



WINTER-SPRING 2015

THE BLOOMING NEWS

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UPCOMING PROGRAM EVENTS

🌀 **Thursday, February 19, 2015 12:30 pm**

Rockcliffe Park CC

The Spectacular Gardens of Cuba

Mary Ann Van Berlo

🌀 **Thursday, March 19, 2015 12:30 pm**

Rockcliffe Park CC

Going Green with Doug King

Doug King

🌀 **Thursday, April 16, 2015 12:30 pm**

Rockcliffe Park CC

Edible Landscaping

Tina Liu

🌀 **Thursday, May 21, 2015 12:30 pm**

Rockcliffe Park CC

Annual General Meeting

Garden Knowledge Panel

🌀 **June 22 – 24, 2015**

Tour of Prince Edward County

see pages 2, 3, 4 and 5 for details

WELCOME TO THE OTTAWA GARDEN CLUB

We are delighted to welcome these members to our club:

Fati Delcorde – Belgium

Leopoldine Goutondji – Benin

Ritva Murto – Finland

Elin Jonsdottir – Iceland

Miriam Barak – Israel

Keiko Okuda – Japan

Yang Lee – Korea

Diana Mogollon de Suarez – Mexico

Rosa de Bellina – Peru

Maria de la Rica de la Gomez-Mugica – Spain

Wanchana Manawapat – Thailand

Penny Tucker – New Zealand

SAVE THE DATE!

Tour of Prince Edward County Monday, June 22 – Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity for members and friends to spend a few days together as we explore the delights of charming Prince Edward County.

We are very fortunate to have been invited to visit a variety of private gardens, some in the towns of Wellington, Bloomfield and Picton, and some in more rural settings. In addition, we will have time to dine in first class establishments as well as to visit an art gallery, a winery and delightful shops.



We do hope you will join us for the fun!
More details will be provided at the
January 15th meeting at the Golf Club.

If you have any questions, please call:
Sally Hutchison – 613-728-2981 or email
sally.hutchison1@gmail.com or contact
our Travel Agent, Margaret Dailey-Plouffe
of Heatherington and Associates: 613-
843-9900 or Margaret@hnatravels.com

THE BLOOMING NEWS

Newsletter of

The Ottawa Garden Club
is published semi-annually
in January and in August.
Volume 16, #1, January 2015

Editor: Felicity Garrard
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Helen Clark
Distribution: Peggy Morgan
Photographer: Cynthia Hoisak

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I am sitting by the fire looking at the freshly fallen 20 centimetres of snow, watching the birds at the feeder and putting the final stitches on my granddaughter's stocking in anticipation of her first Christmas. I have so much to be thankful for.

This is my final message as President of the Ottawa Garden Club. My, how time flies! Thanks to all of you, we have a very vibrant Club. I have developed new friendships, learned many new things about gardening, shared laughter and stories on road trips and celebrated many special occasions with our Diplomatic friends.



Our Christmas celebration is always a special one. I

must thank Maria de la Rica on everyone's behalf for a most spectacular gathering at her beautiful home in December. Maria was so welcoming and her hospitality was so much appreciated by all. Refreshments, tapas, wine, carols, special treats and a short history of Christmas in Spain made for an absolutely perfect gathering. Thanks once again Maria!

As my time comes to a close, I must also thank all of you who volunteer for our Club. From our program committee, the hospitality team, the weeders and diggers, the Blooming News editors and contributors, our Diplomatic Representative Gill Drake, our Secretary, Treasurer, Boutique manager and others who help members get to and from meetings, thank you.

This May, I will pass the torch to Kelly Noel, known to all of you as one of our star volunteers. You will be in very capable hands. As a Master Gardener, former Treasurer, former Blooming News Editor, computer whiz and someone with boundless energy, I know we can look forward to many more enjoyable meetings learning new things and having fun along the way.

Happy New Year to all. I look forward to seeing you at the Royal Ottawa Golf Club for lunch on January 15, 2015.

With every good wish.

