

LITTLE WALTHAM GARDENING CLUB - May 2025

Members enjoyed a presentation entitled 'Right Plant, Right Place' by Charlotte Power, Horticultural lecturer at Writtle College. The many factors that determine where a plant should be placed were discussed. Drainage and PH of the site are important as is space. How many times do we see an enormous (say), Monkey Puzzle tree dominating a small garden to the exclusion of other plants? Then there is the damage that roots can cause to buildings, willow and bamboo being good/bad examples. There's no such thing as a dwarf conifer warned Charlotte. Some maybe slow growing, but left to themselves they will eventually grow to their unanticipated maximum size.

It was not all gloom and doom. If the soil is alkaline, go with the flow and grow Lilacs, Ceanothus, Clematis and Berberis, to name but a few, and leave the rhododendrons and azaleas and Camellias to those with acid soil. 'Enjoy your garden and don't forget to plant so that the view from inside the house is attractive and tempts you away from household chores' was Charlotte's message.

Until September 3rd, the Gardening Club's meetings will take the form of afternoon outings:

May 14th 'Peacocks', Margaretting.

June 4th Feeringbury Manor

July 1st 'Dragons'

August 6th RHS Hyde Hall.

We travel by car and lifts can be arranged.

For more information, please phone M Williams (01245 360042 or 07772 463397)

Maggie Williams (Chairperson and acting secretary)