

# LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

## Summer Newsletter 2009

[www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk](http://www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk)

### Thoughts from your Chairman

Here we are summer at last, I wonder what has happened to the hot weather we were promised? One Sunday evening David called me to go to the window as in the field on the other side of the river were about twenty Fallow Buck Deer in a tight group. Unusually one of them was white and one black, have you seen them?

We have now come to the end of a very busy time with all the plant sales. I would like to thank everyone who helped as without you all we could not be so successful or do so much. Talking of success what a great talk Fergus gave us. I hope you are now planning your borders to be of interest all the year round. Finally, remember to get your entries in for the Summer Show which is on the 11th July and I look forward to seeing you there.  
*Sheila Hobbs*

### Fergus Garrett's Talk

In May we were delighted to welcome back Fergus Garrett to talk to us about Continuous Colour in the Mixed Border. His successful visit two years ago meant that the King Edward Hall was packed to the rafters! As Head Gardener at Great Dixter, Fergus worked closely with the late great Christopher Lloyd and has carried on his ideas and philosophy in the gardens. The colourful borders – especially the Long Border – are probably Great Dixter's best known feature. Fergus emphasised that the principles used in these large borders could equally apply to planting on a small scale in our own gardens.

He illustrated, with a succession of superb slides, how by underplanting and working out when plants will flower and subsequently die down, continuous colour can be achieved. Having emphasised the need for good quality plants which are then well nurtured, he also pointed out that shape and texture are as important as colour and that shrubs and plants with large leaves can make a real impact, as in Great Dixter's Exotic Garden.

After the talk, members had a chance to chat with Fergus and buy some of the plants he had mentioned from a selection he brought from his nursery. It was a very entertaining evening and a great time was had by all!

*Rosemary Humphreys*

### Spring Show 2008 Results and Report

The 2009 Spring Show was a great success with 336 entries and a sunny afternoon to bring out the crowds who duly flocked to the King Edward Hall to view the wide ranging exhibits. On entering the hall you were initially greeted by a beacon of golden light from all the daffodils which were nicely contrasted by the colours of all the other spring flowers. You could not but help wonder if there were any flowers left in Lindfield's gardens!

But there was so much more to see. The flower arrangements were delightful and the cookery exhibits very tempting. There were very skilfully made handicraft exhibits and as usual at the spring show had a large number of most impressive photographic entries. The Junior Classes showed work of a very high standard and the Easter Bonnets in particular were much admired (see the photographs on our website). Although it is not the time of year to have a large number of vegetable exhibits there were nevertheless several entries, all of which had survived the winter as if it had been a mild one! Finally there were the home made cakes and tea for all to enjoy; and judging by the crowds who did so, the residents and visitors alike all had healthy appetites.

#### *Awards*

- Daffodil Society Bronze Medal & Certificate – Richard Hilson
- Fisk Cup (best exhibit in classes 12 to 25 daffodils) – Richard Hilson
- Jeeves Cup (most points in vegetable classes) - Tim Richardson
- Daffodil Cup (most points in classes 61 to 70 daffodils) – Tim Richardson
- Evelyn Drew Floral Art Cup – Anne Skinner
- George Murrell Photographic Cup – Dorothy Brown
- Forget –Me-Not Shield (junior 10 yrs and under) – Emily Sutlow & Ruby Anscombe
- Heart and Soul Shield (junior 11 to 15 yrs) – Katherine Cameron
- Best in Show:
  - Vegetable- Ian Cooper
  - Pot Plant – Jim Stockwell
  - Flower – Sally McBirney
  - Cookery – Fiona Pugh
  - Handicraft – Rita Pickett
  - Trug: 1<sup>st</sup> – Tim Richardson
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Alison Lainchbury

#### **Additional Class in Spring 2010 Show Schedule**

This is to give you early notification about a new class for the Spring Show 2010 for members. It will be for: 'One bloom of daffodil cultivar 'Pink Silk', as purchased from Lindfield Horticultural Society, in a vase'. The bulbs will be on sale at the Autumn Show price £1 each together with a growing hints handout. There will be prize money but no entry fee and members will be able to purchase as many bulbs as they want on a first-come-first-served basis, subject to the stock lasting. Any bulbs remaining will be offered for sale after the Autumn Show. Full details will be in the Autumn Newsletter.

*Richard Hilson*

#### **Coach Trip to Goodnestone Park**

For our first coach trip this year although we drove in a continual downpour it stopped just before we arrived and then remained dry. We were shown round the lovely house, which looks out across a most attractive landscape and afterwards wandered through the beautiful and varied gardens in which the roses in particular were magnificent. What a gem of a place, no wonder Jane Austen liked to visit, we certainly did!