

March 2014 meeting James and Matthew from Avonfield Garden Nursery

Speakers for the March meeting were Matthew and James from Avonfield Garden Nursery, near Bradford-on-Avon. The topic was 'conifers, heathers and perennials for year round colour' - although they thought this sounded boring and spiced it up considerably! James is the joker with a seemingly unending store of tales which delighted the audience. Matthew tried valiantly to compete - and in doing so produced two wonderful hanging baskets for instant colour and a beautiful planted glazed pot. It is fair to say there was quite a scrum to buy the finished results as well as the beautiful array of healthy plants and shrubs for colour and scent now and later. There was probably more laughter in this meeting than many others - largely due to James's outrageous jokes and tales! In with the fun were some gardening gems...we learnt how to deter the dreaded slugs (buy the branded liquid feed at their nursery and get the blighters early in the season!) We also learnt that we can dispense with traditional mini conifers to give height to winter and spring arrangements and replace with a lovely glowing mini tree heather and a flowering skimmia - when paired with primulas, violas and miniature daffodils the effect fairly zings with colour and they can all be planted in the garden later. We decided there and then that our village's mini-bus will soon be employed in getting us over to the nursery for our Spring fix of colour.

Edington Gardening Club meets on the first Thursday of the month at the Parish Hall (currently at 8 p.m.) Our next meeting is on Thursday 3rd April when Sally Gregson will present on 'damp damsels and shady ladies'. All will be warmly welcomed at meetings - come and join us for tea/coffee and biscuits and find out about our planned trips to RHS Wisley, The Bishop's Palace at Wells and the Botanic Nursery at Atworth. **Save the date:** 14th June - Edington Fair with our plant stall.