

# SNAPE GARDENING CLUB - NEWS

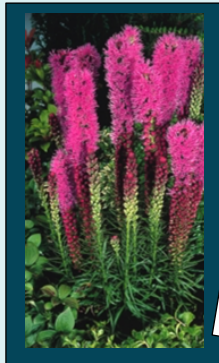
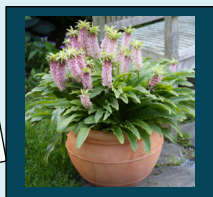
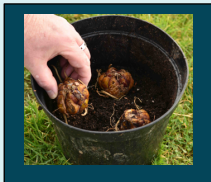


ISSUE NO 32 | FEBRUARY 2025 |

Here we go with our first edition of 2025! Although sunny, warm days meandering in the garden feel an age away, our gardens are already starting their work for the year. With the daffodils growing well and the snowdrops and crocus starting their performance, there are plenty of signs of action.....on a gloomy day make sure to pause and take a minute to admire these tough first flowers of the year. So, many jobs done now make way for a fine show in the later months.....I understand that the snow, frost and storms are a bit of a spanner in the works, but if you've procrastinated with the tool cleaning or you need to order in those dahlia corms.....now is the time!.....happy reading everyone x

**SUMMER FLOWERING BULBS – It may seem early but you are giving the bulb a great start to their Summer show.**

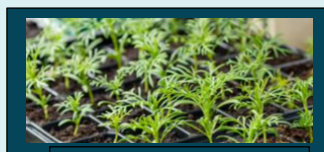
Set them off in a container to give protection from wet, cold earth.



Crocus in the bottom for drainage. Plant into a free draining compost & water well.

As temperatures rise they'll burst into life & not be sulking in the sodden ground. Transplant after the frosts or leave in the pot!. Try with liatris, eucomis & lilies

**SEEDS FOR SUMMER COLOUR – IF YOU HAVE A SUNNY WINDOWSILL, PROPOGATOR, COLD FRAME ETC THEN SOW A 1<sup>ST</sup> CAST OF COSMOS, MARIGOLDS, AGASTACHE OR SALVIA.....SOW AGAIN IN MARCH FOR SUCCESSIONAL FLOWERING. TRANSPLANT AFTER THE FROSTS.**



## WHAT'S INSIDE THIS MONTHS ISSUE.....

- AROUND THE WORLD
- DO YOU KNOW THE ANSWER – *winter special?*
- JOBS TO DO

PLUS SO MUCH MORE...

 [DEARWORZEL@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DEARWORZEL@GMAIL.COM)

Send us a photo, recommend a place to visit or have a query we'll do our best to help.....

- GIVE IT A TRY –

[dearworzel@gmail.com](mailto:dearworzel@gmail.com)





**Do you know the answer  
– Winter Special?**

- a) Wakehurst is home to the tallest living Christmas tree.....what is the height?.....12m...20m...37m...56m
- b) In the wild alpine plants are dormant in the Winter. How do they stay dry & protected from extreme temperatures?.....a) grow deep underground...b) By forming a colony with other alpins...c) by being buried under the snow
- c) These berries can be found growing on which tree in winter?



*(answers on the next page)*

*Just a gentle reminder that the  
2025 gardening club  
membership fees are now  
due.....*

*£10 for the year up to 31<sup>st</sup> Dec*

*£5 for each meeting attended*



*Here's an update from our neighbours at the garden centre.....exciting things to go and have a browse.....don't forget your membership card for the 10% discount*

### **Thorp Perrow Garden Centre: "New Year, New Layout" and "Roses Coming Home!"**

As we finally see the back of January there is the usual sense of optimism and anticipation with the start of a new gardening year and Spring just visible on the horizon. Here at Thorp Perrow Garden Centre we are busy reshaping the site to make it as plant-friendly as possible for the new season. Seed potatoes, Spring bedding, early Alpines and herbs will soon join our selection of potted bulbs on our benches. We are also clearing our remaining packs of spring-flowering bulbs for just £1 each.

And in other news .... Harkness Roses are coming home to Bedale! We will be taking delivery of a range of lovely roses in early February. Harkness Roses, now based in Hertfordshire, was established in Bedale in 1879 by brothers John and Robert Harkness and the roses were firm favourites of Queen Victoria.

We look forward to seeing all our green-fingered friends and chatting about all things horticultural!

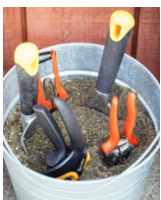
Trevor, Ruth, Nathan and Penny xxx

Thorp Perrow, Bedale, North Yorkshire DL8 2PS  
Tel: 07976 281738  
Email: [hello@thorpperrowgardencentre.co.uk](mailto:hello@thorpperrowgardencentre.co.uk)

**OPEN 7 DAYS  
A WEEK**

**Tool Cleaning** – I'm not convinced there's a person around that diligently cleans their tools after every use.....but now is the time to get them ready for the next season & also reduce the risk of spreading infection around the garden!

