

Bream Gardening Society: Programme 2023

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 [Bream Gardening Society](#)

Further details about all talks, visits and events will be published on a monthly basis.

For any additional information, please contact our **Programme Secretary, Diana Standing**, on **07419 373254**.

Regular meetings:

Our regular meetings are held on the **second Tuesday of the month** at **7.30pm** in Bream, usually in **Bream Sports Club** or the **West Dean Centre** which are both on the High Street.

Meetings are **free for members** to attend and include **free refreshments**.

Non-members are always very welcome to attend, but we do ask for a **£3 donation**.

Garden visits and other events:

Additional admission charges may apply.

When & Where	Talk, Visit or Event
<p>Tuesday, 11th April 7.30 - 9.30pm Bream Sports Club</p>	<p>Talk: Growing Beans - Susan Young Susan will share her enthusiasm for many different types of beans – how she grows, harvests, stores and cooks them. She will bring copies of her book, Growing Beans, and also bean seeds to sell. Just the right time of year to sow.</p>
<p>Saturday, 15th April 10am - 1.30pm St. James' Church Centre, Bream</p>	<p>Willow Weaving Workshop - Clyde Hoare of Wild Wicker Learn traditional methods of basket making and take home your own woven willow obelisk – ideal for supporting flowers and climbing beans. Course fee £27.50. All materials and light refreshments will be provided. Limited places available so booking is essential. Contact Diana.</p>
<p>Saturday, 22nd April 11am - 1pm Bream Sports Club Carpark</p>	<p>Seed Swap Bring bought seeds, saved seeds, plants, bulbs or tubers. Whole or part seed packets. Swap for anything on the table, including heritage seed varieties. If you have no seeds to swap, just leave a small donation to BGS instead.</p>
<p>Saturday, 22nd April Sunday, 23rd April 9.30am - 12.30pm 1 Lynes Cottage, Taynton. GL19 3AP</p>	<p>Workshop: Composting, Soil Work and Testing Ken Power has invited us to take part in a further composting and soil course at his home near Huntley. Ken has an extensive knowledge about all things gardening and how this ties in with nature. A welcoming and friendly place to learn, discuss topics and see methods put into practice. Fully Booked!</p>
<p>Sunday, 30th April Maypole: 1.30pm Walk: 2.30pm The Old Place, Bream. GL15 6EQ</p>	<p>Maypole Fun Join us at 'The Old Place' to celebrate May Day - dance around the maypole and learn the Bean Setters' morris dance. With live music, plant stall and light bites. Guided walk with Geoff Davis - Bream Heritage Walk Outtakes From 'The Old Place', we will head out past the Stoney Stile to Devil's Chapel and Chelfridge before wending back past the Gosling memorial and Buck's Meadow to St James' Church. Geoff will be reading old Forest tales en route. 2.5 miles, easy, 3 stiles, about 2 hrs.</p>

