

LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Autumn Newsletter 2009

www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk

Thoughts from your Chairman

With autumn nearly upon us I hope that you all had a good summer. From all the reports I have heard this year's garden visits have again been very successful. I was particularly interested to be told by Ann that the "drive yourself or have a lift" visit to Titsey Place attracted as many as thirty-two members. Let us hope Ann can be persuaded to arrange some more of these next year!

Thinking of the autumn I am looking forward to seeing all your entries for the Autumn Show. This will be held on Saturday 12th September and the preferred method of delivering your entries is either no later than 10 pm on Wednesday 9th September to:

- 25 Eastern Avenue
- Abbott's Pharmacy, or
- Clough's 27/31 Sunte Avenue

Alternatively, if you are running late, you have until no later than 1 pm on Thursday 10th September if you use either of the following methods:

- Telephoning them to Pat Whetstone (483236) or emailing them to her (whets25@tinyworld.co.uk)

We are always keen to have new exhibitors whether it is a pot plant, flower, cake or your longest runner bean, do please have a go; it is a very friendly occasion. If you would like to enter for the first time, or just need some advice or reassurance, please speak to Pat Whetstone our Show Secretary (483236) who would be very pleased to help you. I look forward to seeing you there.

The Autumn Show completes the first year of using the revised Show Schedule. If any exhibitor or member has any suggestions for change or improvement, please let our Show Secretary know, as a review of the schedule will be undertaken during October.

Sheila

Summer Show 2009

As those of you able to access the LHS website (the address of which is shown in the newsletter's heading above) can see from Carolyn Nurse's photographs, the Summer Show was full of outstanding exhibits. There were magnificent displays of fruit and vegetables and the flower arrangers had excelled even their usual high standards of floral and artistic inspiration. The basket or trug entries of seasonal vegetables, fruit or flowers were of such a high standard that the third placed entry would have been judged an outstanding winner in any other year. Not to be outdone the juniors put on a quality show

of their own, with the decorated T-shirts particularly catching the visitors' attention, although all the other contributions were good.

The long rows of flowers and plants gave the King Edward Hall a real summery feel despite the weather outside being grey and drizzly. You could be forgiven for thinking that for a gloxinia with the name of "*Her Majesty*" to win a first prize might have been a case of just being "diplomatic", but on this occasion the name was more than matched by a wonderful plant. Then there was a canna which seemed as if it would touch the roof and a fine range of fuchsias, roses, begonias and mixed flowers and foliage to name but a few.

Amongst the handicrafts the ladybird pincushions gave rise to many a smile and the delights on display in the cookery section meant that the tea room had a steady stream of customers whose gastric juices had well and truly been stimulated! It was a really enjoyable occasion; so well done to all you exhibitors you certainly gave the judges a hard time with the quality of your entries.

Results

The Lemmey Cup	Neal McNamara
The Savill Cup	John Brown
RHS's Banksian Medal	Tim Richardson
The Filmer Cup	Gill Jones
The Fruit Cup	Brian Fitzgerald
The Thornbery Trophy	Ann Higgins
Forget-Me-Not Shield	Ruby Anscombe
Heart and Soul Shield	Alex Cameron
The Blue Riband of the British Fuchsia Society	Rita Pickett
The Askew Cup	Tim Richardson
The Don Booker Fuchsia Cup	Michael Figg
The Gilbert Cup	Richard Hilson
The President's Cup	Tim Richardson

Best in Show

Vegetable	Richard Hilson
Pot Plant	Michael Figg
Cookery	Margaret Wells
Handicraft	Clare Imms
Flower	Jim Stockwell

Sundries Centre

The Sundries Centre will be open in the autumn to help you prepare your plants and garden for the winter. Compost for potting up those tender plants, long acting fertilizers such as Groworganic manure, bone meal, fish blood and bone, autumn feed for the lawns; all are available from the Sundries Centre, and cheaper than from a Garden Centre. Not forgetting your Jeyes Fluid for cleaning greenhouses and pots!

There is also always someone available there to discuss your gardening needs; we will be open from 9.30 am-11.00 am on:

Sunday September 6th

Sunday October 4th

Please feel free to give Noreen or Alan a ring (482097) if you need help or information.

Noreen Smith

Additional Class in Spring 2010 Show Schedule

As mentioned in the last newsletter, there will be a new members' class at next year's Spring Show for "One bloom of daffodil cultivar, 'Pink Silk', as purchased from Lindfield Horticultural Society, to be displayed in a vase".

The bulbs will be on sale to members only at the very reasonable price of £1 each at the Autumn Show. Considerable interest has already been shown in this new class and early indications are that demand for the bulbs will exceed the Society's pre-ordered supply. In order to give as many members as possible the opportunity to participate, the Committee has decided to initially limit the sale of the bulbs to a maximum of three per member's household. Should any bulbs remain unsold at the end of the show, there will be an opportunity to acquire some more.

