



SUNFLOWER NEWS

ISSUE 13

SPRING 2016

HORSHAM & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

www.horshamhorticulturalsociety.co.uk

ALL CHANGE...

At our AGM in January three of our long standing members stood down from the Committee to make way for new members with fresh ideas to help take the Society forward. Derek Santer, who was our previous Chairman, Geoffrey Kirk, who served as Treasurer and Show Secretary, and Ray Hartley, our Vice Chairman and website expert, will all continue to be members of the Society and have offered to assist as and when needed, for which we are very grateful.

They were each presented with a gift of a voucher, and we have received the following message from Geoffrey Kirk:



I am writing to thank the Society for the very generous gift you presented to me at the AGM to mark my departure from the Committee after so many years. It was a touching gesture to all three of us retirees, Derek, Ray and myself, which was most unexpected. I aim to buy a suitable shrub, perhaps a rhododendron, to plant in a prominent position in the garden to remind me of the happy association I have enjoyed with a long line of committee members over the years.

Meanwhile I intend to continue as an active member of the Society, willing to help as the occasion demands. I wish you 'girls' (I hope you won't mind my saying that!) every success in running the Society in the future without, so far, the infusion of some new blood onto the Committee.

The Committee would also like to thank them for the years of hard work that they have put in for the benefit of the Society. The remaining Committee members are dedicated to keeping the Society thriving and we would welcome new members. If you feel you are able to help in any way, even if you do not wish to become a Committee member, we would be pleased to hear from you. We would particularly welcome help at our two shows with the setting up, clearing away, refreshments, helping with plant sales, etc. Please contact one of the Committee members if you are able to assist us. The roles of the Committee members have changed and are as follows:

Vice Chair
Treasurer
Membership Secretary
Outings Secretary
Raffle

Lynda Ashby
Sue Hammond
Carolyn Smith (01403 255253)
Carol Treharne (01403 261737)
Lynda Cheeseman

SUMMER COACH OUTING

Great Dixter, Northiam, Rye, East Sussex

We are pleased to announce that we have organised an outing to Great Dixter in conjunction with Roadmark Travel, on Saturday 16th July 2016.

We will be departing from Horsham Station at 9.30 am and Horsham Park and Ride at 9.40 am, stopping at Rye for lunch on the way. The cost will be £28 to include coach, entry to the house and garden and a driver's gratuity. Tickets are limited so please send your cheque, made out to Horsham & District Horticultural Society, to Carol Treharne at 35 Forestfield, Horsham, RH13 6DY by 15th April.



EVENING GARDEN VISITS

This year Carol has organised three more evening garden visits. As usual all visits are on a Tuesday evening starting at 6.00 pm. Look out for the sunflower signs.

Tuesday 3rd May 2016

Dachs Spear Hill, Ashington, West Sussex, RH20 3BA. Mr Bruce Wallace

A waterlogged field turned into a beautiful garden of about 2 acres, including a white garden, bog area, stream and several other themed beds with perennials.

6m N of Worthing. From A24 at Ashington onto B2133 Billingshurst Rd, R into Spear Hill. Dachs is the first house, garden runs along Billingshurst Road.

A donation of £7.50, including refreshments, is going to the National Gardens Scheme. There will be a short talk before we are shown round.

Tuesday 14th June 2016

Beedinglee Brighton Road, Lower Beeding, Horsham, RH13 6NQ. Mrs Jo Longley

Originally part of the Leonardslee Estate, the 1987 hurricane brought down much of the Victorian/Edwardian planting. The present garden has evolved since then with many interesting and unusual trees and shrubs, and a longer flowering season. Still an informal garden, there are hidden paths, a secret garden, lawns and a wild flower garden.

4m SE of Horsham on A281 to Cowfold. Approx ½m N of South Lodge Hotel on A281 from Horsham to Cowfold. The entrance is almost opposite a red post box on a stalk.

There is a donation of £6.50, including refreshments, to the National Gardens Scheme. The Gardener is showing us round and there will be plants for sale afterwards.

Tuesday 26th July 2016

Luctons North Lane, West Hoathly, East Grinstead, RH19 4PP. Dr Hans Sethi

A two acre garden in Gertrude Jekyll style, with small box parterre, lawns, yew topiary, shrub-beries, pond, mixed borders, large fruit and vegetable garden, many culinary, medicinal and other herbs, chickens, vine, peach and greenhouses, and wild flower orchard.

4m SW of East Grinstead, 6m E of Crawley. Off minor road between Turners Hill & Forest Row. Nr Church, Cat Inn & Priest House. Car parks in village.

The Donation is £7.50 including refreshments, also to the National Gardens Scheme.

