

# Water Talks 2023

## WATER in the Garden

The second of four 'Water Talks' in April and May

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

**Kevin Bryan**

Kevin was a research ecologist and has seen, first hand, the impacts of changing weather patterns across the world over the past 40 years. The UK is not immune to these changes. His current interests include conservation at local and 'small plot' levels, including within gardens. This embraces gardening for wildlife and 'micro' rewilding. In this 2nd of four 'Water Talks', he downscales from Dave Rumble's *Water in the Landscape* to the more local *Water in the Garden*.

At landscape levels, some districts use schemes to lessen the impacts of chaotic weather, especially flooding, such as 'Natural Flow Management'. In Yorkshire, for example, this includes the Integrated Catchment Solutions Programme (iCASP) and, specifically, 'Slow the Flow' programmes in Calderdale, which covers the Hebden Bridge area. Schemes for drought management can be much more complex.

Can 'nature-based' solutions ever be applied at the garden level? Is it possible to manage gardens, and other small plots, for periods of both excessive rain and insufficient water?

This talk considers matters such as rainfall storage and attenuation, the use of grey water, the feasibility of 'sponge points' in gardens, soil de-compaction and other approaches to highly localised water management. Practical options are discussed.

**This talk is free and open to the public.** The talk is funded by a local resident and provided under the auspices of Transition Southampton. *There's no need to book – just turn-up.*

The talk is 6:50pm for a 7:00pm start. *Look forward to seeing you there at:-*

**The Lounge, Highfield Church Centre, Highfield, Southampton, SO17 1RL**