- Strong detergent, hot water and a good scrub to get rid of sap and muddy build up.
- After drying with a cloth, sharpen the blades with a whetstone, file or take them to a local professional.
- A drop of oil on hinges & moving parts.
- Wipe the blades with isopropyl alcohol to disinfect and a smear of WD40 or similar.



Set up a "tool cleaning station" – A bucket of sharp sand mixed with 3-in-one oil to make a "damp" consistency and after use plunge your tools into this gritty spa to protect their finish and keep them rust free.



**Attention  
All!!!**

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm and is with local horticulturalist Keeley Metcalfe as she discusses "Garden Designs for Small Gardens" .....who doesn't love a new idea for introducing something different!

**- Don't Forget -**

**Do register your interest with David about the Breezy Knees trip in June & the RHS show at Wentworth Woodhouse in July**

IT'S TOO EARLY FOR A TIPTOE THROUGH THE TULIPS BUT YOU COULD GAMBOL THROUGH THE GALLANTHUS ON A CRISP FEBRUARY DAY.....& MOST HAVE A COFFEE & CAKE OPPORTUNITY! I'VE PICKED OUT SOME OF YORKSHIRES FINEST FOR YOU ALL TO VISIT.....

Goldsburgh Hall HG5 8NR

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Feb

11am-4pm

£7.50 per adult

100  
different  
species!



Tudor Croft Gardens  
Guisborough TS14 8DL  
8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> Feb

11am-3pm

£10 per adult

Member  
Recommendation!!

Burton Agnes  
YO25 4NE  
1<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb  
11am-4pm  
Garden Admission  
Price Applies  
(tel if its windy!  
01262 490324)



**Hornby Castle  
Snowdrop Walk**  
Delicious Tea & Cakes at St Mary's Church  
16<sup>th</sup> February 2025  
Tickets from 1pm - 4pm  
Parking at Hornby Castle DL8 1NQ. Dogs on leads welcome.  
Adults £7.50. Children under 16 free  
For the work of St Mary's. Any donations welcome

**FEBRUARY JOBS TO BE GETTING ON WITH.....**

Reposition any deciduous trees/shrubs if the soil isn't frozen or waterlogged

Clean & sharpen tools & check the mower etc is in good working order

Deadhead Winter pansies to stop them setting seed and it will encourage a new flush of flowers as the weather starts to warm up

Prune Summer flowering clematis towards the end of Feb

Chit 1<sup>st</sup> early potatoes

Prune Winter flowering jasmine after flowering. Cut back previous year's growth to 5cm from old wood

Remove leaves with hellebore leaf spot



Order seeds, plug plants, onion sets & asparagus crowns ready for Spring planting

Trim deciduous hedges before the birds start nesting

Prune Autumn fruiting raspberry canes to the ground

Trim Winter flowering heathers as the flowers disappear

Prune wisteria by cutting back Summer side shoots to 2 - 3 buds

Prune blackcurrant, gooseberries & redcurrants to keep a productive framework

Force rhubarb plants for an early crop

Lift & divide snowdrops whilst they "are in the green"

If the ground isn't frozen, prepare seed beds - dig out perennial weeds, fork in plenty of compost & cover with fleece, polythene or cloches

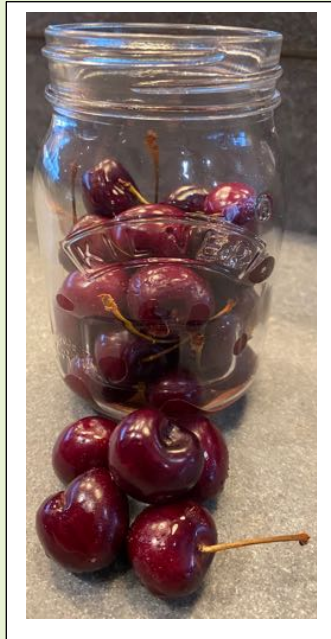
Remove yellowing leaves from brassicas to prevent downy mildew spread

Do you know the answer? A. 37m B. Buried in the snow C. Rowan (sorbus aucuparia)

**\*\*\* TOP TIP THAT WORKS \*\*\***

*Are you fed up of growing or buying soft fruits that go mouldy in 1 - 2 days?*

I decided to give this method a go & best of all it works! These cherries were bought on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2024.....washed following the recipe below & stored in an airtight jar in the fridge.....this is how they looked on the 26<sup>th</sup> January.....tip top condition & no taste change! (I know there's a vinegar version etc but its smelly & there's an aftertaste) Works with raspberries, strawberries & blackberries.....give it a go & let me know how you get on!



**Citric Wash**

2 teaspoons of lemon juice

400mls water

- Mix the lemon juice & water together
- Submerge the fruits & leave for up to a minute
  - Drain
- Put into an airtight container - date
  - Refrigerate
- Be Very Pleased With Yourself x



Journeys around the world.....To brighten up these last Winter months immerse yourselves in these stunners, from a members trip to the Philippines.....thank you for sending them in x

