



2018 Monthly Speakers

January 29, 2018 – Paddy Wales

Mostly Sunny ~ Creating a Botanical Garden on the Sunshine Coast

Paddy Wales, author of *Journeys Through the Garden* (Whitecap), is one part garden photographer, one part garden writer, and one part garden maniac. Her images and written articles appear in national and international publications including *Gardening Life*, *Canadian Gardening*, *House & Home*, *Style at Home*, *Fine Gardening*, *Chatelaine*, and *Pacific Horticulture*, and in dozens of books, most recently *The Holistic Garden*, *Creating a Cottage Garden*, and *The New Twelve-Month Gardener*. Paddy is also a very active and integral part of the Sunshine Coast Botanical Garden, where she is an instructor and frequent speaker. In this presentation, Paddy will provide us with an overview of the purpose, scope, and exciting new developments at the Botanical Garden.



March 5, 2018 - Ruth Rodgers

Bursting with Colour!

Last time Ruth did a presentation for our garden club, she had us thinking about designing our gardens using 'shape.' This time around, be ready for a burst of COLOUR!

Ruth, who holds a diploma in horticulture, has gardened for over 30 years and has taught adults for almost 40 years. Ruth will take us through some basic colour theory and show us how to apply it to making our gardens sing with colour.



March 26, 2018 - Bill Terry & Rosemary Bates

Plant-hunting in Africa

Bill and Rosemary will be speaking about their plant-hunting travels through Lesotho, Africa, a small country high in the Drakensburg mountains. Learn about alpine species that can add an exotic touch to your garden and enjoy a vicarious travel experience.



April 30, 2018 - Perry Schmitt

District of Sechelt (DOS) Parks Operations

Perry started with the District of Sechelt in 2005 on a Federal Beach Access Program. In 1996 he joined the Parks Operations team and completed his Journeyman Horticulturist apprenticeship in 2005. Perry now works as the Parks Supervisor with a team of seven. Perry will show us how to navigate the DOS Parks website, and how we can apply for 'Adopt a Street Tree' program

(<http://www.sechelt.ca/Play/Parks-Recreation/Adopt-a-Street-Tree>). He will conclude with the locations of beautifully maintained gardens in our parks which will include photos.



May 28, 2018 - Peter Light

Management of Invasive Plants

Peter is a permaculture design practitioner, consultant, speaker and teacher. He has expressed his approach to the management of invasive plants in our local papers on several occasions. Peter will speak about his experiments with permaculture and engage the audience in a Q & A session on this topic and the topic of invasive plants.



September 24, 2018 - Dr. Carole Christopher

Growing our own food/herbs for better nutrition

Carole has been gardening for nearly 35 years. She is a Director of SPEC (Society Promoting Environmental Conservation) which is Canada's oldest environmental organization, celebrating 45 years of community education and activism. Carole has taught many different types of gardening classes and has a broad knowledge base on the importance of protection of farm land and in equipping urban dwellers with skills of food growing as a means of mitigating the growing crisis in climate system break-down.

Dr. Carole will give us a look at what has happened to the North American diet as a result of the industrial food movement over the last half-century or more and then will focus on how we can grow food and herbs as a way to meet some of our caloric and nutritional needs apart from the unsustainable food supply.



October 29, 2018 - Chris Kelly
Trials and Tribulations of farming on the Sunshine Coast

Chris moved to the Sunshine Coast 5 years ago from the city and has spent most of that time working on his Pratt Road farm. His presentation will focus on the trials and tribulations of farming on the Sunshine Coast and share with you his journey. Chris spoke at the Gibsons Garden Club recently and his presentation was very well received.



November 26, 2018 - Andre Erasmus
Seasonal Floral Arrangements - Indoors and Out

Andre Erasmus is a South African who emigrated here 30 yrs ago for love, not politics. He is a keen gardener with a love for flowers. He gives demos and floral design workshops to garden clubs, senior facilities, schools and pre-schools. Every Friday, during the summer for the past 5 yrs, Andre hosts a hands on workshop at his home where participants bring flowers and foliage from their gardens. His intention is to use as little commercial product as possible and to make his students aware of the abundance of indigenous flora. "Roadsidea" (his name for plants that grow along the roadside - wild and FREE) makes him very happy! Andre is also an organist and choir master to a local parish.