Lucinda (Cindy) E. Boucher, President

PROGRAM SPRING 2015

Thursday, February 19, 2015 12:30 pm

Rockcliffe Park CC

The Spectacular Gardens of Cuba

Mary Ann Van Berlo

Mary Ann Van Berlo will share the spectacular flora and vistas of Cuba that she discovered on a two-week garden tour in February 2012. The tour covered the north and west part of the island and included botanical gardens, private back yard gardens, tobacco farms, even a stop to see rice fields up close. Of particular interest were the "organiponicos" – small to large garden cooperatives that follow organic practices and provide fresh produce for their members and the community. So let's join Mary Ann for a tropical gardening break and forget about our winter for a while.



Mary Ann Van Berlo

Mary Ann has been active in the Ontario Horticultural Association for 20 years, and for the past 10 years she has also volunteered with the Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton. She is an avid gardener (she said it was okay to describe her as "obsessed"). Mary Ann and 800 of her favourite plants moved from a wooded lot in rural Ottawa to the shores of the St. Lawrence in 2012. Her new garden has much more sun than her previous home – it was a welcome opportunity to grow sun-loving plants. She very much enjoys the challenge of trying new plants, often growing them from seed.

8th Annual Photo Competition

This is your last chance to enter our almost famous photo competition, which will take place in March. **Deadline for entry is the February 2015 meeting.** Please bring your entries that day or send them in advance to Mary Pratte, 132 Lisgar Rd, Ottawa K1M 0V4.

Rules:

You may enter a total of two images per category. All entries are to be printed in 4x6 format on photographic-quality paper. Write your name on the back of each photo and indicate the category to which it belongs, along with a title and a few words to describe the photo.

Entries are to be submitted to Mary Pratte, in an envelope. Photos will not be returned, unless arrangements are made to do so. For more information, contact Mary at:

[613-746-6070](tel:613-746-6070) or at gmpratte@sympatico.ca

Categories:

1) **Incredible Edibles:** edible plants, leaves, seed pods, fruit, vegetables or flowers of edible plants, in your gardens or farms or wherever!

2) **Hedging Your Bets:** hedging of all types. Evergreen, deciduous, tall, short, layered, wavy....there are hedges everywhere!

There will be one winner in each category, and honourable mention for second place. First prize will be a complimentary membership to the Ottawa Garden Club (value of \$60).

I like gardening. It's a place where I find myself when I need to lose myself.

Alice Sebold

Thursday, March 19, 2015 12:30 pm

Rockcliffe Park CC

Going Green with Doug King

Are you tired of bugs and insects ruining your garden – not to mention your investment in it? If so, mark your calendars now for March 19, when Doug King of “Make It Green” shows us the importance of an organic approach to gardening. He will also guide us through the good, the bad and the ugly of the insect world



Japanese beetle

and give us some practical pointers on environmentally friendly solutions. And yes, after Doug’s talk, there will be time for Q and A’s. So, get ahead of the game for summer and

join us for this informative presentation!

Doug has presented and promoted organic gardening alternatives for over 20 years. He continues to support proven products while constantly researching and trialing new ones.



Aphids

His company, “Make It Green”, is a full-line garden centre. Doug and his team of professionals pride themselves on personal service and offer a plethora of products and advice on organic approaches to managing your garden. For more information go to: www.makeitgreen.ca

Photo Competition – Voting

When you arrive at this meeting, enjoy the display of photos submitted by our members, and please take the time to vote for your favourites! Winners will be announced at the end of the meeting.

Grass is just a flower bed in waiting.

Anon

Thursday, April 16, 2015

Rockcliffe Park CC

Edible Landscaping - Tina Liu

Gardeners often include annual flowers in their vegetable gardens as pest repellents, for their edible properties or simply to add some colour. If you start appreciating the natural plant form of vegetables, you’ll find that their foliage and texture can be just as decorative as standard garden plants!

