



# SUNFLOWER NEWS

ISSUE 15

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## HORSHAM & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

[www.horshamhorticulturalsociety.co.uk](http://www.horshamhorticulturalsociety.co.uk)

### EVENING GARDEN VISITS

Carol has organised three Evening Garden Visits for this year. As usual all visits are on a Tuesday evening, meeting at 6.00 pm. Please look out for the sunflower signs where appropriate.

#### **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018**

**TILGATE PARK, Titmus Drive, Crawley. RH10 5PQ. Nick Hagon**

Following the interesting talk last year by Nick Hagon on Tilgate Park, and requests from several members, we have accepted his invite to visit the park. Tilgate is a large park with stunning lakes, lawns and gardens, with miles of woodland for long leisurely walks.

Directions: To Crawley turn left into Southgate Avenue (opposite Football ground) then right into Tilgate Way. Turn left into Ashdown Drive, then first right into Titmus Drive up to Tilgate Park. You can park in the staff car park or opposite the walled garden. Then we will all meet by the Barn. There is a donation of £7 including refreshments and Nick Hagon will meet us and take us around the park.

#### **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

**FOXGLOVE COTTAGE, 29 Orchard Road, Horsham, RH13 5NF. Peter & Terri Lefevre**

Unusual 150ft x 50ft plantaholic's garden with a plethora of planted containers, quirky vintage finds and gardenalia. Gravel and bark paths are interspersed by planting areas encompassing sun drenched and shady borders, with plenty of seating dotted about. A beach inspired summerhouse and decking are flanked by a water feature. The end of the garden is dedicated to propagation, cut flowers and fruit growing.

Directions: Horsham Station. Over the bridge signed Crawley. 1<sup>st</sup> roundabout 4<sup>th</sup> exit, 1<sup>st</sup> left, Station Road signed Brighton. 1<sup>st</sup> left Depot Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> right Orchard Rd. There is street parking. The donation is £7 including refreshments. Mrs Lefevre will give us a short talk and we can wander around at leisure. There will be plants for sale.

#### **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

**COLWOOD HOUSE, Cuckfield Lane, Warninglid, RH17 5SP Mr & Mrs P. Brennan**

There are 12 acres of garden with mature and specimen trees from the late 1800s, lawns and woodland edge. The garden also features a formal parterre; rose and herb gardens; a 100ft terrace and herbaceous border overlooking a flower rimmed croquet lawn; a cut turf labyrinth and forsythia tunnel; water features, statues and gazebos; a pets' cemetery; a giant chessboard and a lake with an island and a temple. The garden has gravel paths and some slopes.

Directions: 6m W of Haywards Heath, 6m SE of Horsham. Entrance on B2115 (Cuckfield Lane). From E, N & South, turn W off A23 towards Warninglid for 3/4m. From W come through Warninglid village. There is parking.

There is a donation is £8 including refreshments, going to charity. Mrs Brennan will give us a talk and then show us around.

## SUMMER COACH OUTING—KEW GARDENS

We are pleased to announce that Carol has organised this year's summer outing on Saturday 14th July 2018 to the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew in Richmond, Surrey.

The attractive gardens feature a Victorian glasshouse containing a unique collection of tropical plants, a treetop walkway, the Princess of Wales Conservatory, an arboretum, as well as stunning planting. 'The Hive' is a unique multi-sensory experience, standing 17 metres tall and set in a wildflower meadow. The intensity of the sounds and light change constantly, echoing that of a real beehive. It has been constructed from aluminium and features 1,000 LED lights.

We will be departing from Horsham Park & Ride at 9.30 am and then onto Horsham Station for 9.45am, leaving Kew at 5pm. The cost of the outing will be £29 inclusive. Tickets are limited, so please send your cheque, payable to Horsham & District Horticultural Society, to Mrs C L Treharne at 35 Forestfield, Horsham, RH13 6DY by 15th April 2018, or pass to Carol at the Society's Meetings.



### YOUR COMMITTEE

At the AGM on 9th January 2018 the following Committee members were re-elected :

Chairman—Mrs Lynda Ashby

Vice-Chairman—Mrs Carolyn Smith

Show Secretary—Mrs Sue Hammond

Outings Secretary—Mrs Carol Treharne

Secretary—Mrs Lynda Cheeseman

We would welcome further new members, so please contact one of the Committee if you would like further information (contact details can be found in the Show Schedule).

### LEONARDSLEE GARDENS

These popular local gardens will be opening to the public again in late spring 2018. The gardens are being restored to their former glory, with improved tea rooms and dining facilities.

If you are looking for the perfect gift for someone, they are now offering an annual membership and gift vouchers.

If you wish to receive regular updates and information please visit their website and register your e-mail address ([www.leonardsleegardens.co.uk](http://www.leonardsleegardens.co.uk)).

### AMENDMENTS TO SHOW SCHEDULE

We made a bloomer!

Three classes are missing from the printed Spring Show Schedule. These are:

5. Three multi-headed daffodils or narcissi, any variety or varieties, but excluding those in classes 1-4 or 6
20. A miniature floral arrangement, size not more than 4"/10cm overall
21. A 'petite' floral arrangement, size not more than 10"/25cm overall

We apologise for the omission. A full list of classes for both shows is available on the website.

