



EAST COKER GARDENING CLUB

Chairperson: Gill Evans

The Club was formed in 1999 as the result of a chance conversation in the village shop. It now has around 60 members, most from within the parish, although it also attracts keen gardeners from across a wider area. Membership is active and club meetings are very well attended. New members are always welcome, as is anyone who may wish to come along occasionally.

The annual programme of events and talks is varied, covering a wide range of topics, from vegetables to flowers, folklore, butterflies and bees, birds, gardens and garden history. A growing competition takes place twice a year, once in spring with bulbs and once in the summer with a flowering plant – bulbs and plants are distributed at the autumn and spring meetings to members for growing on.

Visits are arranged during the year to places and gardens of interest. The programme for 2018 includes visits to Hestercombe (Taunton), Longstock Park Nursery and Heale Gardens (Salisbury). There is an annual three/four day garden club holiday, this year based in Stafford, during which gardens and places of interest are visited. In 2018 the annual holiday will also take in the RHS Malvern Spring Show.

Meetings are held in the East Coker Hall, Halves Lane, East Coker on the second Thursday of each month, commencing at 7.30pm, unless otherwise stated. *The Propagator*, a free newsletter containing Club news, notes of gardening events, tips, etc is distributed at each meeting. During the growing season there is a produce stall, stocked by members with plants and produce.

2018 Programme

11 January	<i>Twelve Months of Colour</i>	Neil Lovesey
8 February	<i>Companion Planting</i>	Gold Club speaker
8 March	<i>Lift the Latch, 33 Years of creating an all year round garden</i>	Pauline and David Wright
12 April	<i>Hestercombe – Restoration of the Edwardian and Victorian Gardens</i>	Speaker from Hestercombe
3 May	<i>Crevice Gardening</i>	Paul Cumbleton
14 June	<i>Birds of Prey Display</i>	Falconry UK
12 July	<i>Summer Event at a member's garden</i>	
9 August	<i>Trug making by a miserable Trugger</i>	Carl Sadler
13 September	<i>Bach Flower Remedies for you, your pets and your Plants</i>	Judith Stewart
11 October	<i>Brimsmore Gardens – Talk and discount evening</i> (commences at 6.30pm at Brimsmore Garden Centre, Yeovil)	
8 November	<i>Annual General Meeting</i> – venue to be advised	
13 December	<i>Festive Evening featuring JJR</i>	

Subscriptions: Annual £15, plus £1 per meeting. Visitors £3 per meeting.

Further information may be obtained from the hon treasurer, Stan Shayler (01935 420291) or the press secretary, Helen Styles (01935 862447)