

## OCTOBER MEETING - 'Sustainable Living' by Tony Dunn.

Sustainability is a word that we hear a lot about these days, but in 1990 before it became 'trendy', our speaker Tony Dunn, began work on his 2 acre site with the aim of making it an environmentally diverse area. Nothing that could not be replaced was used.

By means of a never ending supply of stable manure (locally sourced), together with lots of hard work, over time the claggy London clay was turned into a worm rich loam which in turn produced a year round supply of organically grown vegetables. By this time metres of fencing had defeated the plague of invading rabbits.

Tony took on the greatest challenge that living in Essex raises - the lack of water. All rain-water was collected and stored for garden use and 'mains' water went into the enlarged ponds where aquatic life began to thrive. The water was bought once and used twice. The hedges provided nesting habitats for an increasing number of birds and small mammals added to the biodiversity.

To complete the aim of living sustainably, one of the first wind turbines in this area was erected in the garden to provide 6kw of electricity.

Careful planning and a great deal of hard work and skill resulted in a practical, environmentally beneficial way of living. A truly inspiring presentation.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th November when RHS silver guilt medal winner Marion Sidebottom MA will be giving a presentation on 'Plant Photography using a mobile phone or a Tablet. The meeting will begin at 7.30pm in The Memorial Hall, Little Waltham (CM3 3PB)

All are welcome.

For more information please phone Maggie Williams 01245 360042 or see website [littlewalthamgardeningclub.co.uk](http://littlewalthamgardeningclub.co.uk)