In this presentation, Tina will talk about how to combine vegetables with the right flowers to create a holistic garden design that looks natural, and how to incorporate fruits, berries and herbs into your edible organic backyard garden. Last summer, the use of decorative vegetables grown on public parkland in Ottawa alongside annual flowers drew positive public interest. The vegetables were subsequently donated to two local food banks in the

community, thus garnering positive feedback from the media. Tina Liu is a landscape architect with the National Capital Commission (NCC). She is responsible for the design of the Ottawa



Tina Liu

Tulip Festival and all floral displays of the Capital Floral Program, which consists of over 100 planting beds (14,000 m²) and 300 planters in the Capital Region. Tina worked on multi-disciplinary projects internationally and domestically in the private sector for over 10 years before she joined the NCC in 2010. Her experience in design ranges from residential backyard gardens to National Park master planning. Her gardening motto is “natural but manicured, dramatic as needed”. She appreciates plants for their natural shapes and texture, not just for the colours of their blooms, and often experiments with new cultivars and hybrids to create innovative designs in public parklands.

Thursday, May 21, 2015 12:30 pm

Rockcliffe Park CC

Annual General Meeting

Challenge your garden knowledge and stump the experts!

A panel of gardening experts drawn from our own consultants will share their expertise by answering your gardening questions. Come prepared with your questions on any horticulture topic!

10th Annual Foster Plant reports

At the November, 2014 meeting, six lucky members – Heather McAdam, Joan Drummond, Peggy Morgan, Marion Robertson, Grace Strachan and Sally Hutchison were selected by lottery to take over the care and nurturing of a plant. The participants will bring their plants to the meeting and recount their experiences, whether tragic or triumphant. Each caregiver will receive a fabulous gift for her efforts.



HIGHLIGHTS OF FALL MEETINGS

Our Fall season featured inspiring talks from two local gardeners who have both in their different ways transformed unpromising areas of the rugged Ontario landscape and turned them into something beautiful and unique.

In October we heard from Judy Wall, who became an expert in alpines and rockery plants after leaving a career in high tech to follow her passion. She established Rock Wall Gardens on three sides of a ruined dairy barn on top of a hill in the drought zone between the Tay and Mississippi Rivers - an extremely harsh and exposed environment. As she told us, preparing the site was worse than starting with a blank slate, having to first haul 17 truckloads of rubbish out of the old barn ruins! Over the years she has built up an impressive series of beds studded with rocks, the soil ranging from very lean to moderately lean. She does not water, so in these conditions it is essential that plants be self sufficient.



Rock Wall Gardens



Plants growing exuberantly against the old barn walls

What an inspiring number of plants can tolerate this tough life! Spiky, hairy, leathery, succulent, super-slow growing or miniature – all have developed intriguing ways of adapting to harsh conditions. To our surprise, we learnt that there are many varieties of hardy cactus, and also that the exotic-seeming and gloriously blue gentian (*Gentiana acaulis*) grows happily among the rocks. Sedums thrive here of course, as do sempervivums, saxifrages and creeping thyme, this last being one of the plants useful for holding soil on steep dry slopes. There are too many more to mention, but Judy supplied us with a comprehensive list, which she is happy to make available to anyone who is interested in learning more about this world of stalwart survivors. Also check out her website at: www.rockwallgardens.com

The October meeting also featured our traditional harvest table, with delicious offerings from many members, and a beautiful Fall arrangement created by Victoria Hutton. As well, the Boutique was in the spotlight with a creative display of the items available for sale, followed by a "pop-up Fashion Show" demonstrating the many ways the golf and denim shirts can be worn!

Felicity Garrard

In November, Dave Dunn, from Rideau Woodland Ramble, near Burritt's Rapids, explained how design considerations have shaped the seven acres of display gardens that he and his partner Rob Caron have created over the last 15 years. The most important goal is to create an experience that will evoke peace, reflection, surprise, humour, inspiration, anticipation and a sense of time. A key prerequisite is to know your plants and your site - which areas are sunny or shady, snowy or dry.



L to r - Fashionistas Helen Clark, Joan Sirrs, Kelly Noel, Felicity Garrard, Joan Drummond, Victoria Hutton, Heather Brown, June Norgaard, Mary Mahoney and Jane Little



A glorious red maple providing colour at the Rideau Ramble

focal point for view corridors. Dave's interesting and informative talk certainly inspired many of us to visit The Ramble (<http://www.rideauwoodlandramble.com>) and to put his ideas into action in our own gardens.

