

NOVEMBER 2011

THE COUNTRY HOUSE – lecture day

Tutor: Rose Horspool

Date: Tuesday 1st November 2011

Time: 10.00am – 4.00pm

Cost: **£55 includes refreshments and lunch**

Location: Home Farm House, Somerby

Rose Horspool has worked as an art lecturer and teacher for the last 30 years and with her husband Robin runs Vista Arts www.vistaarts.co.uk specializing in practical and art appreciation courses, lectures, visits and tours in the UK and abroad.

THE ART OF PRUNING

Tutor: Dustin Hamilton

Date: Friday 4th November 2011

Time: 10.00am – 4.00pm

Cost: **£65 includes refreshments and lunch**

Location: Home Farm House, Somerby

Pruning is essential for good fruit and flower production and to promote healthy growth and attractive habit. In this workshop, Dustin Hamilton will deliver the essential guide to seasonal pruning and training of shrubs, roses, climbers and fruit trees. He will also cover renewal pruning. If you have an overgrown apple tree or wisteria and don't know where to start, this is the workshop for you.

This is also the time of year to take hardwood cuttings and Dustin will cover, how to, what to root them in and the best plants for cuttings. He will also look at the basics of grafting, T- budding and rootstocks. If pruning has overwhelmed you in the past, join Dustin for the day and you won't look back.

THE TRUTH ABOUT PEONIES – talk and hands on workshop

Tutor: Jo Bennison

Date: Saturday 5th November 2011

Time: 10.00am – 4.00 pm

Cost: **£35 includes refreshments**

Location: Home Farm House, Somerby

Jo Bennison has been growing peonies since she was 16 but she started growing peonies on a larger scale 7 years ago after her father-in-law returned from a peony-hunting trip to China with a box of 200 roots. He encouraged Jo to plough up a rig in her field and begin to evaluate the plants he had bought back. Today she grows over 250 varieties that have been sourced from New Zealand, America and nurseries in Europe.

Jo will demystify the growing, caring for and propagation of peonies. There are many rumours and old wives tales about the dangers of trying to move peonies that tend to make people reluctant to disturb old plants. In fact, as with many other hardy perennials, peonies can benefit from being divided at the right time.

Jo will examine species in the wild, where they grow and the habitats they thrive in. This will give you valuable information on how to cultivate different species and help select plants that are more suited to shady sites or damp places and

those which need full sun. These wild species have been used by breeders to produce the many cultivars that are available for our gardens today. Taking several case studies she will show how different species were crossed to produce new colour breaks and different flower forms. From singles to semi-doubles, double to bomb forms, each type of flower has different characteristics which make them better as a cut flower, more likely to be scented or to have good seed pods for autumn display.

Jo will also show how by selecting the right varieties you can have peonies in flower in the garden for at least six weeks, and how the bursting shoots and autumn colour extend the season of interest.

Jo will also give a practical demonstration on how to deal with peonies that have been growing in a garden for years with no attention. By dividing different types of peony and discussing how to replant them to best effect, I will show how easy it is to maximise the power of your peonies in the garden.

Bare root plants will be available for sale on the day.

WEAVE A WILLOW FRAME BASKET

Tutor: Ray Lister

Date: Friday 11th November 2011

Time: 10.00am – 4.00pm

Cost: £95 **includes materials, equipment, refreshment and lunch**

Limited number: **6**

Location: Home Farm, Somerby

Ray Lister, basket maker and craftsman, will lead this workshop in which you will make a frame basket from locally grown willow. Ray is a local woodsman who and been involved in woodland management for 20 years, teaching traditional and rural crafts. He has travelled worldwide practicing his craft, teaching and learning. He now manages local woodland growing hazel, willow and ash for coppicing and charcoal making as well as utilizing in basketry, furniture, hurdle making and other crafts.

Frame basketry is an ancient form of basket making and is a country craft found in Celtic regions. This style lends itself to simple, organic shapes and the use of wild and hedgerow material. A simple technique to master you will make a small, round egg or berry basket using colourful, organically grown local willow. No experience necessary and numbers limited.

