

Bream Gardening Society: Programme 2024

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[Bream Gardening Society](#)

Programme Secretary, Diana Standing — 07419 373254

Additional events and visits will be added to the programme throughout the year. Further details will be published in our newsletter, and on our website and Facebook page.

Our **regular meetings** are held on the **second Tuesday of the month** at **7.30pm**.

Our usual venue is **Bream Sports Club** (GL15 6JF, what3words///detergent.manage.trickles). Other venues include the **West Dean Centre** (GL15 6JW, what3words ///dummy.hope.trickled) and **St. James' Church Centre** (GL15 6ES, what3words ///toothpick.puts.gravel).

Meetings are free for members to attend (**non-members, £3**), including refreshments.

Additional admission charges may apply for garden visits and other events.

BGS Membership — only £12 per person per year

When & Where	Talk, Visit or Event
Saturday, 9th March 2pm The Stores, The Butts, Clearwell, GL16 8PW	Fruit Tree Pruning The Stores has a small orchard of small trees in need of a good prune. Guidance will be provided. Novice pruners are welcome as well as those with some experience. If possible, please bring: secateurs or loppers, small or pruning saw, hop up or steps.
Tuesday, 12th March 7pm for 7.30pm Joyford Hill, GL16 7AS	Annual Meal: The Dog and Muffler Booking essential: breamgardeningociety@gmail.com . Lift-shares may be available.
Saturday, 23rd March 10am - 4pm Witherby Room, West Dean Centre	Willow Weaving — Clyde Hoare of Wild Wicker Learn traditional methods of basket making and take home your own basket. Course fee £80.00. All materials and light refreshments will be provided. Limited places available so booking is essential - please contact Diana.
Saturday, 30th March 11am - 1pm Bream Sports Club Carpark	BGS Plant & Seed Stall: Easter Swap or Shop Bring plants, seedlings, cuttings, seeds, bulbs or tubers. Whole or part seed packets. Nothing to swap? No problem, all of the seeds and plants will be available to buy. Packed with Love Easter Coffee Morning with raffle and tombola.
Tuesday, 9th April 7.30 - 9.30pm Bream Sports Club	Talk: Floyds Climbers and Clematis — Marcel Floyd Marcel will tell us about how he started growing clematis, and then explain how to care for various types of climbers. Marcel will be bringing plants for sale. The Buzz Club: John Theophilus will explain how members can get involved in some exciting citizen science projects and help to conserve garden wildlife in the process.

When & Where	Talk, Visit or Event
<p>Saturday, 4th May Maypole: 1.30pm Walk: 2.30pm The Old Place, Bream, GL15 6EQ</p>	<p>May Day Fun Dance around the maypole and learn the Bean Setters' morris dance. With live music, plant stall and barbecue. Geoff Davis will be performing some old Forest tales.</p> <p>Guided walk: Bluebells at Blistors Farm — Louise McGuinness Louise will lead us on a guided walk around the woodland that surrounds her farmstead up by The Scowles. Hopefully, the bluebells will be in full bloom.</p>
<p>Tuesday, 14th May 7.30 - 9.30pm Bream Sports Club</p>	<p>Talk: Rare Plants: The world's unusual and endangered plants — Ed Ikin Ed is CEO of the Ernest Cook Trust educational charity and the former Director of Kew's 535-acre wild botanic garden at Wakehurst.</p> <p>Ed will talk about the threats facing floral biodiversity and the role botanic gardens can play in stopping extinction. For a sneak preview of some of the beautiful illustrations that will feature in Ed's talk, have a look at his latest book <i>Rare Plants: The Story of 40 of the World's Most Unusual and Endangered Plants</i>.</p>
<p>May Date to be confirmed</p>	<p>Visit: Lydney Park Estate Gardens Stroll through the woodland garden full of colourful azaleas, rhododendrons, corylopsis and pieris as well as magnolias, acers and cornus.</p> <p>Afterwards, picnic in the Deer Park or explore the Roman ruin with Geoff Davis.</p>
<p>Sunday, 26th May 10.45am Hope under Dinmore, HR6 0PN</p>	<p>Visit: Hampton Court Castle Gardens Explore the fabulous formal gardens, maze, sunken garden with waterfall, Dutch garden, expansive lawns, and river walks. The 150 year old Wisteria Arch should be in full bloom and smelling divine.</p> <p>Join us on a guided tour of the castle which has a fascinating and chequered history dating back to the 15th century.</p>
<p>Saturday, 1st June 2pm Clements Tump, GL16 8LW</p>	<p>Visit: Tour of members' gardens in Clements Tump We will start our visit at Harry and Lynne Reynolds' garden before walking around the corner to explore Anne and Philip Large's recently restored garden. We will end the afternoon by enjoying some tea and cake.</p> <p>Many thanks to the Reynolds and Larges for their hospitality.</p>
<p>Tuesday, 11th June 7.30 - 9.30pm Bream Sports Club</p>	<p>Talk: Home Grown Cut flowers, May to July — Robert Champion Robert is currently the Chairman of the Gloucester Federation of Gardening Societies. He has spent over 50 years growing plants, judging plants and organising flower shows.</p> <p>Robert prefers a low-tech approach to presenting - he will bring along some plants and talk about them! There will be plants available to buy at the end of the evening.</p>
<p>Saturday, 15th June Time to be confirmed</p>	<p>Visit: Coach trip to RHS Garden Wisley Free garden entry for BGS members!</p> <p>Wisley is the historic home of the RHS and houses one of the largest plant-collections in the world. Enjoy the unforgettable mixed borders and rose garden or learn about the RHS's research at RHS Hilltop - The Home of Gardening Science. Other highlights include the tropical Glasshouse, World Food Garden and the Trials Garden.</p>

