

LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Winter Newsletter 2007

Thoughts from your Chairman

Here we are in deep autumn and I feel cheated at having had no real summer this year. Let us hope that we have plenty of autumn colour to make up for it.

It has been the usual very active year for the Society. There were two very good outings and three excellent shows, we were lucky with the weather for all of them. Village Day and the plant sales went well, the coffee mornings were busy, and our programme of talks was well supported. I am very proud to be the Chairman of such a good society. So thank you to all our band of helpers - we are very lucky that there are so many of you who are willing to help. See you soon.

Sheila Hobbs

AGM 14th November 2007 at 7.30pm

The Agenda for the AGM is attached at the end of this newsletter and we would ask all members to attend it. The meeting starts **30 minutes earlier than normal** and usually only lasts about half an hour. Your Society is always keen to receive nominations for officers or committee members so if you can help please put your name forward. The AGM will followed by a very topical talk entitled "Burma, Sixty Years On", which will be given by our own Margaret Nicolle, a local historian and Parish Councillor.

Michael Elliott

Slugs

Our constant gardening "companions" have done very well this year so it is timely that David Macmillan has drawn my attention to comments he heard on one of the BBC gardening programmes that sawdust is a good and efficient anti-slug medium. Unfortunately there is a downside, since decaying wood products reduce the amount of nitrogen in the soil. As soil sourced nitrogen is essential for the healthy growth of most plants a nitrogen based fertiliser must be added either at the time of applying the sawdust or when it has decayed. However if you want to give it a try a potential source of sawdust is Ian Duffell, the high-quality joiner of Lindfield Enterprise Park. He has large quantities which he consigns to landfill but which might be available for minimal charge to those who ask. If you do try, let me know the results but please do not divert your slimy friends towards Dukes Road!

Editor

Outings 2007

2007 saw the first two outings arranged by Ann Higgins. They were both good days and great fun. We had our usual trip to Wisley in June at the height of the rose season and an amazing trip to West Dean, a beautiful garden just outside Chichester with wonderful and well kept greenhouses, borders and estate grounds. Thank you Ann

Michael Elliott

Outings 2008

Here is advance notice of the dates of the two main trips for 2008 (full details in the next newsletter):

Tuesday 10th June – Michelham Priory

Wednesday 16th July - Rye and Great Dixter

Ann Higgins

Autumn Show 2007 cups and awards

Once again a very successful autumn show although the entries were slightly down from last year; thank you to all those who entered. It does not seem possible that we are at the end of another horticultural year. The time has flown by and I would like to thank all those who helped to make the shows such a success. We may be a small village society but we certainly know how to put on a display of horticultural excellence. See you all in the spring.

Pat Whetstone

<u>CUPS AND AWARDS AUTUMN SHOW 2007</u>	
THE BOB LACEY SALVER	JOHN BROWN
THE MASSEY-DAWSON CUP	RICHARD HILSON
THE HELENA HALL CUP	MICHAEL ELLIOTT
THE DAHLIA CUP	RICHARD HILSON
THE HUDDART CUP	SHEILA HOBBS
THE NATIONAL CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY'S CERTIFICATE & BRONZE MEDAL	PAT MACE
THE PRESIDENT'S SALVER	PAT MACE
THE DAHLIA CUP	RICHARD HILSON
THE PENNEY CUP	GILL JONES
THE HARRY TESTER CUP	MICHAEL ELLIOTT
FORGET-ME-NOT SHIELD	ALEXANDER CAMERON
HEART & SOUL SHIELD	KATHERINE CAMERON
<u>BEST IN SHOW</u>	
VEGETABLE	ALISON LAINCHBURY
FRUIT	ROLF LLOYD-WILLIAMS
FLOWER	MICHAEL ELLIOTT
POT PLANT	MICHAEL ELLIOTT
COOKERY	FIONA PUGH
HANDICRAFT	YVONNE BEE
<u>ANNUAL CUPS AND AWARDS</u>	
THE LADY WILKINSON SILVER TRAY	GILL JONES
THE DAWSON CUP	TOM HUGHES
THE MORECOMBE WHITE CUP	YVONNE BEE
THE PROCTOR CUP	M MIGHALL
THE SHEPHERD CUP	MICHAEL ELLIOTT
THE RON PICKETT TROPHY	MICHAEL ELLIOTT
THE LHS JUNIOR PERPETUAL SHIELD	ALEXANDER CAMERON
THE SHEPHERD PERPETUAL SHIELD	KATHERINE CAMERON

Seed Orders - Reduce the Costs of your Seeds

The Society will again this autumn be making arrangements with Suttons and Dobies to purchase seeds in bulk. Members will therefore have the opportunity to make savings of up to 20% on seeds and 10% on plants and accessories. This saving is available to everybody, whether you buy one packet of seeds or fifty so do not be frightened to take advantage of this offer, every little helps.

