

Baginton Gardeners

When writing this, we are still awaiting some summer sunshine! I hope it has arrived by now and you can finally sit down and enjoy the rewards of all your gardening efforts.

However, there are still a few things you can do to maintain the colour in your garden and improve the vegetable produce, which you might do on the duller days!

If we get that hot weather don't forget that makes thirsty plants as well as thirsty people – we all need to be kept hydrated, hopefully you've invested in a water butt to collect all that rain!

Don't leave your vegetables and soft fruits beyond their prime, this can be a message to the plant to stop producing! Regularly pick ripe tomatoes, courgettes, beans, strawberries, and raspberries to encourage further growth on the plant.

Everyone's least favourite job – deadheading! But it has to be done to encourage the plants to produce more flowers rather than seeds, once this happens its job is done (keep one or two for next year's planting). It also looks much neater and tidier for you when relaxing in the garden.

All the on-going maintenance jobs unfortunately don't go away, weeding, feeding, trimming and mowing the lawn. July is also a great time to sow a second crop of lettuce, spinach, radishes, spring onions, Swiss chard, or sow beetroot for autumn harvest. Have a good summer!

Elayne will be stepping down from Chairing the group from the end of the year. As yet, no-one has shown an interest in ensuring that the group will continue after 2024. If you would like to consider taking over this role please speak to Elayne soon so that she can work with you to ease you in before hand-over.

The programme for 2024 speakers follows. You don't have to be a knowledgeable gardener to attend but you will learn so much from the expertise of the speakers.

Date	Speaker	Title
15/07/24 (Mon)	Lucy Hartley	Ecology in the Modern Garden
16/09/24 (Mon)	Geoff Hodge	Propagation – Plants for Free
18/11/24 (Mon)	Quiz	

Meetings take place bi-monthly at the British Legion, Kimberley Road, Baginton at 7.30 and visitors are always welcome. Visitors pay £4 per meeting.

Membership for 2024 remains at £12 pa + £2 per meeting and includes a 10% discount on FULL price items at our 4 local Garden Centres (Smiths, Russell's, Avondale and David Cheshire Bonsai). Baginton Nurseries will open from Easter to Autumn but cannot offer 10% reduction as its prices are already wholesale. Membership cards are available at the meetings or by contacting Elayne.

In the meantime if you have any questions or need more information contact Elayne on 02475 013147 or elaynemeakin@gmail.com