

Hook Gardening Club 2023 Newsletter

What an interesting year we've had it was great to restart our monthly meetings back in January. New Venue & New Day but everyone seems to enjoy monthly get togethers. The change of day has brought several new visitors and well as our familiar ones we are so grateful for everyone's support and patience in getting going again. But we are back and continuing to grow and offer a lovely community village gardening club to our greenfingered visitors. Remember to don't have to live in Hook to come to our meeting we welcome everyone. We don't have an annual membership (like many gardening clubs do) Just invite you to pay as you visit on the door as and when you want to join us. Our Fab raffle is always popular and we are grateful to the horticultural companies that support us and generously donate us raffle prizes.

New for 2024 – just for fun we thought of a new idea – Bring a? To each meeting something different and listed on our programme of meetings.... Like I say just a bit of fun if you don't want to take part you don't have to but you never know you may learn something or teach something with someone else..

Fundraising events – We continue to have our Sat 4th December 2023 Xmas Fundraising stall & Sat 24th February 2024 Pots of Spring Bulbs and cake stall and both at the side of 163 High Street Hook so pop them in your diary 10-12 noon. We also are usually invited to The Stables Christmas Fair too. I have on order now the indoor Hyacinth bulbs that I will be planting into bowls in September and they will be ready to collect 1st week in December but these need to be pre-ordered as I have limited availability usually only 6 bowls (3 bulbs per bowl) at £10 per bowl.

If you came to our Spring bulb stall early this year you will be pleased to hear that a different selection of bulbs will be on offer at our stall next February. I received requests for certain varieties so I have done my best to fulfill everyone's requests when I placed the order last week. We need to Thank Jparker Bulbs who generously send us a gift voucher every year as a donation in return we support them and buy our spring bulbs from them using the gift voucher.

We continue to maintain the Church Garden at St. Mary's Church and the planter in their contemplation garden as well this summer rain has really helped. We

have also donated plants, roses and bulbs to the Newly Rebuilt Hook Village Pinfold (just next to the Hook Village sign down Church Lane) which will be planted up in the autumn.

The Plant stall I have at the side of my cottage throughout the year with plants, cuttings pretty much a selection of all sorts of bits and pieces that villagers drop off has been a huge success so if you've got anything you are digging up or splitting (remember it has to fit in a pot) you are welcome to drop it off but please contact me before hand to make sure I have room alternatively you can always bring it to one of our meetings.

Regarding Meetings throughout the summer considering all the time I spend organising Hook Gardening Club enjoyed the summer break recharging for the new season and also booking speakers for future years and having a few days away. So at this point in time Meetings will continue to run Jan – May and Sept – Nov.