



# COLINTON GARDEN CLUB

## NEWSLETTER

Newsletter No 139  
April 2022

**Next Members'  
meeting: Monday  
25<sup>th</sup> April at 8.00 pm  
(Dreghorn Hall)**



**More orchids – and  
other plants and  
gardens – at  
[colintongardens.org.uk](http://colintongardens.org.uk)**

**Dear Members**

Welcome to our Spring Newsletter!

I am sure you will find the contents of great interest - it reflects the fact that despite the huge disruption of covid, and a loss of continuity in our hard-working committee, that your Garden Club is still in good shape and looking forward to a more 'normal' summer.

Our 2022 Zoom talks, first on greenhouse maintenance,

then the three members presentations evening, were very well received. Your Club now has a Group membership of the National Vegetable Society, and we have had an article about our club accepted for the Scottish Gardener's Forum, to which we are affiliated.

Fertilizer and compost deliveries achieved very efficiently too: we are looking to ensuring future supplies are peat free.

As I write, Billy Carruthers is due to be our first speaker back in the Dreghorn Hall, at the end of March. Not only do we look forward to his expert presentation on peonies but he will be bringing plants to sell. The daffodil outing to Cringletie is soon to take place (now fully subscribed) and details of the May evening outing are on page 2.

At the end of April we hold our AGM, again in the hall, together with an exhibition aptly titled 'A New Dawn' - featuring members work of any sort, created during lockdown. I am looking forward to a fascinating selection. See advert below.

Then we have our **Open Gardens** Saturday morning visits, plant sale and coffees and teas on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2022** - we would appreciate donations of plants for the plant stall. Later in June, we will have the much-anticipated summer outing to The Borders – full details on page 3 of the newsletter.



### Annual General Meeting

and

### Members' Exhibition

*'A New Dawn'*

*End-of-Year Reports and Election of Committee, followed by refreshments and an exhibition of members' art/crafts.  
Please bring along your creations for display (along with a description of your source of your inspiration!)*



**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022. 8.00pm.**

Dreghorn Loan Hall

/cont. from page 1...

No club can operate without members who are willing to join in and help- it has been difficult to get to know members during lockdown, but we know there are lots of talented and interested people amongst the membership, so do please contact any committee member should you be interested.

Now to gardening matters! Generally it has been a mild winter but the strong winds have been damaging. Huge trees blown down in Spylaw Park and along the Water of Leith: no doubt similar damage in members gardens. Nature (including climate change) in action....

Hopefully all those bulbs bought at the Autumn sale have now started blooming, cheering our hearts.

Members of our club maintain the Colinton Library garden- did you know that? And other members volunteer with the CVE maintaining the planters around our village, others help with maintaining the steps planting. What a difference it all makes to the pleasures of living here.

The first supply of wood chippings has been distributed, and another member contributed two lovely composters. Don't forget we stock garden equipment for your use too – scarification anyone?

Not much room to discuss environmental issues - but garden noise is quite an issue, both to us humans and to other life around us. Could we do more to keep the garden noise level down?

With very best wishes

*Penny McKee*

**Evening visit to Shepherd House Garden, Inveresk: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May. 6.30pm – 8.00pm approx.**

*Wander through the fabulous private garden of Charles and Ann Fraser – with a glass of wine in hand!*



**\*Limited numbers - registration required \*Self-drive; car sharing possible\* £5.00 donation collected on the night**

Our evening outing in May this year will be a visit to Shepherd House Garden near Musselburgh. CGC will supply wine and soft drinks and there will also be an opportunity to buy cards and prints of Lady Fraser's botanical illustrations. A charitable donation of £5pp will be collected on the night. We will make our own way there (car sharing encouraged!)

Our hosts have requested a maximum of 50 people in the group, so a registration process will operate. This will be on a strictly first-come-first-served basis. The first 50 members who email their interest to our Outings Officer will be invited to attend, and a waiting list will be set up for any other places. Further details will be emailed to those whose place on the list is confirmed. [www.shepherdhousegarden.co.uk](http://www.shepherdhousegarden.co.uk)

Please e-mail [outings@colintongardens.org.uk](mailto:outings@colintongardens.org.uk) to register

## Campbell Park update

For some time there has been a community desire to improve pedestrian access into and throughout Campbell Park. Parks Officer Craig Dunlop has been working on proposals which would include a 1.8 tarmac footpath connecting Woodfield Avenue with Campbell Park Avenue and offering a link to the pavilion and play area. An additional 3 meter wide path from the Woodhall Road to play area would serve as both vehicle access for maintenance and pedestrian route for those entering from this entrance.

The project has been granted parks capital funding and it is hoped that the works will be completed in time for The Big Jubilee Lunch community gala on 2nd June 2022. (Free event from 1-4pm. See the 'Friends of Campbell Park' Facebook page for latest information.)



