

## Gardening Club Notes for Thursday March 31st 2016

Tonight was our Spring Show, where, despite the inclement weather of recent months, a good display of flowers were there for all to see and were much appreciated by the 31 members in attendance who cast their votes across the five categories.

A choice of chocolate bars for the following!

### Vase of Daffodils or Narcissi

1. Chris Ryder
2. John Ford
3. Margaret Scott

### Vase of Mixed Garden Flowers

1. Margaret Scott
2. Mavis Tickell
3. Maureen McBane

### Vase of Flowering Shrub

1. Dorothy Austin
- 2 = Were Mavis Tickell and Maureen McBane

### Potted Plant with Foliage

1. Barbara Tarren
2. Val Codling
3. Maureen McBane

### Potted Bulbs or Plants with Flowers

1. Margaret Scott
2. Sue Brown
3. Jan Young

## Notices

A festival of flowers at St. Christophers Church, Warden Hill,

April 16<sup>th</sup> 9.30 to 5.30

April 17<sup>th</sup> 2.00 to 5.30

April 28<sup>th</sup> Propagating seed cuttings and beyond

May 7<sup>th</sup> Plant Sale, St Christophers car park, 10 to noon, refreshments available

May 11<sup>th</sup> Youth Choir in the church £5 admission

May 26<sup>th</sup> Plants of the Season.

The trip to see Sir Harold Hillier's garden at Romsey in Hampshire. The overall cost will be £20 for members and £22 for non members, this covers the coach and entry fee.. The trip is scheduled for Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup>, departing at 9am and returning at 6pm.

Spring Show and Annual Show schedules were available as were Blue Kestrel second early potatoes for the spud-in-a-bucket at the Annual Show

And finally.....some interesting things about daffodils

1. The daffodil is also known as Jonquil, Narcissus, [Paperwhite](#) and the 'Poet's Hower'.
2. Squirrels will not eat daffodil bulbs, the bulbs and leaves contain poisonous crystals which only certain insects can eat with impunity, so don't plant where dogs like to dig.)
3. Poultry keepers thought the flower to be unlucky and disallowed it in their homes, as they believed it would stop their hens from laying eggs. ([Funflowerfacts.com](#))
4. Scientists have discovered narciclasine, a natural compound found in daffodil bulbs, may be therapeutic in treating brain cancer.
5. Daffodils contain a toxic sap which is harmful to other flowers. When arranging in a vase don't mix with other flowers unless the daffodils have been soaking in water for 24 hours. Do not recut the stems as it will re-release the toxin. ([Funflowerfacts.com](#))
6. The ancient Romans cultivated them extensively, though daffodils became a forgotten flower till 1600. Sometime around 1629, a few Englishmen took the daffodil out of the weeds and gave it a place in the garden. ([Onlinegardeningtips.com](#))
7. The Daffodil Data Bank accounts for over 13,000 hybrids, and apart from the regular yellow kind, there are others which come in a range of color combinations, like yellow and orange, yellow and white, orange and white, lime-green and pink colors.

Shaun Colvin

