

GREEN FINGERTIPS GARDENING CLUB – 2025 PROGRAMME

All talks are in Sand Hutton and Claxton Village Hall and commence at 7.30pm.
The 2024 annual membership fee is £12 per person and £3 per meeting for guests.
Please pay your membership subscription electronically using the following details;
Barclays Bank plc, Green Finger Tips Club
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When making payment please mark/reference payment with your name(s).

6 Feb York Cemetery - a talk by Clive Dawson

Clive Dawson is an acknowledged expert on York Cemetery and his presentation is titled "An Oasis in the City". He will cover the history of the Cemetery which opened in 1837, discuss its demise in the 1960s and its recovery in the 1980s. In addition, he will describe the buildings, the grounds, the plants and trees and why they were grown.

6 March 'Paradise revisited' - a talk by Peter Mathers

Peter is a widely travelled and experienced speaker and his talk will take us through some of the Royal gardens in Europe, from Eltham Palace to Potsdam and Goldsborough Hall, the home of Mary, Princess Royal in the 1920s, as well as Schönbrunn Palace in Vienna, the incredible gardens in the Royal Greenhouses of Laeken in Brussels, and Osborne House

3 April Tulips - a talk by Teresa Clements, Chair of the RHS Bulbous Plants Committee

Teresa Clements, Chair of the RHS Bulbous Plants Committee, former Secretary of the Wakefield & North of England Tulip Society, will speak about the society's role in the preservation and promotion of Tulips, especially English Tulips, over the past 200 years. An intriguing and fascinating story. Should you be interested there will be an opportunity to visit their annual show in Ossett on Saturday 10th May at 2.30pm

1 May 2.00pm Guided Visit to Harlow Carr Gardens, Harrogate

A guided tour by one of the Garden curators pointing out the Spring flowering features of the garden. Pockets of vibrant spring colour can be found all around the garden, when bulbs including daffodils, tulips, muscari, hyacinth & iris fill the borders & containers. www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/harlow-carr

5 June 2.00pm Garden Visit to Holmfield, Fridaythorpe

A guided visit by the owner to an informal 2 acre family friendly country garden developed from a field since 1988 with lots of different features - mixed borders, a collection of phlomis, productive vegetable, fruit and flowers, bee friendly planting, interesting garden buildings and wire sculptures.

10 July 2.00pm Visit to Stockbridge Technology Centre near Cawood

A guided tour of the Centre by one of the Centre's staff. STC is an independent agricultural and horticultural centre of excellence, supported by both growers and supply sectors of the industry. The centre carries out applied research and development projects that look to maintain soil quality, optimize pest, disease and weed control, crop nutrition, sustainable growing media, encourage biodiversity and developing LED vertical growing systems. www.stockbridgetechnology.co.uk

7 Aug 2.00pm Guided Visit to Homestead Park & Gardens, 40 Water End, Clifton.

The beautiful, award winning 14 acre park at Clifton was given to the people of York by Seebohm Rowntree in 1904. There are many different features and it is known for glorious seasonal displays in its extensive herbaceous, shrub borders and nascent arboretum.

4 Sept Guided Visit to York Cemetery with a tour by Clive Dawson

Following on from the presentation in February, Clive will take us on a guided tour of the Cemetery, visiting headstones, memorials of interest as well as the exotic trees and plants. A number of Lord Mayors are buried here as well as Military Heroes of the past together with other colourful characters. Hopefully there will be a chance to visit the Chapel, a Neoclassical gem at the end of the tour.

2 Oct A Forest of Flowers - a talk by Alwyn Craven

After studying and working in horticulture Alwyn created The Forest of Flowers project on his family farm in Huby near York. The 74 acres of new woodland and wildflower meadows are part of a vision to provide a thriving natural sanctuary for wildlife. Alwyn will talk through the steps taken to create the habitat and the incredible variety of wildlife recorded on-site since. He will also discuss how anyone can support wildlife and biodiversity in their own back garden.

6 Nov Introduction to Bonsai - a talk and demonstration by John Armitage

John has been involved with Bonsai for nearly 40 years, studying in Japan with a top master and working as a professional Bonsai grower. His talk and demonstration will be around creating your own Bonsai from ordinary plants available at a garden centre, pruning, wiring and repotting. He will dispel some myths around Bonsai, relate some of the history and tell stories from his time in Japan. The Bonsai created on the evening will be raffled off.

4 Dec Christmas Lunch Venue tbc