

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2023 Number 551

This Months meeting will be held on Thursday
June 29 th at the Village Hall, Church Road,
Rawreth, SS11 8SH at 8pm.

Doors open 7:30

This Month Tim Ingram returns to talk about 'Gardening on the Rocks'
A brief history of rock gardening.

Tim was introduced to alpinas as a teenager and it initiated his life long
passion for plants. He talks about the development of rock gardening and
gardens which have inspired him.

Tim shows how this is put into practise at Copton Ash, the Nursery he
runs in Kent and looks at plants which thrive in the sharp drainage in
the hot south-east of England.



Willow Park Nature Reserve, Langdon
Hills, thousands of Dactylorhiza's in
flower.

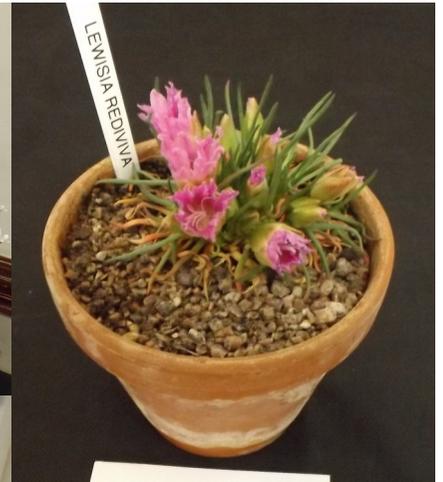
A Warning.

I bought three plants from a
local nursery yesterday even
though I originally only wanted
to get one! On putting them
down at the till the impact
dislodged two vine weevil, so
that was a reminder of how
easily a simple purchase of a
plant can import so much future
pain.

Mike.



Adult beetle that chomps the
leaves, and the grubs that eat
away the roots. Best controlled by
Nematodes, available on-line or
from most Garden Centres.



Competition and
Display plants for May,
Judged this month by
Ann Vale.

Competition for June

Class 1. excl. Any Alpine
plants in Class 2.

Class 2. Campanula.

Thanks to Barry for a
very interesting talk
about the Patagonia Lake
District last month.



Left, a Lily from my garden, individual flowers only 2 inches across, anyone any ideas of type. Paul.

The Burren, June 2023.

The trip started life as a recce for a potential group trip, which from the get-go became a non-starter. Flights changed by Ryanair - twice, the landscape was treacherous almost everywhere, guarantee of seeing plants in flower, where they should have been, was very hit-and-miss. Transport costs would be astronomical, the list goes on and on. Despite that, our trip was very enjoyable. The two Sues, Rod and I stayed at a very nice Airbnb on a farm, we had the old pigsty and Sue and Rod had the Cow milking shed; they were, however, converted into a very modern, attractive bungalow. We flew into Shannon airport and travelled north-west to Corofin, Co Clare., a great striking-out point for the Burren. The village itself is quite sleepy, having not really recovered from Covid, so all the plans for eateries went out of the window; the supermarket and kebab shop sufficed. Not getting a hire car with Satnav proved to be a mistake - written instructions work when there are road signs but none were to be seen, so we spent a number of pleasant hours surveying the countryside from the car, often arriving home in the dark. When we did find plants (orchids were our quarry) they were spectacular. So many names have changed in recent years that it's hard to keep up with what is a very difficult group of plants in the first place but we saw around 14 different species (which would have been more using old names). There were plenty of other plants as well, mostly growing out of limestone grykes and hollows in the clints which form the 'pavement' of the area. We are putting together a short talk for next January's AGM, where we can share the plants we saw.

Ray.



Gentian verna group



Platanthera bifolia 1

Chairman	Secretary	Show Secretary	Editor
Rod Willett	Ruth Jones	Mike Sullivan	Paul Nice
'Ashtree Cottage'	5 Ballingdon Gardens	3, Bilberry Close	162 Parklands
22, The Street	Sudbury	St. Neots	Rochford
Little Waltham	Suffolk	Cambridgeshire	SS4 1SY
CM3 3NS	CO10 2BA	PE 19 7GU	01702 540443
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