

BEESTON U3A GARDEN VISITS GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 11th November 2015

WELCOME: Sandra welcomed everyone to the meeting including Cheryl (a new member), Anita (visitor) and members of the Practical Gardening group.

PRACTICAL GARDENING GROUP: Margaret reminded members that the next meeting of the Practical Gardening group will be held on Monday, 14th December when members will make Christmas wreaths followed by Christmas nibbles which will be provided by the Committee.

HEMLOCK GARDEN CLUB: The monthly meetings of the Hemlock Garden Club will be their Annual General Meeting on Thursday, 19th November at Bramcote Memorial Hall.

SOUTHWELL APPLE DAY: Several members had attended the event and felt it was well worth the journey to Southwell despite the appalling weather.

GARDENS OF WALES 2016: All 24 single rooms have now been taken and Sandra asked members to stay behind at the end of the meeting to pay their deposit.

DECEMBER MEETING: Members were asked to bring a sharing plate for the fuddle in December.

SUMMER SCHOOL AT BRACKENHURST COLLEGE: Barbara Selwood gave a short summary of the residential summer school being held at Brackenhurst from 16th – 19th August 2016. Leaflets were available with more details and booking form.

PLANT SALE: Pam confirmed the annual Christmas plant sale at University Park will be held w/c 14th December. Further details to follow.

JANUARY MEETING: Sandy suggested a DVD on the creation of the Eden project.

FEBRUARY MEETING: Speaker, Chris Margrave from Clumber Park, will give a talk on the walled garden. (Joint meeting with the Practical Gardening group.)

MEMBERS OPEN GARDENS: Sadly Sue Cotton has had to cancel the groups planned visit to her garden in the summer of 2016 due to an infestation of honey fungus. Sandy asked if anyone else would be prepared to host a visit from the group.

SPECIAL EVENT 9TH – 28TH NOVEMBER: Photography and painting exhibition at Beeston Library by U3A member Norma Fenton and her friend Janet Davison.

Sandra then introduced Glenn Springthorpe and John Simpson from Woodthorpe Grange Park. Glenn is the Nursery Manager and his team provide the vast majority of flowers and plants used for Nottingham in Bloom. The nursery alone provides half a million plants each year. John is one of the national judges for Britain in Bloom and between them they educated and entertained us with behind the scenes stories of the preparations for this annual event. One of the local success stories is the Meadows an area previously neglected which, over the past few years, has been planted with planters and hanging baskets enabling them to win several awards. Glenn said a plant shop will shortly be opening at the park from 9.00 – 3.00 from Saturday 28th November to Wednesday, 23rd December with a Festive Family Fun Day being held on 12th December.