

Busby & Clarkston Horticultural Society Newsletter

May 2021



DEAR MEMBER

Hi folks,

Well we are into May already and still getting frost at night, which is not good news for us gardeners. If you are like me, you will be noticing quite a few shrubs like Hydrangeas and Acers showing frost damage, especially at the growing tips. When the warmer weather returns this week, (ha, ha), simply nip off the damaged or dead parts down to a bud and the plant should recover. Keep those bedding plants you bought recently under cover at night also!

Membership – Your new Membership cards should be with you at the end of this month, or early June, along with our leaflet promoting all next sessions talks. We hope the first one will be on the 16th of September at Clarkston Halls, again sponsored by Caulders Garden Centre. We feel this will be possible, even with social distancing still in place.

Membership will be £5.00 as usual and thank you in advance for supporting the Society.

Annual Show – A decision must be taken now on the viability of holding the Show, as all our planning and financial commitments need to be in place. Due to the continuing uncertainty, the Committee has decided unanimously that we should cancel the event for numerous sound reasons. The health and welfare of our members and the public is paramount. Folk will be returning from holiday and children back at school in August and I would imagine restrictions of some sort will still be in place. Social distancing at such an event would be almost impossible. Indeed, we have no idea how many people would feel safe attending the Show. Other shows and events are also taking the decision now. Dundee Flower Show, for example, held on the same weekend as ours, has been cancelled, as have many others. I know this will be disappointing for our members, especially those who have joined recently and have still to enjoy the experience of a Show. We will be back next year and will make it extra special as it will be our 75th birthday in 2022.

Club Meetings – Thanks to those who attended our April Zoom meeting, and we are pleased to announce a second one on 20th May at 7.30pm, when the talk will be on “**The Flowers of Madeira**”. Details will be coming soon by email with the link for the meeting.

Job of the Month – Early May is a good time to get your lawn ship-shape. Scarify, to remove thatch, dead grass & moss, spring-tine (or spike with a fork) to aerate, overseed bare patches and feed. This is a little later this year due to the cold dry April weather when the grass was slow in growing, but still well worth doing.

Hope to see you on the 20th of May.

Enjoy your gardening,

Fergus Cumming
President

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