When & Where	Talk, Visit or Event
<p>Saturday, 29th June or Sunday, 30th June Monmouth, NP25 3HF</p>	<p>Visit: 11 The Gardens — Cheryl Cummings' garden Last year, Cheryl gave a talk about her garden to BGS, 'The Naturalistic Garden', and members were keen to visit in person. Her garden is in the process of rewilding to encourage native species and wildlife. She is keen to develop a beautiful space whilst retaining native species. A beautiful pond creates a very tranquil setting.</p>
<p>Tuesday, 9th July 7.30 - 9.30pm Bream Sports Club Venue subject to change</p>	<p>Talk: Presentation of Flowers and Produce for local Shows — Roger Umpleby Roger is a professional entomologist and horticulturalist with many years' experience of consultancy and research with government and industry. Part-time RHS advisor. A keen gardener, and a passionate plant and nature lover, he enjoys sharing his love and respect for the natural world with anyone prepared to listen. Followed by volunteer sign-up for the Summer Show.</p>
<p>Date to be confirmed</p>	<p>Visit: Tour of a member's garden in Lydney</p>
<p>Date to be confirmed Yorkley Community Centre, GL15 4RS</p>	<p>Show: Yorkley Flower and Produce Show Please support Yorkley's fifth annual show, either as a competitor or as a visitor. An opportunity to show off your early summer vegetables and flowers.</p>
<p>Tuesday, 13th August 7.30 - 9.30pm Bream Sports Club</p>	<p>Talk: Blistors Farm — Louise McGuiness A farmstead was established by The Scowles at least 300 years ago. Pre-Roman iron ore workings run under 'Blist ores' farm and it is designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest because of the Lesser Horseshoe Bats who overwinter in the cave and mining system found beneath the woods and fields. Louise will talk about the wild flower meadow that she has established and the many native plants that can be found in the hedgerows, orchard and woodland. The Buzz Club: John Theophilus will provide an update on the citizen science projects. Followed by volunteer sign-up for the Summer Show.</p>
<p>Saturday, 17th August 2pm - 5pm Bream Sports Club</p>	<p>Show: The 159th BGS Summer Show Please support our traditional village show as a volunteer, exhibitor or visitor. Competitions for vegetables, flowers, flower arranging, art, crafts, photography, baking, preserving and bee-keeping. Separate children's competitions. Tea tent with homemade cakes, raffle, games, craft stalls, live music and barbecue.</p>
<p>Sunday, 18th August Bream Sports Club 12pm - 4pm</p>	<p>Bream Book Fair Book fair in the Grand Marquee to raise money for Packed with Love. Thousands of secondhand books of all genres. BGS will be running a gardening book stall. Local authors and independent sellers. Tea, cakes and barbecue.</p>
<p>Monday, 26th August Carnival Field, Parkend</p>	<p>Show: Parkend Flower, Vegetable and Craft Show Please support this local village show, either as a competitor or as a visitor. Another opportunity to show off your garden produce and crafts.</p>

The full Autumn and Winter programme will be published in August - look out for a copy at our Summer Show.

When & Where	Talk, Visit or Event
<p>Tuesday, 10th September 7.30 - 9.30pm Venue to be confirmed</p>	<p>Talk: Growing Vegetables - getting the best from your efforts — Marion Stainton Marion is involved in a broad range of horticultural projects for domestic, commercial and community gardens. She has published in <i>The Horticulturalist</i> and <i>The Plantsman</i>. This is a 'back to basics' talk which focuses on a practical approach to planning and managing your vegetable growing. Marion is interested in an environmentally friendly approach to gardening with integrated pest management. Not organic gardening, but where chemicals are only used as a last resort. Prevention is better than cure.</p>
<p>Tuesday, 8th October 7.30 - 9.30pm Venue to be confirmed</p>	<p>Talk: New Plants from Old — David Cropp David is a retired teacher who subsequently trained as an RHS gardener at Pershore. He is the author of <i>The Lost Gardener!</i> A practical demonstration of dividing and potting on with lively audience interaction. Offspring will be available to take home after the demonstration.</p>
<p>Saturday, 9th November West Dean Centre</p>	<p>Show: BGS Autumn Show Please support our traditional Autumn Show as a volunteer, exhibitor or visitor. Don't forget to enter the members-only Peanut Yield competition.</p>
<p>Tuesday, 12th November 7.30 - 9.30pm Venue to be confirmed</p>	<p>Talk: Barks, Stems and Evergreens for the Winter Garden — Duncan Coombs After over 40 years working at Pershore College, Duncan retired as a Lecturer in Decorative Horticulture. He is an enthusiastic RHS Garden Advisor, keen plant hunter and author. Duncan's second book, <i>The Complete Guide to Compact Trees and Shrubs for the Garden</i>, was published last year.</p>
<p>Tuesday, 10th December 7.30 - 9.30pm St. James' Church Centre</p>	<p>Social: Christmas Bring and Share Supper! Plant-based festive fun — quiz, food, music and tales.</p>

BGS Membership — only £12 per person per year

We always welcome new members — no gardening experience necessary!

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

- Talks and demonstrations given by invited speakers on the second Tuesday of the month.
- Seed and plant swaps and sales. Workshops. Annual dinner. Guided walks and visits to local gardens.
- Informative monthly newsletters.
- 10% off full-priced items at Coleford Garden Centre
- 10% off at Wye Valley Flowers. Redeemable from April to November.
- 15% off all terracotta pots from Tom's Yard, Much Birch. tomsyard.co.uk
- Opportunity to help with the garden at the Dean Heritage Centre.
- Affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society. Benefits include discounted entry to RHS gardens.
- Member of the Gloucestershire Federation of Gardening Societies.