You can pick up a catalogue and information as to how the system works, from Alison Coburn, our Secretary at any of our autumn events and you will have until the end of November to place your order. The seeds will be delivered to you in early January and your plants at the appropriate time in the season. We must stress that this discount can only be received if we achieve a certain volume of sales. So the message is if you are going to buy seed or plants from Suttons or Dobies please do so through your Society.

Michael Elliott

Show Talk 2007

Every year we seem to say that it has been a funny old year and its all because of the weather. Just compare the heat of July 2006 with the wet of July 2007. However through it all, our exhibitors always seem to find something to put in the shows; we may have lost potatoes to the blight but the soft fruit has been exceptional. The number of entries this year were not bad, probably average, but the quality was still good. The competition in one or two classes was disappointing and somehow we must encourage members to have a go. It is infuriating when you hear remarks such as 'I've got as good as that at home'. The amateur classes are not hard to enter, you don't need vast quantities, one rose or nine beans are not difficult to find.

On behalf of the Committee and all the membership I would like to thank Richard Hilson for taking up the post of Show Superintendent; he has already stamped his mark on the last two shows. We now have a fantastic team running and developing them with Richard joining Pat Whetstone our Show Secretary. Richard recently entered the RHS National Dahlia Show in Shepton Mallet and had great success in the novice classes obtaining three firsts and two seconds. We wish him the best of luck in the future, as he will now have to enter the main competition! Well Done Richard.

Although we welcome Richard with open arms we must also thank John Stephens who has covered the post for a number of years quite brilliantly.

Michael Elliott

Catering

This is an appeal to anyone who could either spare a couple of hours on Coffee Mornings or on Show days to assist with the catering. Our Catering Supervisor, Audrey Kite, would normally only ask you once or twice in a year. She would also be grateful if a few more cake makers would come forward. If you can help in any small way please ring Audrey on 413396.

Michael Elliott

Evening Talks

The 2007 programme of talks mark the end of an era with the retirement of Peter Day as our Talk Organiser. This year's were again of a very high standard, especially the visit of Fergus Garrett when 120 people attended. It is difficult to remember just how long Peter has been doing the job but it has been for many very years and I am sure that we will all want to thank him properly at the AGM.

However, it's not all doom and gloom, as we have a successor in Wendy Dumbleton who has put together the programme for 2008 which is set below. Please remember to put the dates in you diaries; thank you Wendy.

9th January - Italian Villas and Gardens with Maggie Lamb

13th February - Floral Art with Bob Tunks

12th March - The Silent Invasion of Alien Species with Arthur Hoare

9th April - Riding it Out, her bike trip around the World with Pam Goodall

7th May - Plant Problems including Biological Control with Hilary Newman

8th October – Orchids with Martin Durrant

19th November - Plant Hunting Around the World with Harry Townsend

Michael Elliott

Garden Pride Discount Scheme

The Garden Pride discount system will be continuing but at a lower rate of 10%, if you currently have a card just continue to use it as normal. However if you don't use it for nine months the rate will drop to 5%, which is their normal discount rate to non LHS members, and if you don't use it for two years it will be discontinued. New members or members without a card, who wish to take advantage of the additional discount, must collect a form from Tom Hughes our Membership Secretary and return it to him completed. The forms should not be returned directly to Garden Pride.

Michael Elliott

Card Sales

Many Members were disappointed when the 'Card Man' Neil stopped coming to our shows and coffee mornings. We have tried to replace him but his successors have not been very friendly and have not had such good quality cards. However in the New Year we have a young lady, Christine, coming to some of our events with a combination of mass-produced and hand made cards. This will be for a trial period to see if it is worthwhile for her. So please give her a warm welcome and make her visits worthwhile.

Michael Elliott

Lindfield Horticultural Society

(Affiliated to the R.H.S.)

Please reply to: -
61 William Allen Lane
Lindfield
West Sussex RH16 2ST

October 2007

Notice is hereby given that the **Annual General Meeting** of the above named Society will be held on Wednesday the 14th November 2007 at 7.30pm in the King Edward Hall, Lindfield.

AGENDA

- 1) Chairman's Welcome.
- 2) Minutes of the 2006 AGM.
- 3) Matters arising there from.
- 4) To consider the Chairman's report for the year 2006/2007.
- 5) To adopt the Statement of Accounts for the Year ending the 30th September 2007.
- 6) Election of Chairman.
- 7) Election of Officers: -

Vice-Chairman	Show Secretary
Secretary	Flower Arranging Steward
Treasurer	Catering Supervisor
Show Superintendent	Sundries Centre Supervisor
- 8) Election of a Committee of not more than nine members
- 9) Appointment of an Auditor
- 10) Any Other Business

Alison Coburn,
Honorary Secretary

N.B.

Nominations for Chairman, Officers or Membership of the Committee should be made on the form below and must reach the Honorary Secretary by Wednesday 7th November 2007.

I propose the appointment of
as..... of the Society for the forthcoming Year.

Signature.....Address.....

I second the proposal

Signature.....Address.....

If appointed I am willing to serve as

Signature.....Address.....