<p>Tuesday, 9th May 7.30 - 9.30pm Bream Sports Club</p>	<p>Talk: Dahlias - Robin Pearce Robin is a retired nurseryman, former chair of the RHS Herbaceous Plant Committee, RHS Floral Judge and Exhibitor. He will give a brief history of dahlias, details of their cultivation, plus a few hints for potential exhibitors at this year's Summer Show. However, much of the talk will cover the new and exciting dahlia cultivars suitable for garden display.</p>
<p>Wednesday, 10th May to Sunday, 14th May tbc</p>	<p>Visit - RHS Malvern Spring Show Small scale, informal trip. Car shares will be organised to allow members to take advantage of our discounted group entry.</p>
<p>Saturday, 27th May Sunday, 28th May 9.30am - 12.30pm 1 Lynes Cottage, Taynton. GL19 3AP</p>	<p>Workshop: Composting, Soil Work and Testing Ken Power's April workshop is now fully booked. However, if there is sufficient demand, he has very kindly offered to repeat this workshop in May. For further details or to arrange a car share, please contact Diana.</p>
<p>Saturday, 10th June tbc Return coach travel from Bream and Lydney</p>	<p>Visit - Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew Our main trip for the year. To include entry into Kew Gardens and optional guided walking tour of the gardens. Special private tour of the herbarium, library and archives - not normally open to the public. Price tbc.</p>
<p>Tuesday, 13th June 7.30 - 9.30pm Bream Sports Club</p>	<p>Talk: Life in The Soil - Ken Power Following last year's very popular talk and workshops about rapid organic composting, Ken is returning to talk to us about soil biology. On first observation, soil may appear as a rather inert material; however, on closer observation, we see that soil is teeming with living organisms. How these organisms impact the soil's properties is a fascinating subject.</p>
<p>June / July tbc</p>	<p>Visit: Tour of members' gardens Trudi Breadman, the winner of an astonishing 7 cups and the Banksian medal at last year's Summer Show, has kindly agreed to let us visit her garden in Bream. If any other member would like to invite the club into their garden for a visit, please get in touch. We are interested in gardens of all shapes and sizes - you don't have to be a cup winner!</p>
<p>Tuesday, 11th July 7.30 - 9.30pm Bream Sports Club</p>	<p>Talk: Bees and Plant Pollination - Val Vivian-Griffiths and Diana Standing Val, our honey judge, will talk about bee and hive products, and the symbiotic relationship between bees and plants. Diana, will then follow up with a short talk about the important relationship between wildflowers and pollinators more generally. Volunteer sign-up for the Summer Show.</p>
<p>Friday, 14th July Return coach travel from Lydney bus station</p>	<p>Visit: David Austin Roses With five themed gardens filled with over 700 rose varieties, these award-winning rose gardens are a sight to behold. Joint visit organised by Lydney and Severnside Flower Club. £20 to cover transport and entry free. Places are limited - please book by 15th May.</p>

<p>Saturday, 29th July tbc Yorkley Community Centre Entries from 11.15am Viewing from 2.30pm</p>	<p>Yorkley Flower and Produce Show Please support Yorkley's third annual show, either as a competitor or as a visitor. An opportunity to show off your early summer vegetables and flowers. Yorkley will be hosting the Battle of the Villages competition this year. If you can contribute any homegrown, homebaked or homemade produce for Bream's entry, please get in touch with a member of the BGS committee.</p>
<p>Tuesday, 8th August 7.30 - 9.30pm Bream Sports Club</p>	<p>Talk - Dean Forest Food Hub The Dean Forest Food Hub is an online farmers market. They aim to support local producers, of all scales, to find an alternative route to the local market. From gardeners with just a few great fruit trees, to small-scale market gardeners and smallholders, to local farmers who currently sell into the supermarket chain. The Food Hub hopes to bring along some of their growers to talk about their experiences and a range of products for us to try. Volunteer sign-up for the Summer Show.</p>
<p>Saturday, 19th August Bream Sports Club</p>	<p>The 158th BGS Summer Show Please support our traditional village show as a volunteer, exhibitor or visitor.</p>
<p>Sunday, 20th August Bream Sports Club</p>	<p>Bream Book Fair Julie Holder, who arranges all of the stalls at our Summer Show, will be using our marquee to hold a book fair in aid of the charity Packed with Love. BGS will be having a stall at the book fair. Please come along to support this event.</p>
<p>Tuesday, 12th September 7.30 - 9.30pm Venue tbc</p>	<p>Talk: The Naturalistic garden, allowing nature to lead the way - Cheryl Cummings After a successful 30-year career as a garden designer, Cheryl now writes and speaks on the nature of our gardens. She will explain how the gardens we make for ourselves can be perfect places for wildlife too.</p>
<p>Saturday, 16th September 10am - 2pm Showell Nurseries SN15 2NU</p>	<p>Visit: Floyds Climbers and Clematis Open Day A lovely drive to a private nursery that specialises in climbers, specifically clematis. On our last visit, we lunched at a local pub and drove on to Avebury to arrive in time for sunset. It was a fabulous day.</p>
<p>Sunday, 8th October The Speech House Grounds GL16 7EL</p>	<p>The Forest Showcase Food Festival BGS will be having a stall at this event again this year. Volunteers will have plenty of time to explore the rest of this delicious festival!</p>
<p>Tuesday, 10th October 7.30 - 9.30pm Venue tbc</p>	<p>Talk: Labour Saving Tools? - Phillip Aubrey Phillip is a retired Director of Birmingham Botanical Gardens and formally a manager with Birmingham Parks Department. He will talk about which tools in the garden truly are labour saving.</p>
<p>Sunday, 15th October tbc Days Cottage, Brookthorpe. GL4 0UT</p>	<p>Visit: Days Cottage Apple Day Celebrate the harvest in beautiful traditional orchards. Apple juice, cider, perry, orchard honey and trees for sale. Hot spiced apple juice and home made cakes. Visit the Gloucestershire Museum Orchard, and walk and talk with local arborist Patrick Baldwin.</p>