Helen Clark



EPISODIC VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The sharing of a cup of tea or coffee with an old friend or new is one of the things that makes attending the OGC meetings so enjoyable. Each month, volunteers provide treats, set tables, and help with the clean up – all for the benefit of everyone attending.

Joan Sirrs, Chair of the Hospitality Committee, is looking for what she calls "episodic" volunteers, who can help out periodically at one or two meetings. "I just need a list of people who I can call upon to help out when needed", she says.

If you are able to join the hospitality team on an occasional basis, please contact Joan Sirrs at: 613-733-6552, or email her at jsirrs@sympatico.ca.

Thank you!

SEPTEMBER MEETING AT WILLOWSTONE FARM

The cloudy skies and unseasonably cool weather did not deter a large group of members from visiting Victoria and David Hutton's beautiful property in Acton's Corners on September 12th. Our hosts had clearly been hard at work getting it into shape for our arrival and we were all agog as we walked down the drive from the barn. Everywhere we looked, there was "eye candy"—a wonderful harvest display to the right of the driveway, sweeping flowerbeds still full of colour, imaginatively planted containers, not to mention the pond, the gazebo and the fields behind.

Coffee was waiting for us when we arrived and was much appreciated as we gathered around to listen to words of welcome from our President, Cindy Boucher, and Program Committee Chair, Chris



Intrepid judges June Norgaard and Renée Smith

Edwards. Victoria then set out the rules of engagement for the floral competition. She had very cleverly come up with three categories, based on titles of songs from the seventies – "*Take a Walk on the Wild Side*", "*Sunny Days*", and "*I Will Survive*". She gave us generous guidelines as to where we could pick our materials and we were given a 45-minute time line to collect items and create our masterpieces. Many set off in different directions along some of the beautiful walkways created by our hosts, to gather flowers, grasses, seed heads and whatever else tickled our imaginations. Once the creations had been put together in the barn, they were ready to be judged by our own



Our gracious hostess, Victoria Hutton

expert gardeners and floral arrangers, Renée Smith and June Norgaard. They had a difficult job but they managed to come up with the following winners:

"Take a Walk on the Wild Side": 1. Charlotte Ward, 2. Diane Henning, 3. Sally Hutchison

"Sunny Days": 1. Bev Hyde, 2. Kelly Noel, 3. Pauline Yelle, Honourable Mention: Joan Sirrs

"I Will Survive": 1. Eleonore Wnendt (Germany) and Maria de la Rica de Gomez-Mugica (Spain), 2. Pauline Yelle, 3. Pat Sylvester.



Maria de la Rica and Eleonore Wnendt constructing their winning joint effort

After all this work, we were ready for lunch! One group brought a shared picnic (that included



Pauline Yelle with her sunny creation

soup!) which they enjoyed sitting under the elm tree. Others brought more humble offerings or enjoyed treats prepared by Victoria and other members of the executive, sitting at tables spread throughout the property or huddled around a heater in the gazebo. It was a delightful ending to a most enjoyable day. Many thanks to David and Victoria for so graciously hosting this event, to our judges, June and Renée, to Marianne Feaver, who once again made the beautiful hand-

painted prize winning bookmarks, and to the Program Committee for their hard work.

Sally Hutchison

LUNCHEON FOR DIPLOMATS AND NEW MEMBERS

One of the key objectives of the Ottawa Garden Club is to extend the hand of friendship to the diplomatic community. Indeed, back in 1961, the club was founded by Lady Fowler, wife of the British High Commissioner, along with Mrs. Frankie Rochester from Ottawa, to give diplomats an opportunity to meet Canadians with a common interest.

The tradition continues to this day and was never more evident than at the fall luncheon to honour diplomats and new members to the club. In early October, President

Lucinda Boucher warmly welcomed diplomats from 15 countries to the annual event held at her home on Kingsmere Lake, in

Gatineau Park. And in truly bringing the club full circle, this year's record turnout can be attributed to the work of our Diplomatic Representative Gill Drake, spouse of the British High Commissioner, who extended the invitation to the diplomatic community. Cindy and the executive also welcomed three new

members, Ann Goldsmith, Heather McAdam and Grace Strachan, who were present that day. Unfortunately, new member Claire Schofield was unable to attend.

