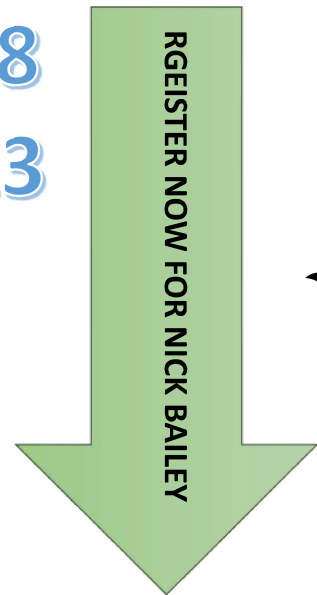


Happy
New
Year



We wish to say a big thank you to the hall committee who, after a devastating flood, managed to get the hall up and running for our first talk.

WGA COMMITTEE

Also thanks to the members who have agreed to be on an "emergency" list to cover if the committee are shorthanded at any events. I will be in touch.

WE HAVE ASKED NICK BAILEY IF HE COULD BRING HIS BOOK **365 Days Of Colour In The Garden** FOR YOU TO BUY A SIGNED COPY

The membership has remained high, which means we can continue our intention to book better and better speakers. One speaker who will definitely not disappoint is our celebrity, Nick Bailey, next month. I just want to clarify the booking format for this, after questions from some members.

*YOU MUST register online for this talk, even though it is free to members, so that we can keep a check on numbers.

*Bob will be sending the reminder again at the weekend and you just CLICK ON THE LINK in the email to fill in a booking form. You can also register without the email if you go onto the website and click on the "Next Event" tab.

*YOU CAN reserve a place for one non-member friend by clicking the relevant box. The ticket for them will be £10.

YOU MUST bring your membership card to the talk.

The deadline for members is approaching and then we are offering this great opportunity to all other clubs in the intervillage group so please get registering so as not to miss out. If you are having difficulty with registering just email

admin@witleygardening.org and someone will help.

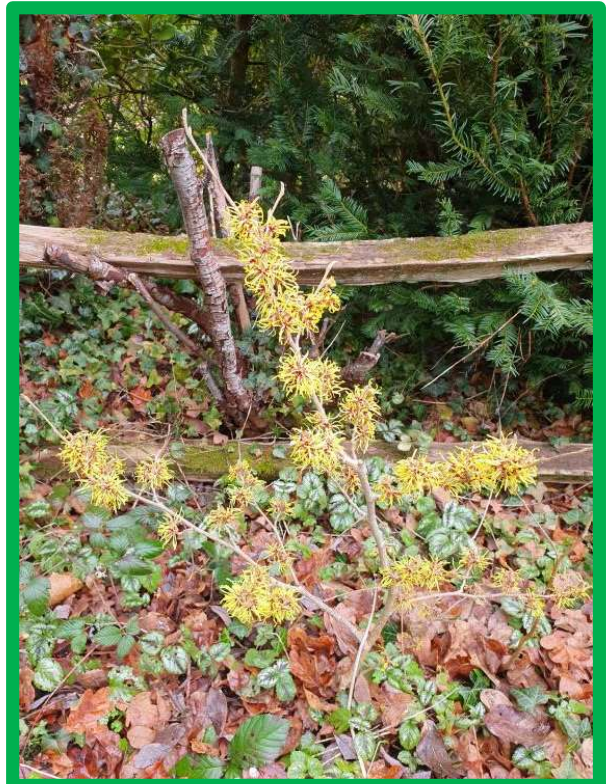
Christine (Chairman)

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Happy New Year to all our members. Let's hope we all stay a little healthier this year and that life runs more smoothly. Despite the heavy frost this morning we have Spring well on it's way to add it's colour to the winter flowerers. The hamamelis (witch hazel) that I bought two years ago is still small but now flowering well. (Patience rewarded). And my Iris "Blue Note", one of the earliest to flower, is in bud. The Clematis in the garden are coming into bud as well. All signs that the garden, contrary to appearances, is still alive and ready to go!

We had our first talk of the year last night: The Modern Kitchen Garden. It turned out to be not quite what we had thought, but a good talk nonetheless, with plenty of questions at the end. Following some of your comments afterwards, I have asked Mark Dobell to send his list of recommended varieties of veg, which I will get distributed to you all.

For the lady that asked about outdoor cucumbers: I have often grown "Marketmore" and, although shorter, many people prefer the flavour. They feel prickly but these rub off easily by hand when you wash them.



I investigated BULRUSH compost. It is (of course) a lot more expensive but We will continue to see whether anyone would do a club bulk discount. No luck so far.