THE ART OF BURNING WOOD for FUEL – all you need to know

Tutor: Ray Lister

Date: Saturday 12th November 2011

Time: 10.00am – 4.00pm

Cost: £65 **includes equipment, refreshments and lunch**

Location: Home Farm, Somerby

Ray Lister manages woodland locally where he coppices wood for fuel and makes charcoal. Rediscover the art of burning wood as a fuel and learn about growing, harvesting, gathering, processing, seasoning, different varieties, storing and burning wood. When used correctly wood is a fuel that is totally sustainable and carbon neutral.

There will be a demonstration on how to use a wood-fired stove to its optimum, its cleaning and maintenance as well as how to effectively and safely use a chain saw, splitting axe and mauls. Learn how to identify the best tool for the job and

the different ways of stacking and storing logs efficiently as well as the qualities of different woods. All questions answered.

ARTS AND CRAFTS – lecture day

Tutor: Rose Horspool

Date: Tuesday 15th November 2011

Time: 10.00am – 4.00pm

Cost: £55 includes refreshments and lunch

Location: Home Farm, Somerby

Rose Horspool has worked as an art lecturer and teacher for the last 30 years and with her husband Robin runs Vista Arts www.vistaarts.co.uk specializing in practical and art appreciation courses, lectures, visits and tours in the UK and abroad.

A STITCH IN TIME – make a hot water bottle cover from a beloved, old jumper

Tutor: Zoe Earls

Date: Wednesday 16th 2011

10.00am - 4.00pm

Cost: £65 includes materials, equipment, refreshments and lunch

Location: Home Farm, Somerby

Don't forget to bring along a jumper to recycle into your hot water bottle cover.

DRIFTWOOD TREES, WREATHS AND DECORATIONS

Tutor: Jean Hall

Date: Wednesday 23rd November 2011

10.00am - 4.00pm

Cost: £65 includes materials, equipment, refreshments and lunch

Location: Home Farm, Somerby

Jean Hall was inspired by the texture and colour of driftwood and found objects washed up from Norway when she lived in the Shetlands Islands. Moving to the Northumberland coast she was inspired by more finds and today she employs this lovely treasure to make a variety of beautiful objects.

In this workshop Jean inspires you to put together a wreath and Christmas decorations from found objects. Take them home at the end of the day.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS, DECORATIONS and FLOWERS

Tutor: Rachel Petherham

Date: Thursday 24th November 2010

Time: 10.00am – 4.00pm

Cost: £85 includes materials, refreshments and lunch

Location: Home Farm, Somerby

Rachel Petheram www.catkinflowers.co.uk who has her cutting garden in the beautiful walled garden at Doddington Hall returns this year to demonstrate lots of ways to make wreaths and beautiful, natural ways with flowers, dried and fresh for decorating in the coming festive season.

Your garden or hedgerow will produce all you need for a spectacular display and original twist to decorating this season. Make a wreath with Rachel and take home it home with you as well as the skills to produce more!

GIFT WRAP GURU

Tutor: Jane Means

Date: Friday 25th November 2011

Time: 10.00am – 4.00pm

Cost: **£95 includes materials, refreshments and lunch**

Limited number: 8

Jane Means www.janemeans.co.uk is exceptionally talented and famously known as the Gift Wrap Guru. People travel internationally to attend her workshops and she travels the globe to advise a glittering array of clients.

In this action-packed workshop you will use a variety of materials and will cover the wrapping basics, tackling bottles, circular items, awkward shapes, Japanese pleating, ribbon tying and bows, making envelopes and gift bags

WEAVE A CYNTELL OR LARGE WILLOW FRAME BASKET – advanced weekend course

Tutor: Ray Lister

Date: Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th November 2011

Time: 10.00am – 4.00pm

Cost: **£180 includes materials, equipment, refreshments and lunch**

Limited number: **6**

Location: Home Farm House, Somerby

Ray Lister, basket maker and woodsman, runs this weekend workshop for those with some experience in basketry. He learnt the skills to make the cyntell from D.J. Davis, the last Welsh farmer making this traditional frame basket. Ray keeps the skill alive by passing it on.

The cyntell is a traditional Welsh frame basket, an ancient form of basket. It is constructed from split and shaped wood for the ribs and woven with willow. Ray will teach you the basic skills involved in this technique, how to use the tools and select and shape your material. At the end of the two days you will have mastered the skills and made a beautiful basket with locally coppiced hazel and willow.