It was a wonderful day as fall colours were at their peak and the fire burned brightly in the woodstove. With very few formalities to the occasion, everyone was able to relax and visit with each other over a delicious lunch prepared by the executive.

Heather Brown



Ritva Murto (Finland) and Penny Tucker (New Zealand)



Gill Drake and Cindy Boucher



New member Grace Strachan and Yan Lee (Korea)

Happiness is to hold flowers in both hands.

Japanese Proverb

WELL WORTH THE VISIT

The Butchart Gardens, now a National Historic Site, is a real jewel, which I visited for the first time this summer. Not only is it nestled in majestic cedars, firs and Arbutus trees in the forests of Vancouver Island, but the horticultural skill displayed there at the hands of its 65 gardeners is hard to beat. While the garden has a reputation for housing thousands of bedding-out plants (brightly coloured annuals) it is much more than that. There are pleasing and interesting plant combinations everywhere, both annual and perennial, and every corner allows you to discover the unusual and rare as well, including the Himalayan Blue Poppy. It is a treat for gardeners and non-gardeners alike!



Part of the perennial gardens near the Rose Garden.



These lacecap Hydrangeas with their jewel colours light up the more shady areas of the garden in August.

the perennial borders, the large, dancing fountain, the Rose Carousel, the Italian Garden, collections of dahlias, hydrangeas and fruit trees, and a

grassy area set aside for concerts and fireworks. It goes on and on... The history of the place is fascinating; Jennie Butchart built the evocative Japanese Garden first, over 100 years ago, then began work to transform an abandoned quarry resulting from her husband's Portland cement business. Stories abound of her being lowered down the vertical walls of the quarry to poke tiny plants into the crevices, plants which are there still, now completely covering the rock face. She then added more and more gardens as the years passed. This 55-acre garden is still proudly run by Jennie's descendants who continue her attention to detail and to bringing beauty to a million visitors each year.



First glimpse of the Sunken Garden. The combination of colour and texture is a feast for the eyes as well as the soul.

The most spectacular areas of the garden are, to my mind, the Sunken Garden, which takes your breath away as you unexpectedly see it spread before you after making a turn in the forest, and the Japanese Garden, which must be even more extraordinary in the fall when a plethora of Japanese Maples are showing colour. But then there is the Rose Garden,



The formal Rose Garden is edged with boxwood and surrounds a tranquil lawn. Archways and trellises move the roses to another dimension, as do the standard roses.

Words and photos by Mary Pratte

A SPANISH CHRISTMAS

This year, Maria de la Rica, the wife of the Spanish Ambassador, kindly hosted our annual Christmas Party at her home in Rockcliffe. The festive mood was enhanced by fresh snow, bright sunshine and a very good turnout of members. We were greeted in the hall by Maria, Gill Drake, our Diplomatic Representative and President Cindy Boucher, and we



Cindy Boucher and Gill Drake

day of the Epiphany, is a particularly special time, with the arrival of the "Magic Kings", or Wise Men, bearing gifts. Children write letters to the Kings, assuring them of good behaviour and asking for gifts. On the eve of Epiphany, children leave *Cava* (or sparkling wine) out for the Kings, water for their camels, and one shoe for their presents. On the day itself, each town organizes *cabalgatas*, big parades, with the Kings (throwing sweets from their thrones), their servants, camels and other traditional figures. This is a very special time for Spanish children.

Cindy thanked Maria for hosting us and for all her hard work in preparing for this lovely occasion. As per Maria's wish, in lieu of a hostess gift, the Garden Club will be making a donation to TIPS (Thinking in Pictures Educational Services), which provides support for autistic children.



Claudette Hamad, Maria Yeganian and Florence Liautaud

headed back out into the snow full of good cheer from Maria's generous hospitality. Many thanks from us all for a lovely afternoon.