## 2017 SHOW REPORTS

Members and visitors alike were treated to a spectacular display of spring flowers, foliage and pot plants at the **Spring Show** last April. There were also many excellent displays in the cookery and handicraft classes. The results were as follows:

Stanley Cup – for the best exhibit daffodils/narcissi – Janet Girdlestone  
 Irene Crackston Cup for the best pot plant – Molly Gould  
 Ron Ball Cup for the best cacti/succulents – Carolyn Smith  
 Spring Floral Cup for the best exhibit of spring flowers – Molly Gould  
 Secretary's Cup for the best petite arrangement – Janet Girdlestone  
 Woods Mill Cup for the best shubs – Margaret Rogers  
 Domestic Trophy for the most points in the cookery classes – Sue Hammond  
 Butcher's Trophy for the best handicraft – Eileen Sendall  
 Weald Cup for the highest number of points gained by an individual – Carolyn Smith



“A very high standard of exhibits”, was declared by many visitors viewing the Society's **Summer Show**. A record number of entries on display totalling 206 made the show a spectacular event. One exhibit was particularly outstanding – an exquisite piece of needlework entered by the youngest participant in the show – Sarah Dart. This was a worthy first place winner in the Handicraft Section. Judging was undertaken by Mrs Gill Mansell, who was also officiating over the Domestic Section and Floral Art.

Peter Hammond another younger competitor again showed his culinary skills by securing 1<sup>st</sup> place for his cookies and a jug of lemonade, 2<sup>nd</sup> for Eccles cakes and quiche, 3<sup>rd</sup> for his lemon curd. This follows on from a similar success in the Spring Show. The Society is keen to encourage all young people in these traditional skills and welcome entries from children and grandchildren of members.

Other outstanding entries were made by Mrs Sue Hammond, Show Secretary, and Mr Paul Dalby who took most of the trophies and awards between them. The Chairman's Competition won by Mrs Lynda Cheeseman for her 'Little Leo' sunflower was judged best on display by Mr Ron Thomas, who also officiated by judging the flowers, vegetables and fruit sections. The trophies were presented by Society President Mr Bob Taylor, and the winners were:

Padwick Floral Bowl – for the most points in the show – Paul Dalby  
 President's Cup – for the most points in the flowers, vegetable & fruit classes – Paul Dalby  
 Festival Cup – for the most points in the flower classes – Paul Dalby  
 Founders' Salver – for the most points in the vegetables classes – Paul Dalby  
 Ladies' Cup – for the lady winning most points for vegetables & fruit – Sue Hammond  
 Arun Cup – for the most points gained for fruit – Sue Hammond & Ray Hartley (joint)  
 Layton Cup – for the most points in the domestic classes – Sue Hammond  
 Reg Smith Cup – for the photographic section – Diana Hartley  
 Ron Mitchell Cup – for the best exhibit in the flowers, vegetable & fruit classes – Geoffrey Kirk  
 Nora Poole Cup – for the best vase of other cut flowers – Ray Hartley  
 Rose Bowl – for the best rose exhibit – Sue Hammond  
 Shelley Cup – for the best pot plant – Paul Dalby  
 Garden News Shield – for the best vegetable exhibit – Paul Dalby  
 Handicrafts Trophy – for the best handicraft exhibit – Janet Girdlestone  
 Floral Cup – for the best floral art display – Sue Hammond & Margaret Rogers (joint)  
 RHS Banksian Medal – for the member winning the highest number of points – Paul Dalby  
 Betty Santer Shield – for the winner of the Chairman's competition – Lynda Cheeseman

If you would like to enter something in one of our shows but have never done so before, why not give it a try this year? There is a wide range of categories from pot plants, cut flowers and shrubs as well as domestic and handicraft classes. Any member of the Committee would be happy to advise you if you have any questions.

### MEMBERSHIP FEES

If you have not yet paid your annual subscription, please send your £12 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 2018 we will assume you no longer wish to renew your membership and will delete your details from our membership list.

There will be small increase in subscriptions from 1st October 2018. Single membership will be £15, or £25 for a couple.

### RAFFLE

Thank you for your kind donations to our raffles this year. As you know, we do not charge entry to the evening meetings and therefore rely heavily on our raffle to fund these meetings and provide good speakers and entertainment.

Your support is very much appreciated.

### INTER-SOCIETY QUIZ

This year's Inter-Society Quiz will be hosted by our Society on Tuesday, 6th March, starting at 7.30 pm.

Southwater and Mannings Heath Horticultural Societies will be competing to take the cup from us so please come along to support your team.

### TOP TIPS

**Turn a long-handled tool into a measuring stick. Lay the tool on the ground, and next to it place a tape measure. Using a permanent marker, write inch and foot marks (or cms) onto the handle. When you need to space plants a certain distance apart you'll already have a measuring device in your hand.**

**The next time you boil or steam vegetables, don't pour the water down the drain, use it to water potted patio plants and you'll be amazed at how the plants respond to the "vegetable soup".**

**Take the strain out of lifting large planters and pots by filling the pot one-third to one-half full with polystyrene "peanuts". Lay a piece of landscaping fabric on top of the polystyrene and then layer on your potting soil. To reduce the weight of the pot further, use a potting mix with lots of vermiculite and peat moss.**

### PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION—Time to get snapping!

If you're out and about with your camera over the next few months please consider entering one of our photographic competition categories this year. The subjects are as follows:

- |                                     |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| A ball game                         | England in the spring |
| Circle(s)                           | Summer profusion      |
| Three photos illustrating "1, 2, 3" |                       |

Entries are judged prior to the summer show and should be submitted by Sunday, 22nd July. Full details can be found in the show schedule and on the website.