2015 SHOW REPORTS

The Society held two very successful shows last year. The **Spring Show** attracted 130 entries and the quantity and quality of daffodils was outstanding. The results were:

Stanley Cup for the best exhibit in the daffodil/narcissi classes - Paul Dalby
 Irene Crackston Cup for pot plants - Hazel Bockh
 Ron Ball Cup for cacti and succulents - Diana Hartley
 Spring Floral Cup for spring flowers other than daffodils - Sally Birchmore
 Secretary's Cup for small floral exhibits - Molly Gould
 Woods Mill Cup for shrubs etc. - Valerie Goodwin
 Domestic Cup, for the highest number of points gained in the cookery classes - Sue Hammond
 Butcher's Trophy for the best exhibit in the Handicrafts Section.- Sue Hammond
 Weald Cup for the highest number of points gained in the whole show - Paul Dalby
 Jubilee Cup for the highest number of points for items exhibited at the winter meetings - Jean Williams

The **Summer Show** provided a wonderful display of flowers, fruit, vegetables, cookery and handicrafts, all of good quality. It had been unfortunate that we had had some very heavy rain on the two days preceding the day of the show, which might have spoiled some of the flowers members had been hoping to exhibit. Just under 200 entries were submitted and the awards were presented by Derek Santer as follows:

Rose Bowl for the best rose exhibit - Lynda Cheeseman
 Garden News Shield for best vegetable exhibit - David Frost (for his tomatoes)
 Nora Poole Cup for the best vase of other cut flowers - Margaret Rogers
 Shelley Cup for the best pot plant - Hazel Bockh
 Founders' Salver for the most points in the vegetable classes - Neville Rogers
 Arun Cup for the most points gained for fruit - Vic Mansell
 Reg Smith Cup for the photographic section - Hazel Bockh
 Festival Cup for the most points in the flower classes—Paul Dalby
 Ladies Cup for the lady winning the most points for vegetables & fruit - Lynda Cheeseman
 Floral Cup for floral art in this year's Spring & Summer shows - Margaret Rogers
 Handicrafts Trophy for the best handicraft exhibit (embroidery) - Jack Hills
 Chairman's competition (Betty Santer Shield) - Paul Dalby
 RHS Banksian Medal for the member winning the highest number of points—Neville Rogers
 Layton Cup for most points in the domestic classes —Sue Hammond



ONE MORE THING,,,

Calling all our members who have never entered anything into our shows, we would like you to give it a go and enter just one thing into the Spring Show this year. Whether it is a single specimen daffodil, that pot plant that has been sitting on your window sill, a jar of home-made jam or an item of handicraft you have knitted or made. Give it a try and you'll be surprised how easy it is, and you never know you may win a cup!

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

When you are out and about over the next few months why not take your camera with you and enter our photographic competition as part of the Summer Show? The subjects are listed below and full details can be found in the show schedule.

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| A bird or birds | A woodland scene |
| Wild flowers | A Horsham landmark |
| Three photos (with a common theme) illustrating "Red, White and Blue" | |

MEMBERSHIP FEES

If you have not yet paid your annual subscription, please send your £10 per person to the Membership Secretary at Little Oaks, Kentwyns Drive, Horsham, RH13 6EU. Please enclose an s.a.e. if you would like your membership card to be sent to you.

If we do not receive your subscription by the end of March 2016 we will assume you no longer wish to renew your membership and will delete your details from our membership list.

As announced at the AGM, the membership fee will increase to £12 per person from 1st October 2016. This increase is necessary to cover the rise in hall hire and speakers' fees.

INTER-SOCIETY QUIZ

This year's Inter-Society Quiz will take place at Southwater Village Hall on 16th March, starting at 7.30 pm.

Horsham, Southwater, Mannings Heath and Slinfold Horticultural Societies will be competing, and we would be pleased if you were able to come along to support your team.

Jack Dunckley's
BIRCHFIELD NURSERY

Birchfield Nursery at Kidders Lane, Henfield, offers a 10% discount to members of the Horticultural Society upon production of your membership card.

OBITUARY

It is with deep regret we have to announce the death of John Lindfield on 6th December 2015. Our thoughts are with his family at this sad time.

POET'S CORNER

LETTER FROM THE CARACTUS CHEMICAL CO.

By Derek Santer

To mark our golden anniversary
New items in your local nursery.
We're very proud to introduce
Our latest anti-pest produce.

At last you now can treat your soil
To save yourself a lot of toil.
Use this fine product more and more
And all the bugs will go next door.
No need to throw snails o'er the fence;
They'll all go there in self-defence.

This new spray is a tired man's joy –
Can tell a female from a boy!
So it's ultra fast succeeding
In preventing them from breeding.

Without slugs, green, black and white fly
Strong weeds will now soon multiply
So we have added a new gel
To kill off all green leaves as well.

So we are now happy to say
That every plant will fade away.
Clear space remains from wall to wall
And no hard work to do at all.

While Fred next door is mowing his grass
You can watch while sitting on your... deck
chair!
No hedges to trim, no lawn to be mown
Easy life in a desert of your own.

So buy it now without delaying –
Give your garden a thorough spraying.
You can enjoy a lazy lunch
While watching neighbour's insects munch.
The relaxed time you've always planned
But buy it quick – next week it's banned!