Our hostess Maria de la Rica (r) with Helen Clark and Peggy Morgan

then mixed and mingled in the large and light-filled reception rooms, admiring the pretty views of the wintry garden. Maria made a speech expressing her gratitude to Gill for her support, and to Cindy and Victoria for creating the beautiful decorations. She went on to tell us about Christmas in Spain. While Christmas Eve and Day are celebrated, January 6, the



Mary Ann de Chastelain and Anstace Esmonde-White

After we had sung some carols with great gusto, more Spanish tradition followed, with a magnificent lunch of *tapas* from every region of Spain. The enormous white cloth on the long dining room table was adorned with Spain's coat of arms, and the table held a huge array of dishes. Ratatouille with quail eggs, seafood dishes of all kinds, spicy meatballs and lentil soup were among the many delicious items, all accompanied by red and white Spanish wines. For dessert, we were offered traditional sweets, like *alfajores* (sweet pastries), *torrijas* (egg custard squares), orange and pineapple spears, and various types of nougat. The party ended with a rousing rendition of *Happy Birthday* to Anstace, who was celebrating her 95th birthday. We

Helen Clark

THE LARRY AND ANSTACE ESMONDE-WHITE AWARD

We are very pleased that this year's Larry and Anstace Esmonde-White award will be presented at our February meeting to **Sarah Shapiro**. Sarah is a student in the Horticultural Industries Program at Algonquin College and spent a couple of months this past summer doing a co-op placement at the Perley with horticultural therapist, Barb Brown. While she was there she worked with Garden Club members in the Rideau Courtyard gardens. Those of us who got to know her were most impressed with her maturity, her hard work and reliability and were delighted to see her blossom and develop confidence over the time she was there. We feel she is a most worthy recipient.

Below are Sarah's (edited) answers to a few questions Sally Hutchison asked her:

Q. What started your interest in horticultural therapy?

A. I discovered the field of Horticulture Therapy (HT) through searching online. I was instantly drawn in due to the fact that many of my interests – nature, helping people, environmental activism, natural healing and working outdoors – were represented within this career.

Q. How did you go about finding your co-op position at the Perley?

A. One of the graduation requirements for my program is to complete 40 hours of community service. Through an advertisement at school, I discovered Barbara Brown and her work at the Perley in HT. I was so impressed with her work that I chose to switch my level of commitment to a co-op placement. Working in the gardens allowed me to connect with staff members, volunteers and residents, providing close relationships and business connections.

Q. What aspects of your time at the Perley did you most enjoy?

A. I especially enjoyed the people I had the privilege of working with, particularly the veterans and residents in the dementia care unit. I also enjoyed the invitation to initiate a 7-week long HT program, with help from staff and volunteers. Through this, I gained an awareness of the many challenges associated with starting a new program, but overall it was a valuable learning experience.

Q. Once you have finished your diploma in Horticultural Industries at Algonquin, what will you have to do to become a certified horticultural therapist?

A. The requirements can vary depending on the type of certification one wishes to obtain - that is, Registered Horticultural Therapist (HTR) or Horticultural Therapist Technician (HTT). An HTR certification requires an accumulation of ten points whereas an HTT only requires seven. Both certifications require educational and practical elements. Before filling out an application for either, one needs to be a member of the Canadian Horticulture Therapy association (CHTA) for a minimum of one year. I am currently looking into obtaining a Horticulture Therapy certificate at the Catkin Gardens in Vancouver, BC. This program comprises four levels which make up 160 hours of classroom instruction and tutorials and 40-60 hours of fieldtrips and supervised projects. This certificate would add some points toward either an HTT or HTR. After that I could receive the remainder of my points through activities such as paid employment in the field, related publications, and attending CHTA sponsored workshops and conferences.

Additional information on the application process can be found on the CHTA website - www.chta.ca

Sally Hutchison



Sarah Shapiro tending the Perley garden

We would welcome more gardeners on our Perley Rideau Gardening Team!

We tend the Rideau North and South Courtyard Gardens every couple of weeks from April to October in groups of 3 or 4. A roster is set up so that each member of our team comes out 5 or 6 times over the season. We all really enjoy these visits, as the Perley is such a warm and welcoming place and it is heartwarming to see how much the courtyards are appreciated by the residents, their families and staff.

