

NICHOLSONS Club 57



Thursday 22nd February

Talk: Bees and pollinators

Botley Meadow Bees observe natural beekeeping methods. Mark Sandham has kept bees for about 12 years and classes himself as a hobbyist beekeeper. Initially, his aim was to offer honey and beeswax products locally and to spread the word of how wonderful bees are and the importance of supporting them. Mark can be seen at outreach events such as Blenheim Palace Flower Show and Science Oxford Centre as well as helping journalists and serving as one of the county's swarm catchers.

COST: £10 Including refreshments



Thursday 14th March

Living spring wreath workshop

In our spring wreath workshop, Melissa, local florist from Bunch in Bloxham, will teach you how to make a sustainable living wreath using a natural woven willow base, decorated with locally sourced dried flowers, bulbs and foliage. The spring bulbs will come into bud and bloom whilst hung on your door and can be planted in your garden afterwards. This is a relaxed workshop with no previous experience needed, perfect to enjoy with friends or as a gift for Mother's Day.

COST: £55 (includes all materials, a tutorial, refreshments and canapes)



Thursday 25th April

Talk: Skywave Gin

Skywave gin is the result of adventure-loving founders Rachel Hicks and Andrew Parson's pursuit of the perfect gin. Their awards and accolades are numerous. This talk is all about gin: the science of its production and botanicals. The Oxfordshire growers provide rhubarb and apples while village hedgerows are foraged for blackberries. Completing their local heritage, mineral water from Oxfordshire's Blenheim Palace is used. Taster samples will be distributed during the event and bottles will be available to purchase.

COST: £10 Including refreshments



Thursday 16th May

Garden visit: Rousham Gardens

After the house and gardens have closed for the day, we will be having a private talk and tour of these wonderful gardens. Designed by William Kent in the 18th century, Rousham Gardens feature a wonderful walled garden, an abundance of fruit and vegetables and stunning flowers. Kent was a painter and architect who spent time in Italy, which is reflected in the gardens.

COST: £10 Including refreshments

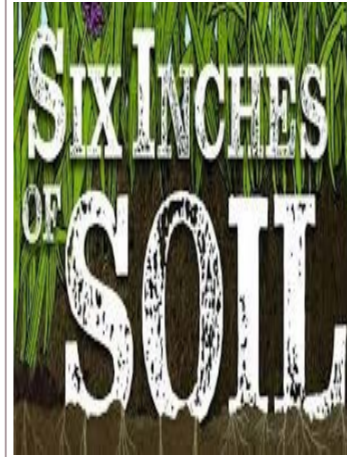


Tuesday 11th June

An Evening with Arthur Parkinson

Join Arthur Parkinson in the Orchard Barn for a talk and demonstration of how to grow, cut and arrange homegrown garden flowers for both yourself at home and for summer parties. Expect a celebration of scented sweet peas and other cottage garden favourites, all arranged into an array of vases and vessels for a jamboree of scent and a carnival of rich colours.

COST: £35 (includes refreshments on arrival and nibbles).
Book online by [clicking here...](#)

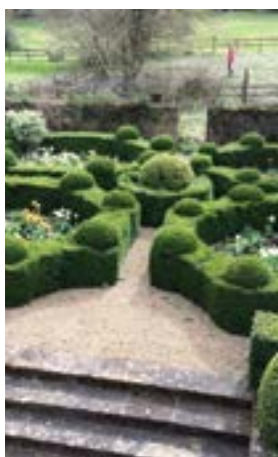


Monday 24th June

Documentary Screening: Six Inches of Soil

Join us to watch this British independent documentary shining a spotlight on soil health and regenerative farming. The film follows the inspiring story of British farmers standing up against the industrial food system and transforming the way they produce food - to heal the soil, benefit our health and provide for local communities.

COST: £15 includes refreshments.
Book online by [clicking here...](#)



Wednesday 26th June

Garden visit: South Newington House

After a trip up the tree-lined drive, visitors will explore the 2 acres of garden, featuring Herbaceous borders designed for year-round colour, an organic garden with established beds and rotational planting scheme, a fruit-filled orchard and a wildlife-welcoming pond. Visitors will also enjoy a trip through the walled parterre planted for seasonal colour, and the family garden with a small menagerie, all beautifully designed to blend seamlessly into the environment; a haven for all. To round the visit off, there is a lovely public house close by.

COST: £10 (includes refreshments)



Thursday 19th September

Garden visit: The Grange, Charlgrove

During this visit, there are 11 acres of delightful gardens to enjoy, boasting herbaceous borders and a large expanse of prairie planting with many grasses and a wildflower meadow. The beautiful lake hosts a planted island accessible through its various bridges, and there will also be a visit to the labyrinth, the arboretum, the old orchard and the partly walled vegetable garden.

Cost: £10 (includes refreshments)



Thursday 10th October

Talk: Val Bourne - The Living Jigsaw: the secret life in your garden

Award-winning garden writer, organic gardener and lecturer, Val Bourne, gardens on the windswept Cotswolds at her home, high above Bourton on the Water. Her third of an acre garden is managed without using chemicals – something she has always believed in. Val is deeply passionate about vibrant, flower-filled gardens that sustain wildlife. With wildlife populations diminishing, it is crucial for gardeners to care for the environment as much as they do their own gardens. After all, gardens are essential green spaces that play a significant role in ecological health.

COST: £10 Including refreshments

About Club 57

United by a love of horticulture, the members of Garden Club 57 attend a range of informative talks and visits to local gardens to gain inspiration and advice throughout the seasons. The calendar to the left outlines our events for 2024. We will be sending out invitations by e-mail prior to each event. Those who have expressed their interest will receive addresses and event-specific details.

RSVP will be essential as only those who have booked in advance will be allowed admission as numbers are limited.

For further information, contact Julie Hillier at julie@nicholsonsgb.com.

To **join Club 57**, scan the QR code to the right and fill out the form on our website.



www.nicholsonsgb.com



Where?

Orchard Barn, Nicholson's, North Aston, Bicester Oxfordshire, OX25 6HL
Or location stated



2024 Schedule

More events to be announced soon!