

LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk

Summer Newsletter 2014

Editorial

After a winter in which an ark was of more use than a sledge what a breath of fresh air was provided by the Spring Show. I cannot recall a better one; the King Edward Hall looked magnificent with all the exhibits. Well done to all the exhibitors. My fear that the early spring would leave us short of daffodils was completely unfounded. It was particularly pleasing that so many of you entered your "Arkles" in the special daffodil class. Let us hope that Richard Hilson selects another winner for us next year.

Talking of the Spring Show reminds me of Janice Dyer's adventures with her prize winning marmalade. Janice's marmalade not only came first in the marmalade class but also won the prize for the best cookery exhibit in the show. The following day she was off to Cornwall to go to an old aunt's funeral. Due to Janice's restricted mobility she decided to fly and give the marmalade to her just widowed uncle. Her generosity only lasted until she reached the check in at Gatwick for the prize winning marmalade was confiscated. Perhaps customs had heard about the quality of the LHS's cookery exhibits?

Rose's first outing linking Clandon Park and Ramster Gardens was a great success. For some strange reason I had never been to the latter before, well what a superb spring garden it is, an absolute delight. At the time of writing her second coach outing of the year will shortly be taking place, which includes a visit to that rather special garden at Great Dixter. How very appropriate therefore that we will be having a talk about the history of Great Dixter later in the year (see the item below).

An important part of our Society's activities centre around the tea room, something that is very much enjoyed by members and visitors alike. We are now on the lookout both for additional cake bakers and for people prepared to help serve tea and coffee etc at our events. If you are able to help us please contact Debbie Anscombe (413193). Debbie has a rota of helpers so do not worry, you would not be called on very often but she does need more people who are prepared to help so as to minimise the number of times our volunteers are called upon .

You will see from Pat Whetstone's report below that she is giving up the position of Show Secretary as from next year. The Society therefore also needs a volunteer to take on this important role. If you even just "might" be interested please have a chat with Pat about what the position entails (483236).

I look forward to seeing you all at the Summer Show on the 12th July. If you have not entered one of our shows before give it a go, for its good fun and if you need any advice etc speak to Pat Whetstone (483236). There are two new classes:

155. House or conservatory plant – a fern in a pot (maximum size of pot 17cm or 6.75in)
160. Fuchsia blooms floating in a bowl (bring your own bowl, maximum size of 20cm or 8in)

The Show Schedule sets out all the other classes as well.

Editor

Fergus Garrett is coming

One of the undoubted highlights of recent years has been Fergus Garrett's talks which Wendy has arranged for us. Well Fergus returns for a third time on Wednesday 8th October to give a talk entitled "The History of Great Dixter", and I can assure you that it is as good as the others. As he is so popular it will be as before an all ticket occasion. Tickets will go on sale at the Summer Show and if there any left you will be able to reserve them by telephoning Tracy Adams (482999). The cost has yet to be finalised by the committee but is likely to be of the order of £3 for members, and £5 for visitors (although more than our standard charge it is still much cheaper than elsewhere and reflects the higher cost of the booking). For those of you who do not know of him, Fergus is a leading light in both international and national horticultural circles, a fantastic "hands in the soil" gardener, great speaker and to cap it all; a very nice bloke

Editor

Spring Show

What a great start to the show year. The hall looked "spectacularly springy". We had at least four new exhibitors which is brilliant for the society. There were even some new names exhibiting in the floral art. I hope all the first timers enjoyed the experience and will be taking part in future shows. Thank you to all our regular exhibitors and I hope that the summer and autumn shows are as successful.

You will see from Martin's report that I am retiring from the job of show secretary. I have done the job for a few years now and I think it is time for a new member to take over. If anyone is interested please get in touch with me and I can show you what is involved. I am not deserting the society as I will be relieving Martin of one of his many jobs, that of the society's Hon. Secretary. See you at the summer show.

Results

Daffodil Society Bronze Medal & Certificate
Fisk Cup
Lea Cup
Jeeves Cup

Dave Vivash
Dave Vivash
Dave Vivash
Michael Elliott

Daffodil Cup
Evelyn Drew Floral Art Cup
George Murrell Photographic Cup
Keiron James Toys Shield
Junior Shield

Betty Page
Clare Wilson
Tim Richardson
Liam Jolly
Emily Sutlow

Best in Show

Vegetable
Pot Plant
Cookery
Handicraft
Trug

Dave Vivash
Richard Watson
Janis Dyer
Annette Page
Andrew Harding

Pat Whetstone

A Thank You from Audrey

As I have now retired as Catering Officer I would like to thank all those members, many in number, who have been so willing to help and made my job easier these past nine years. I would phone people before Coffee Mornings or Shows and the voice the other end would say "Oh, I know why you are phoning, what would you like me to do?" Also, hearty congratulations to Debbie Anscombe my successor; I hear that at her first show in the Spring the money taken at the teas was a society record.

Audrey Kite

Autumn Coach Outing

The first three coach trips of the year have been very popular but it is not too late to book for the last one to Winkworth Arboretum ; here are the details:

Friday 24th October – Autumn Colours at the Winkworth Arboretum

Run by the National Trust, Winkworth Arboretum in Godalming has a collection of more than 1,000 different trees and shrubs and is absolutely stunning in the Autumn. It is a hillside site so there are some steep routes but much of the site is accessible on level pathways. There are three marked trails, one 'Open to All', one medium route 'Taste of Winkworth' and a 'Challenging' walk. There are beautiful views and peaceful walks, a lake with a boathouse and a wetland area. There is a tea room serving hot soup, sandwiches and homemade cake.

