

BLUEBELL GARDEN CLUB SEPTEMBER 2026

NEWSLETTER

Celebrating 30 years in 2025/2026

September meeting:

Tuesday, 1st September 2026: 7.30pm

St John's Church Hall, Lepton: 1st Tuesday in the month

AGM followed by "Sale of Harvest Produce including Plants"

All members have already been sent details of the AGM. Only members receive this and can vote. If you would like to take part fully, you just need to take out a full membership.

After the formal meeting there will be a short interval where refreshments will be available and the opportunity to renew or take out your initial membership.

We would welcome contributions of either harvest produce and/or plants for the sales table
(if donating baked goods - please state if it has previously been frozen)

Any contributions will be most appreciated as all proceeds will help go towards club funds.

October meeting:

Tuesday, 6th October 2026: 7.30pm

St John's Church Hall, Lepton: 1st Tuesday in the month

Sarah Owen-Hughes "Secrets of the Soil"

Sarah is a recovering lecturer, having spent 15 years teaching horticulture in Further and Higher Education. After a period in horticulture research, she is now Head Gardener at Ridding Park, a 300-acre luxury hotel and spa near Harrogate.

In Secrets of the Soil, she dishes the dirt on, well dirt! Find out more about the powerhouse that rests beneath our feet, and strategies for managing your soil better for maximum yields and climate resilience. Please feel free to bring a small (clean) margarine tub of soil dug from about 30cm down and Sarah will help you test it!

August Competition

At our August meeting we had a competition, for a vase of a maximum of six stems from members gardens. The winners of the Competition were: 1st Beverley Smith, 2nd Mauro Sparagna, 3rd Ronwyn Holden.

RHS Card

A reminder we do have a RHS Card you can borrow on a short-term loan and subject to availability which offers: 2 adults 50% discount each on entry to any RHS garden (excluding special events). Please speak to any committee member to see if its available.

New Committee members



Your current Committee are always looking for new ideas and input. One of the ways this can be done is by us having new Committee members. If you fancy a new challenge in 2026, why not talk to one of the committee members.

If your still undecided, we do eat lots of cake at Committee meetings!

Dates for your diary

Visit to Cliff Bank Nursery, Harrogate Road, Leeds, LS17 0BZ

Monday 7th September (11am)

This is a self-drive visit to Cliff Bank Nursery (the former nursery of Joe Maiden, the well-known gardener who often could be heard on BBC Radio Leeds).

Ben will guide us through the nursery, from the work they have undertaken to bring the nursery back from a virtually derelict plot, how the propagation of the plants is undertaken through to the final plants for sale and future plans.

Hot drinks and delicious cake is included in the price of £10 (payable at the time of booking).

If you would like to attend, please contact Mary by email – mary@willowgardenclub.uk or 07912 513236 as soon as possible as places are limited.



NGS Open Gardens



Further information on all these gardens, and others further afield, can be found on www.ngs.org.uk Information correct as of 30 January 2026 but please check before travelling.

Fused Glass Workshop

30th October 2026 – Fused Glass Christmas decoration workshop, 10.15 - 12.45 - Fee £38 to be paid in advance to secure your place.

The workshop will be held in Burton Village Hall, Northfield Rd, Highburton HD8 0QT

Come and join us for another enjoyable and productive workshop and make yourself some Christmas decorations.

You can make these decorations, sizes approximate: 1 large decoration... tree shaped at 12cm or 2 medium at 8cm each or 4 small round at 6cm each or some combination, plus if you have time you can make extras there will be an additional cost of £4 for small, £6 medium, £8 large

All materials will be provided

This workshop should finish at lunchtime so no need to bring a packed lunch but as usual we will supply cups of tea/coffee, biscuits and maybe cake!

There are up to 20 places, please register early if you are interested

Future proposed Bluebell Club trips in 2027

Full details will be made available at the AGM.

21st May – Jacqueline Iddon (day trip)

27th – 28th June – Night away in Shropshire visiting gardens

Please submit any comments or contributions for future newsletters to enquiries@bluebellgardenclub.co.uk

