

NOTTINGHAM AND NOTTS FUCHSIA SOCIETY

JANUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

JAYNE'S JOTTINGS

HAPPY NEW YEAR! WELCOME TO BRAND NEW GROWING SEASON.

One of my New Year resolutions is to concentrate on my fuchsias. Sadly, I have lost the majority of my fuchsias which perhaps isn't such a bad thing as having fewer means I should be able to give them more attention – well, that's the theory anyway!

A few things I feel I need to do now: -

- Check on my over-wintered fuchsias and perhaps water sparingly.
- Clean all my empty pots ready for the new season.
- Study the new fuchsias that have been released. (John Nicholass will be covering this in his talk in February)
- Make sure all tools are cleaned and accessible (i.e. I know where they all are!)

RSPB BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH 2025 – 24th TO 26th JANUARY 2025

Well, I just wonder whether the number of people submitting surveys this year will decrease thanks to Storm Eowyn, especially those who would normally complete their survey at their local Park. Friday's figures would be most likely be affected, but today (Saturday) was quite calm.

Today (Saturday), I decided to undertake the survey round at mum's. And as normal, no activity whatsoever! I saw two cheeky Great Tits perched on the branch of a tree opposite, teasing me no doubt! Annoyingly, a guy continually drove up and down the road on his motorcycle which I'm using as a reason for there being no bird activity!

Never mind, there's always next year!

However, during this cold spell it is so important to remember to feed our garden birds.

EIGHT WAYS HOW BIRDS COPE WITH COLD: -

1. Flock together during the day
2. Roost together at night
3. Eat all day (although, apparently not at our feeding station!)
4. Feast on supplies
5. Follow the food
6. Find new food sources
7. Fluff up the feathers
8. Head to a feeder

HOW CAN WE HELP BIRDS IN WINTER: -

1. **Prepare a feast** – use kitchen scraps or make your own full-fat high-energy bird cakes.
2. **Keep it fresh** – Birds need fresh water for drinking and bathing so when there is a big freeze, make sure your birdbath is ice-free and topped up with fresh clean water. Also ensure your birdfeeders are clean.
3. **Provide shelter** – when the bitter winds begin to bite, birds need to shelter from the cold. Plant dense hedges such as privet or hawthorn or letting ivy and holly grow. Nestboxes are also in demand on cold winter nights.



'Always grow some herbs outside the herb garden'

What an absurd idea! A herb garden is for herbs, so a flower garden is for flowers and a veggie garden for veggies, and so on, isn't it? Actually many plants classified as herbs contain natural chemicals that either encourage growth in other plants or protect them against pests and disease.

Excerpt from 'TIPS FROM THE OLD GARDENERS, COMPILED BY Duncan Crosbie

SOCIETY NEWS

MEMBERSHIP 2025

REMINDER: - If you haven't renewed your membership for 2025, please can I ask that this is completed by end of January 2025 to ensure that you get your **FREE** cuttings in **MARCH**



USED STAMPS – WANTED!

If anyone has any used stamps – I'd be glad to take them off your hands. Bob collects these and sends them off to the RSPB.

Many Thanks x

NOTTINGHAM & NOTTS FUCHSIA 53rd ANNUAL SHOW

We have decided to return to **Stapleford Methodist Church** to hold our 53rd Annual Show
Full Address: -

**STAPLEFORD METHODIST CHURCH
EATON'S ROAD
STAPLEFORD
NOTTINGHAM
NG9 7EA**

*****It will remain a ONE DAY show. The date is 9th AUGUST 2025*****

BRING AND BUY STALL

We will be holding a **Bring and Buy stall** every month to help raise funds for the Society and to support the cost of running our Annual Shows.

Please can you bring along any unwanted items to our monthly meetings to help our Society.

Many Thanks x

WAYS TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIP

As a society our membership is sadly reducing and therefore the Committee would be very grateful if anyone has any suggestions on how we can promote our society and ultimately increase membership. **Please let anyone on the Committee know.**

Many Thanks x

EASY FUNDRAISING

The easiest way for **all** internet users to help raise funds for our Society is simply by every time you search the Web you use easysearch.

Easysearch combines results from Yahoo!, Windows MSN Live Search and Ask.com in one simple search, the address is <http://nottsfuchsia.easysearch.org.uk> Please try it and encourage others too. Don't forget if you make any purchases on the internet, to go through our webshop to make sure we receive commission from the retailers (currently over 2000 well known retailers), the address is <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/nottsfuchsia> .

PLANNER FOR 2025

28 JANUARY	MONTHLY MEETING – SPEAKER: Mike Davey Subject: <i>Gardens Lost Time</i>
25 FEBRUARY	MONTHLY MEETING – SPEAKER: John Nicholass Subject: <i>Hybridising and New Releases.</i> **ZOOM**
1 MARCH	SHEFFIELD ORCHID SHOW & EXOTIC PLANT FAIR - at St John's Church Hall, Abbeydale Road South, SHEFFIELD, S17 3LE. Admission: £5.00; Open: 10.00a.m – 4.00p.m
25 MARCH	MONTHLY MEETING Subject: <i>Buffet & Free Cuttings</i>
22 APRIL	MONTHLY MEETING – SPEAKER: Ric Reilly Subject: <i>Fuchsias My Way</i> **ZOOM**
27 MAY	MONTHLY MEETING – SPEAKER: Rod Weston Subject: <i>Composting in General</i>
24 JUNE	MONTHLY MEETING – SPEAKER: Paul Leatherdale Subject: <i>Encliandras</i>
22 JULY	MONTHLY MEETING – SPEAKER: Geoff Smith Subject: <i>Show Talk</i>
9 AUGUST	NOTTINGHAM & NOTTS FUCHSIA SOCIETY – ANNUAL SHOW – Stapleford Methodist Church, Stapleford, Nottingham, NG9 7EA
16 AUGUST	DERBY & DISTRICT FUCHSIA SOCIETY – ANNUAL SHOW - Grange Hall, Park Lane, Littleover, Derby, DE23 6FX
17 AUGUST	BFS MIDLAND SHOW – Palmers Garden Centre, 11 Main Street, Ullesthorpe, Lutterworth, LE17 5DR
26 AUGUST	MONTHLY MEETING – Subject: <i>Trophy Presentation</i>
23 SEPTEMBER	MONTHLY MEETING – SPEAKER: Subject: <i>TBC</i>
28 OCTOBER	MONTHLY MEETING – SPEAKER: Andrew Cathcart Subject: <i>A Fuchsia Odyssey</i> **ZOOM**
25 NOVEMBER	AGM & SOCIAL EVENING