<p>7th, 14th or 21st October Brockaran, Blisters Farm, Bream. GL15 6EW</p>	<p>BGS Apple Pressing</p> <p>Louise McGuinness has kindly volunteered to host BGS's own apple pressing day at her fascinating farmstead, Blistors Farm, that is hidden away next to the Scowles. Date will depend upon when her apples are ripe for picking.</p> <p>Please bring along your own fruit for juicing too.</p>
<p>Saturday, 28th October West Dean Centre</p>	<p>BGS Autumn Show</p> <p>Please support our traditional autumn show as a volunteer, exhibitor or visitor.</p>
<p>Tuesday, 14th November 7.30 - 9.30pm Venue tbc</p>	<p>Talk: No Dig Gardening - Cherry Taylor</p> <p>Cherry shares her passion for biodiversity and organic gardening by teaching home gardeners, schools and community gardens about no dig and organic growing methods.</p> <p>Cherry took on a neglected, weedy 1.75 acre garden at Llangattock in 2015. Using no-dig methods, she now has a thriving and productive garden – open for the NGS. Much is said about no dig vegetable growing but Cherry has used no dig methods to establish a flower garden too.</p>
<p>Tuesday, 12th December 7.30 - 9.30pm St. James' Church Centre, Bream</p>	<p>Christmas Bring and Share Supper!</p> <p>Plant-based festive fun -quiz, food, music and tales.</p>
<p>January 2024 tbc</p>	<p>Zoom Talk: Ed Ikin, Director of Wakehurst, RBG Kew</p> <p>Normally BGS takes a break from meetings in January. However, this year, Ed Ikin has very kindly offered to give a talk via Zoom. Ed is the Director of Wakehurst, leading RBG Kew's 535-acre wild botanic garden. He is interested in harnessing ecological approaches to make horticulture more sustainable and using the power of science to understand how landscape functions and inspires visitors.</p> <p>Forest tales - Geoff Davies</p> <p>After his popular performance at last year's Bring and Share Supper, Geoff has kindly offered to host a cosy afternoon reading tales from local Forest Authors.</p>

BGS Membership

Still only £10 per person per year

- Talks and demonstrations given by invited speakers on the second Tuesday of the month.
- Seed and plant swaps. Social events and an annual dinner. Visits to local gardens and guided walks.
- Informative newsletters.
- Seed and compost offers. 10% discount off full-priced items at Coleford Garden Centre.
- Opportunity to help with the garden at the Dean Heritage Centre.
- Affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society — benefits include discounts off entry to RHS gardens.
- Member of the Gloucestershire Federation of Gardening Societies.

We always welcome new members — no gardening experience necessary!

Join at any of our events or contact our Membership Secretary at bgsmembership@outlook.com