# Chair's Update



## **Dear Members**

Well hopefully Summer is here or well on the way. It was good to see some rain last week, which our gardens badly needed.

## **Recent Activities**

#### • 🏫 West Acre Gardens Visit

A couple of weeks ago, 16 of our members enjoyed a lovely visit to **West Acre Gardens and Nursery**. We were warmly welcomed by Mandy, the Head Gardener, who led us on an informative and engaging tour of the stunning walled garden, which dates to the 1830s.

The garden was brimming with ornamental shrubs, mature trees, and vibrant borders packed with plants — many of which were rare or unusual varieties. One of the highlights was discovering that many of the plants on display in the garden are also available to purchase in the nursery, which is a rare and wonderful bonus.

We wrapped up the visit with some well-earned refreshments at the charming **Apple Café**, making for a perfect end to a delightful outing.

### **Upcoming Events**

#### • Summer Gardening Fayre – 14th June We're looking forward to our Summer Gardening Fayre on Saturday, 14th June at Hempton Memorial Hall.

If you'd like to take part, the full schedule including class categories and entry instructions is now available on the club website: <a href="https://www.fakenham-gardening-club.uk">www.fakenham-gardening-club.uk</a>.

I encourage everyone to take a walk around your garden or your allotment if you have one and consider entering a few classes. You might be surprised by what catches the judges' eyes... and you could go home with a certificate!

And it's not just for growers we also have classes for **crafts**, **photography**, **and home produce**, so there's something for everyone.

In addition to the exhibits, there will be a **flower arranging demonstration** by members **Barbara Frary** and **Pat Jones**, and the **Hempton Hall team** will be serving refreshments throughout the day. We've decided to bring back the **much-loved tombola**, and there will be a **plant stall too** — perfect for picking up something new for your garden.

It's always a fun, friendly event - we hope to see you there!

• 😵 Summer Gathering – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July

Jane and Tony Churly will be opening their garden at 58 Salmons Way, Fakenham NR21 8NG for an opportunity to not only explore their garden, but also mingle with other members and gardeners, with a glass of something and a bite to eat.

Jane and Tony moved to Fakenham in 2020 and the garden they inherited was typical of any new build. They have drawn on their years of gardening both in Norfolk and Southern France to design and plant a new garden, incorporating their love for unusual plants and outdoor living. So why not join us? Their garden is open from 6:30pm.

Parking on Salmons Way itself is quite limited, so we are recommending you car share wherever possible

We, the Committee are deeply appreciative of your continued dedication and enthusiasm. Together, we are cultivating not just gardens but also a strong and vibrant Club. If you have any questions, suggestions, or ideas, do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Happy Gardening!

Warm regards,

Andy Grout – Chair

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