name for what?

- a) Potato
- b) Tomato
- c) Quince

11. How can you keep an area of soil weed-free, without digging?
- Cut the tops of the weeds off with scissors, to prevent them from seeding
 - Cover the soil with a light-excluding mulch or mulch-fabric
 - Ignore the weeds and they will eventually go away
12. When a gardener makes a 'drill' what is he/she making?
- A machine to make holes in the ground
 - A shallow trench in which to sow seeds
 - A loud noise to scare away birds
13. A 'kumquat' is a small Japanese variety of what sort of fruit?
- Citrus
 - Plum
 - Pineapple
14. Harry Wheatcroft was a renowned breeder of which type of plant?
- Fuchsias
 - Begonias
 - Roses
15. Name the evergreen hedging conifer that has created many a neighbourly dispute?
- The British Leyland cedar
 - The Leyland cypress
 - The Lakeland cupressus
16. What is the Latin name for the Rowan Tree?
- Sorbus
 - Malus
 - Prunus
17. On what would you use the spray containing the chemical 'Glyphosate'?
- Persistent weeds
 - Greenfly, blackfly and whitefly
 - Black spot of roses
18. What is the popular name for the Antirrhinum?
- Snake-bark maple
 - Snapdragon
 - Dog's tooth violet
19. Who, or what, is Müller-Thurgau?
- A botanist from Victorian Bavaria
 - A variety of grape
 - A summer pudding using raspberries and yoghurt
20. In garden design terms, what is a Ha-Ha?
- A ditch forming a boundary but not obscuring a view
 - An area of the garden using mirrors or other illusions
 - An arbour or other secluded seating area
21. Araucaria araucana is better known as what?
- Tree of Heaven
 - Dragon tree
 - Monkey puzzle tree
22. 'Iceberg' is NOT a type of what?
- White arum
 - Lettuce
 - Rose
23. Camellias belong to which plant family?
- Heather
 - Iris
 - Apple

24. When Monty Don stood down as the main presenter of TV's Gardeners' World Who replaced him?

- a) Barney Tuckland
- b) Toby Buckland
- c) Bob Tarland

25. What is a cloche?

- a) A cover to protect plants
- b) A type of fruit
- c) A way of digging

26. Jasper Carrott could be linked to which of these vegetable varieties?

- a) 'Chantenay Red Cored'
- b) 'Webbs Wonder'
- c) 'Gardener's Delight'

27. What is the Latin name of the yellow winter jasmine?

- a) Jasminum nakediflorum
- b) Jasminum nudiflorum
- c) Jasminum bareiiflorum

28. The traditional Christmas tree - Picea abies - is what type of conifer?

- a) Fir
- b) Pine
- c) Spruce

29. Why would you cover carrots with horticultural fleece?

- a) To keep them warm in winter
- b) To stop them being attacked by carrot root fly
- c) To hide them from view

And finally an ANAGRAM

A Dancing thorn trims sir **OR** Orchard straining mits

The meeting finished at 7pm £6 was taken in tea / coffee money and given to the Kyte staff by Andy.

A table has been booked for the next Garden Club meeting meal - Garden Club meeting Wednesday the 13th of January 2016 the meal is Friday the 15th 5-30 for 6pm - let me know if you want to go to the meal but won't be at the Wednesday meeting