## BORDERS SUMMER OUTING



**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

*Coach leaves from Westgarth Avenue at 9.00am and returns about 5.30pm*



❖ **Kailzie Gardens, Peebles** ❖

*(including coffee/tea and scones)*

❖ **NTS Harmony and Priorwood Gardens, Melrose** ❖

*(bring a picnic lunch!)*

❖ **Carolside, Earlston** ❖

**£25**

*Places are limited and will be offered on a 'first come first served basis' by email registration*

*Further information including details of how to pay will be sent to successful applicants.*

Email [outings@colintongardens.org.uk](mailto:outings@colintongardens.org.uk) to register

## Forthcoming events

\* **MOSSS Gatherings:** Wanabe 'Musicians of the Soil Soul Society'. Gather at the Pavilion in Campbell Park every Friday between 1-4pm from **1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> October 2022** (weather dependent) for a new free weekly musical meetup hosted by the Friends of Campbell Park. Pavilion toilets will be open.

\* The **Scottish Rock Garden Club** has its annual **Edinburgh Spring Flower Show** on **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April** from 10.30 to 3.30 at Fairmilehead Parish Church

\* The charity **Eric Liddell Centre** ([www.ericliddell.org](http://www.ericliddell.org)) is holding a Plant Sale at Holy Corner on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May**. Organiser Louise Harper is also asking for plant donations which she could collect (tel Louise at 07932 650079)

\* **Big Lunch at Campbell Park on Thursday 2nd June 2022** from 1 to 4 pm! Everyone is invited to a gigantic share picnic in Campbell Park to celebrate The Eden Project's annual BIG LUNCH on 2nd June 2022. CGC are teaming up with the Friends of Campbell Park to plant a tree or two in the park as part of **THE QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY** during the event. Bring gardening gloves! Enter Campbell Park at the west end of Woodhall Road.

\* **CGC Open Gardens morning**, on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June** from 10.30 am till 12.30 pm with tea and coffee and plant sale in the Woodhall Road area. Offers of gardens to visit in the area welcome

\* **Currie Horticultural Society** announce their **Annual Show** on **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August** in Balerno CHS. Colinton Garden Club (CGC) members are invited to submit exhibits as guests. See [www.currieshow.org](http://www.currieshow.org)

**Penny & Ian have been growing kalettes on their allotment – they look interesting!**



**Recipe for Carrageen... Maryrose writes...**

With delicate fronds and a deep pink colour, Irish Moss has a long history in Western cuisine. It is a good gelling agent suited to desserts and savoury dishes alike. It is traditionally used in the treatment of colds. It is harvested by hand where it is cut just above the root to ensure the re-growth of the algae. Maryrose offered this recipe after hearing our talk on Scottish plants by Greg Kernice

**Ingredients**

- \*15g Carrageen Moss
- \* 1 pint of Whole Milk
- \*Lemon rind to taste (depending on preference.. can use sugar, honey, lemon juice, vanilla)

**Traditional way to make it (Irish method):**

1. Briskly stir the Carrageen moss in a bowl of hot water- just a minute or so to remove sea salt).
2. Place the washed Carrageen in a saucepan with the 1 pint of milk & lemon rind and bring to the boil, then let it simmer for about 15 minutes and keep stirring it. You should see it thickening up.
3. Strain the liquid through a sieve and add any flavours/ sweeteners at this stage.
4. Pour into a pudding bowl until it sets and will keep in the fridge for 1 week - serve with a lime-flavoured jelly or a fruit compote.

**Source**

I am new to Scotland and in my online search, did not see many options. For the Irish Carrageen, try [wildirishseaweeds.com](http://wildirishseaweeds.com). For my Gran and Great Aunt in the past- they pulled it off the rocks near the house on the west coast of Ireland...

*Open garden, plant sale & coffee morning in Woodhall Road area on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2022, 10.30 - 12.30 pm. Please consider making donations of plants to sell. Offers of gardens in Woodhall area welcome.*

**Feb 2022 Wordsearch solution**

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**Vegetable tasks in the in-tray (Murdo writes)..**

For the past 10 days the weather's been glorious. Many hours of warmth in the sunshine. But note that word "in". Outwith the sun's rays it is still cool; night temperatures hover slightly above freezing. A cold spell for early April has been forecast. I reckon it is far too early to be planting anything out; but have spent much time in "preparation". The allotment is all dug over, and looks great. (Ready for action!) I enjoy the process of digging but try to resist the urge to do too much in the one go. I'm not a fan of 'no dig', though one of my fellow allotmenters has gone down that route. He's laid a layer of cardboard over his plot, covered with horse manure. Meanwhile, back indoors, my seed potatoes (Desiree) are chitting away nicely; and the two lots of onion sets (Red Baron and Rumba) are laid out airing on trays. I'm going to try growing sweetcorn (Lark F1) this year; and will try some experimentation with my parsnips to hopefully avoid them growing 'fingers and toes'. Fingers crossed on that!

Photos of the gardens we will visit in July at the summer outing – I to r: Harmony/Priorwood, Carolside & Kailzie

