



## Newsletter – March 2026

Dear Members,

Hope you are all looking forward to when the Spring finally arrives properly. There are promising signs around the village. The crocus are looking wonder under the big tree and cheer us all up. The trough outside the village hall has the most wonderful hyacinths in full flower, which is earlier than planned and best of all the Blacksmiths Corner is now showing signs of life with lovely daffodils and crocus. Our handwork is now paying off. Thank you to everyone who has helped with this project.

### **Floral Art Demonstration – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 10.30 Small Village Hall.**

It is not long now until our demonstration with Sandra Dean. This promises to be a fun morning and hopefully we will all learn something and be inspired to make an entry into the Spring Show. Coffee & cake will be available. This event is free for members and just £5 for non-members. If you could please let Brenda the Secretary know if you would like to attend, it would be much appreciated.

### **Spring Flower Show – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Village Hall**

This is the first of our three Flower Shows and is a delight. It is so wonderful to see all the spring blooms at the flower show. Several people have commented that they love this show, because when you enter the hall, the scent of the flowers is most welcoming. This show is your last chance to gain a few more points towards winning an annual trophy. Please don't forget that in this show we have classes for pottery and woodwork.

### **The Annual General Meeting – Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April Village Hall. 10.30.**

The hall will be open from 10.00am so that you can enjoy some Coffee & Cake while you pay your subscriptions and collect your new schedule. You will be pleased to know that the subscriptions are staying the same for this year, which is £8.00, which I think is very good value for money. The Committee have also decided not to increase the show entry fees either. The AGM will commence at 10.30. we are delighted to say that President Gwendolyn van Paasschen will present the Annual Trophies to their recipients.

**New Schedule** This is the biggest schedule that we have ever produced. We have listened to your requests and tried to include as many as possible. You will notice that we now have Art classes in every show. We are trying to be all encompassing and appeal to as many people as possible.

## **Walberton Open Gardens 25th June**

This year we are going to concentrate on the section of the village from Copse Lane to Blacksmiths Corner. If you would like to have your garden open it is not too late to register. The more the merrier. Big gardens, little gardens, patios and pots every garden is very valuable to all of us. Having visited a lot of other villages and their gardens, Walberton has some magic about it that others do not, so let's show off our village to the best of our ability. If you feel that you can help in anyway at all please just let us know. The plan is that we use the Playing Field for parking cars on, weather permitting and we will need some volunteers to organise this.

### **Dates for your diary.**

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March – Floral Art Demonstration - 10.30 Small Village Hall

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March - Spring Flower Show – Village Hall

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April - Annual General Meeting, with Coffee & Cake - Village Hall

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May – Talk with Barry Newman – Preparing for the Annual Show

Village Hall 2.30

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June – Outing to Borde Hill Gardens.

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June - Walberton Open Gardens Sunday.

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July – Summer Flower Show, Dog Show & Village Fete

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September – Autumn Flower Show

### **Jobs to do in the garden**

- 1 Give your beds a good dig over and fertilize them.
2. Put supports in ready for all the climbing plants.
3. Finish cutting back Cornus and Salix down to the ground.
4. Mophead and Lace cap Hydrangeas can be trimmed as the buds begin to swell.
5. Prune back over wintered Fuchsias to one or two buds on each shoot.
6. Cut back autumn-fruiting Raspberry Canes to the ground. Summer fruiting Raspberries – cut out the old fruiting canes (which will appear to be lighter in colour) and leave the new ones.
7. If the ground conditions are good sow as many root crop seeds as possible.
8. Aerate the lawn and give it a cut with the mover on a higher setting.
9. Beware of slugs and snails they love the new delphiniums and similar plants that are now beginning to grow and show. Also, mice love to eat new plantings of Sweet peas etc. So watch out for them too.
10. It is at this time of the year that Greenhouses and cold frames are most beneficial to help give plants a good start.

Thank you from your Committee,

Liz Hewson (Chair), Brenda Bailey (Shows & Events), Douglas Callander, Alan Gess, Bob Rogers, Kate Dobson & Liesma Mezulis.