'Pink Silk' is a Division 1 daffodil having a lovely pink trumpet and smooth white petals. It is relatively easy to grow and, being a mid-season flowering variety, should be at its best around the day of the Spring Show. It has won 'Best Bloom' award at the last two LHS Spring Shows and is one of my favourite daffodils. A handout with growing hints will be available when purchasing the bulbs. There will be special prize money of £5 for 1st, £3 for 2nd and £1 for 3rd for this class.

I hope that as many members as possible will support this new class and I look forward to seeing your 'best bloom' on the show bench next spring.

Richard Hilson

Do you have an email address?

In order to facilitate the ease and speed of communication between the Society and its members it has been decided to compile a list of those members having email addresses. You will also have the opportunity of having the newsletter emailed to you if you so wish. However even if you still want to have the newsletter delivered as a hardcopy we would still like to know your email address. So if you have one please email it to Martin (martin.lindfield@btinternet.com) stating at the same time whether you would like to have the newsletter emailed to you.

Those members not having email should rest assured that they will continue to be communicated with by the usual methods.

Committee

Suttons and Dobies Catalogues

The Suttons and Dobies Catalogues for the 2010 season should be available at our October meetings. Members ordering their seeds and plants through the Society will receive a 20% discount on seeds and a 10% discount on other items. It does not matter how much you order £5 or £50 it all adds to the Society's commission; so if you purchase seeds from Suttons or Dobies please obtain them through the Society.

Alison Elliott

Do you have a way with words?

Judging by the comments which we have received many of you are aware that the Society has been contributing a monthly column to the new publication called Lindfield Life. If any of you would like to join the group of us who have already put "pen to paper" please telephone or email Rosemary Humphreys (451363 or RNHumphreys@aol.com) who will be happy to let you know what is involved. You do not have to become a regular contributor one masterpiece will suffice!

Committee

Christmas Social

Ticket for the Christmas Social on Friday 4th December will be on sale at the Coffee Morning on 10th October and at the October and November evening talks. The ticket numbers will be limited to 114 and will be sold on a first come first served basis to members only. Unfortunately the ticket price has had to be increased this year (the first time in five years) and will be £10 each. I am however very pleased to be able to announce that after last years fantastic performance, the entertainment will again be by the Sussex Harmonisers that wonderful Barber Shop Choir. It is unprecedented for us to have the same entertainment two years in a row but those of you who were there last year will know the reason why. Otherwise things remain the same, lots of good food, lots of wine and masses of jolly good company.

Alison Elliott

The 2010 Talks Programme

Once again Wendy Dumbleton has arranged for us a very interesting talks programme. So that you may put the dates in your 2010 diary at the earliest opportunity here it is:

13 January - Tony Turner – "The Warrior Queens, Queen Mary and Queen Elisabeth, Liners in Wartime"

10 February – Committee and guest Robert Tunks – "The Secrets of Gardening and Showing with questions and answers"

10 March – Robert Tunks – "Floral arrangements demonstration"

14 April – Andy Stevens – "Borde Hill"

12 May – David Mills – "British Wildlife Centre"

13 October – Marina Christopher – “Late Summer Flowers”

10 November – Graham Gough – “A Nurseryman’s Lot”

With the exception noted below admission remains at 50p for members and £1 for guests and everybody is welcome. However the talk by Graham Gough on the 10th November 2010 will be a special meeting with admission by ticket only, the price of which has yet to be decided. In addition to being one of this country’s leading nurserymen Graham Gough has gained a reputation as a leading and entertaining speaker on gardening, plants and plant hunting. His talks have taken him the length and breadth of the UK as well as to America and Canada. Graham’s love and knowledge of plants, people and places shines through in his talks and he is not beyond being frank about his likes and dislikes.

Finally, just a reminder that this year’s programme recommences on Wednesday 14 October after the summer break, when Ann Chapman will be giving a talk entitled “The Land of the Thunder Dragon – the Himalayas”.

Committee

Annual General Meeting

Just a reminder that the AGM will be held on Wednesday the 11th November 2009 at **7.30 pm**, which is timed for the half hour before the talk by Annie Guilfoyle on “What makes a Great Garden”. Members are asked to make every effort to attend the AGM, as it is an important opportunity to air your views and make suggestions for improvements. We are also anxious to recruit new committee members, so if you think you could find some time to help, please talk to one of the Society’s Officers. The Committee would also like to give advance notice that they will be proposing a substantial subscription increase to be implemented from the 1st October **2010**. So come along and have your say.

Committee

Membership.

Membership fees for the New Year are due on the 1st October **2009** and remain at £3. They can be paid at any of our events or by post, for an extra 50p, to Tom Hughes our Membership Secretary. Don’t forget for a mere £45 you can buy life membership, which could be a very good investment. Renewals for the New Year can be made at the Autumn Show and at any of our events after that date. Make your renewal early as it will be the last time that our Tom takes your money, as he is standing down, after 18 years, at the next AGM. We are all going to miss him.

Committee

Society’s Website

Reference has already been made to the Society’s website and we are grateful for the work undertaken on our behalf by our member Tim Richardson who runs it for us. If you have any comments about it, or items for inclusion, please let Martin know (484120 or martin.lindfield@btinternet.com).

Committee