We will be leaving Lindfield at about 10.30am and returning by 4.00pm, plenty of time for a good long walk and a nice lunch. As it is a National Trust Property there will be two prices:

National Trust Members	£11.50
Non National Trust members	£17.25

If you would like to go please use the form at the end of the Spring Newsletter, but if this is not to hand please either phone me (483229) or email me (rose.mortenson@gmail.com).

Rose Mortenson

Anemone “Wild Swan”

At the Great Comp Spring Fling (which is just that lovely garden’s name for its spring plant fair) one of my favourite plants women, Jennie Maillard of Usual & Unusual Plants recommended that I try Anemone “Wild Swan”. Apparently it was awarded “Plant of the Year” at the 2011 Chelsea Flower Show. It has elegant white flowers, 7-9cm. across which are held well above the attractive neat green foliage, each flower has lilac-blue bands on the reverse of the petals and at dusk it closes to a nodding lilac-blue and white bell. Flowering is from late May into June and then intermittently until the autumn frosts. Unlike the Japanese Anemones it is non invasive.

Well it has been a delight and I would recommend it to any one. It has a height and spread of 45cm and 60cm and is hardy. At present it is still on the expensive side, mine cost £8.50, but next year as stocks increase its price should decrease, so it is well worth looking out for.

Editor

Sundries Centre

Summer is here and now is the time to enjoy the fruits of your labour in the garden and allotment, but it is also the time to keep everything in tip top condition – with the help of your Sundries Centre of course! All plants should be kept well fed throughout the season, so here are some tips below.

Maxicrop and Phostrogen can be used for all pot plants and garden plants; Groworganic manure and Groworganic Pellets can be scattered liberally over the soil to add nutriment without fear of causing plant damage. Use Rosefood to give your roses a boost; Tomorite or Maxicrop with Tomato Feed will feed your tomatoes, and can be used to feed anything that needs a high potash fertiliser, including fuchsias and geraniums.

If your lawn is looking a bit tired give it a boost with either Lawn Weed and Feed or Maxicrop; if you have moss in your lawn you need either Lawn Weed, Feed and Mosskiller or Maxicrop Mosskiller & Lawn Tonic.

SB Plant Invigorator controls most fungal diseases and gives the plants a boost to make them grow stronger and thus strengthen their ability to produce their own natural fungicides and pesticides; Py Insect powder will control most insect pests, and don’t forget the Slug Pellets!! We now stock the bird friendly pellets as well as the regular ones.

All of the above are obtainable from your Sundries Centre at considerably lower prices than from the garden centres. We are open:

Sunday 8th June

Saturday 19th June

Sunday 6th July
Saturday 19th July

After that we have a holiday until September. Enjoy the summer and your gardens and allotments!!

Noreen Smith

Dates for Your Diary - coming LHS events and Gardens to Visit

June

Sunday 22nd Gardens open in Ansty and Hurstpierpoint in aid of St Peter and St James Hospice⁺

Sunday 22nd Gardens open in Balcombe in aid of St Catherine's Hospice⁺⁺

Fri – Sun 27th, 28th, 29th June Plant Finders Fair at Borde Hill

Saturday 28th Garden open in Burgess Hill in aid of St Peter and St James Hospice⁺

Sunday 29th Gardens open in Newick in aid of St Peter and St James Hospice⁺

Every Tuesday and Friday in June/July/August LHS member Frances Druce's garden in Copyhold Lane is open for the NGS, with 20% of proceeds going to St Catherine's.

Phone 413265 first as limited parking.

July

Sun 6th Sundries centre open 9.30 – 11am

Weds 9th Deadline for Show entries

Thurs 10th Trip to Hampton Court Flower Show (fully booked but contact Rose Mortenson 483229 for waiting list)

Sat 12th SUMMER SHOW King Edward Hall 2.00 – 4.45 (Free entry for exhibitors)

Sun 13th Gardens open in Cuckfield and Lewes in aid of St Peter and St James Hospice⁺

Sat 19th Sundries centre open 9.30 – 11am

Sun 20th Gardens open in Burgess Hill, Hassocks and Keymer in aid of St Peter and St James Hospice⁺

Sun 27th Secret gardens with views open in Lewes in aid of St Peter and St James Hospice⁺

August

Sun 10th Garden open at Newtimber Place aid of St Peter and St James Hospice⁺

Sun 31st Sussex Prairie Garden, near Henfield. Unusual Plant and Art Fair.

www.plantsandart.co.uk

September

Sat 12th Ham Cottage, Hammingden Lane, Highbrook open in aid of St Peter and St James Hospice⁺

Weds 10th Deadline for Show entries

Sat 13th AUTUMN SHOW King Edward Hall 2.00 – 4.45 (Free entry for exhibitors)

Sat 27th Sundries centre open 9.30 – 11am

October

Weds 8th 8.00 Talk – History of Great Dixter by Fergus Garrett (see item above)

Sat 11th Coffee Morning and Plant Sale, Jubilee Room 10 – 12pm

Sun 12th Sundries centre open 9.30 – 11am

Friday 24th Coach Trip to Winkworth Arboretum (see item above)

Sat 25th Sundries centre open 9.30 – 11am

+ For info on St Peter & St James gardens 01444 471598 or
www.stpeter-stjames.org.uk

++ For info on St Catherine's Hospice gardens 01293 447319 or www.stch.org.uk

There are National Gardens Scheme gardens open weekdays and weekends until October, see the 'Yellow Book'. Our 120 copies soon went but there are copies available in Haywards Heath Library.

ENJOY THE SUMMER!

Rosemary Humphreys