

LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Summer Newsletter 2008

Thoughts from your Chairman

Hello Everyone,

Today I am sitting in the sun, what a change that is as it seems to have been raining for ever. Let us hope that the better weather continues.

We had a successful spring coffee morning in May which was very busy and well supported. Although the members' open morning at the farm was wet again this year, a lot of you braved the weather and took advantage of the fact that the Sundries Centre was also open. As usual the Society had a plant stall on Village Day which went very well in fact it sold out!

I would like to thank everyone who helped on any of the above events. However you helped whether with: the advertising, loading and unloading, washing up, selling, clearing up etc or provided plants a very big thank you. Without your efforts we would not be such a happy and successful Society.

Finally here is a tip which you might find useful. When you use a garlic press the bits tend to get stuck in the holes and are difficult to remove. If you scrub it with a nail or vegetable brush it will be clean in no time.

Sheila Hobbs

Spring Show 2007 Results and Report

SPRING SHOW CUPS AND AWARDS

Daffodil Society Bronze Medal & Certificate
The Fisk Cup
The Lea Cup
The Jeeves Cup
The Floral Art Cup
The George Murrell Photographic Cup
The Forget-me-Not Shield
The Heart and Soul Shield

Richard Hilson
Richard Hilson
Pat Mace
Ian Cooper
Anne Skinner
Carolyn Nurse
Alexander Cameron
Katherine Cameron

BEST IN SHOW

Vegetable Ian Cooper
Pot Plant M Mighall
Flower Dave Vivash
Cookery Dorothy Brown
Handicraft M Mighall

Thank you to all of you who entered the spring show, especially those members who were exhibiting for the first time. The colourful exhibits of flowers and the display of vegetables made for a very promising start to the show year.

The entries for the photography classes were again of a high standard. Remember that the advance notice of the photographic classes for the 2009 spring show is on page 58 of this year's show schedule, so you have plenty of time to get snapping.

We had the added bonus that Neal Wharton of the Lindfield Times visited the show and took many photographs. For those of you who have access to the internet these can be viewed at: www.lindfieldtimes.org.uk/gallery29.html - so peruse them at your leisure.

I look forward to seeing you all in July.

Pat Whetstone

Review of Show Schedule

A review of the Show Schedule is about to be undertaken led by Richard Hilson. The aim is not only to update the individual entries but more importantly to encourage people to submit entries. For historic reasons the present schedule can be a rather forbidding document to someone who has never entered a show before. We want to ensure that the whole experience of entering and showing is a pleasant one. So if you have any thoughts about this please share them with us by contacting Pat Whetstone, Michael Elliot or Martin Higgins on 483236 or 483039 or 484120 respectively.

Nursery Catalogues

One of the alleged compensations of winter is that gardeners and allotment holders have time to peruse next season's seed catalogues. In truth, I find this a rather boring chore not helped by the fact that whatever variety of runner bean that I select "Young Tom" is sure to triumph yet again in the "longest runner bean" competition. This being the case I prefer being addicted to nursery catalogues which like children come in all sorts of shapes and sizes.

I like to dream my dreams of growing plants which alas either do not like my soil or will need dispensation from the boss to dig up yet more of the lawn, the latter being hard to obtain! No matter I can still enjoy Bob Brown's catalogue from Cotswold Garden Flowers. Bob is a man of strong opinions who is not shy in sharing them. As an example his entry for Delphinium Requinii includes the following: "I think it excites more comments than it deserves but the customer is king (or queen) ... for once." Does he actually sell any of these? If so it can only be to customers who have either not read his catalogue or have nerves of steel and are prepared to run the risk of his withering look as they tender the sale price.

But this is mild compared with Hemerocallis Spacecoast Starburst: "Offend your visitors. Sugar-pink tetraploid petals with a golden-yellow centre and crusted golden-yellow edges. 60cm. Yuck!"

Martin Higgins