***If you are interested in joining us, please call or email Sally Hutchison
613-728-2981 or
sally.hutchison1@gmail.com***

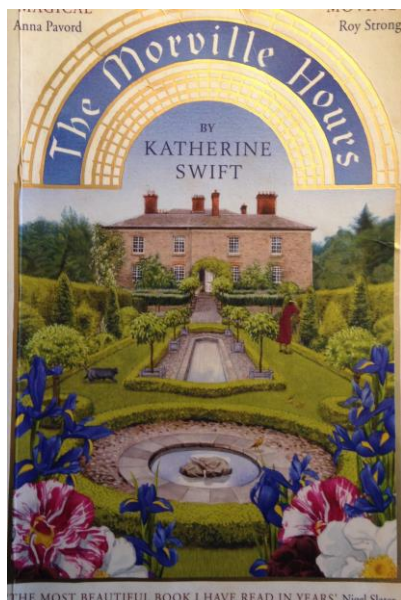
BOOKWORM



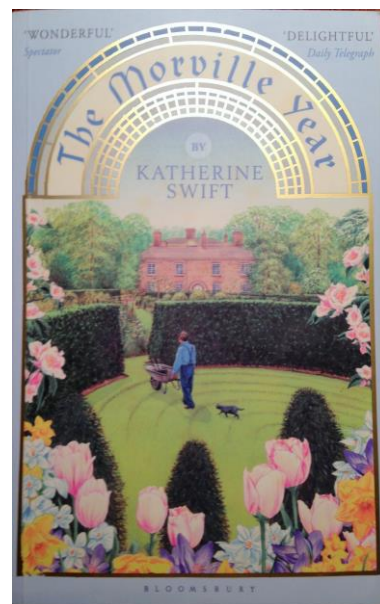
"Bookworm" features short reviews and recommendations of gardening books chosen by the editors as well as, we hope, Garden Club members. We welcome your input, so if you have a favourite book you'd like to share, please send a brief description to either heather_brown@rogers.com or felicity.garrard@gmail.com.

"The Morville Hours" and "The Morville Year" by Katherine Swift

Published by Bloomsbury, London



It's hard to know where to begin in describing these two beautiful books. One of the most admired British gardening writers of her generation, Katherine Swift chronicles, in poetic and scholarly detail, the life of the garden she created over a span of 20 years in the grounds of the Dower House at Morville, Shropshire. The first book, "The Morville Hours" takes the form of a medieval Book of Hours; illuminated manuscripts derived from the Divine Office recited in monasteries that divided the day into prayer intervals - from Vigils at dawn to Compline at dusk. The hours of the day are paralleled by the turning seasons of the year, each with its own special significance and particular characteristics.



The second book again follows the course of a year in the garden, from Spring to Spring, and both are journals full of wonderful surprises and enchantments, meditating on everything from the terrain and its history, to the plants and trees and the odd habits of the animals and humans who inhabit the garden. You will learn dozens of fascinating facts, from the anatomy of a rosebud to the history of sundials to the intricacies of lichen biology. Like the prose, the cover illustrations are as rich and intricate as ancient manuscripts, making these two books in every way a joy to own.

Felicity Garrard



HOW TO SPONSOR A NEW MEMBER

If you have a friend you think might be interested in joining our Garden Club, this is what to do:

1. Any member can invite a guest to a meeting (except the December tea) but you must be a member for two full years before you may sponsor a potential new member and you may only nominate one per year.
2. Invite your friend to attend a meeting. Make sure to tell president Cindy Boucher (lucindaboucher@gmail.com or 819-827-2050) in advance so she can introduce your guest – this is important so that there is a record of her attendance as a guest. Prospective members must have attended at least two meetings as a guest before they can be nominated for membership. Remember that there is a \$5 guest fee.
3. Obtain a nomination form from membership chair Peggy Morgan (peggymorgan440@gmail.com). This should be completed and submitted to Peggy (440 Athlone Avenue, Ottawa K1Z 5M7) AFTER the candidate has attended two meetings and BEFORE the end of March each year. Note that this form requires the signature of the sponsor, a co-sponsor and the candidate.
4. New members are admitted by the executive at its April meeting each year. The membership chair will inform those who have been accepted. The new members will be introduced at the AGM in May. They will also be honoured at a special luncheon later in the year, usually October.
5. Nominations received after the end of March will be held over until the following year.
6. The number of new members admitted each year depends on the total number of members in the club.