

LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Winter/AGM Newsletter 2009

Thoughts from your Chairman.

The year just gone has been a wonderful year for the Society, so many good things have happened, it's been quite exciting and my knees have been so much better. We have put up a new shed at the Sundries Centre and sales have rocketed. We have introduced a new Schedule, which has worked very well and seems to have attracted a lot more entries and the number and quality of exhibits at our Shows especially the Autumn Show has been amazing. Believe it or not the weather has not been too bad either.

I cannot possibly name names of all those who have helped the Society this year as I am bound to miss somebody but as usual events have gone smoothly and successfully thanks to the hard work of the Committee and a good band of very helpful members. I would like to thank them all and hope that like me you have enjoyed their efforts.

I am concerned however, that an awful lot falls on so few and that the actual Committee is now quite small. We have got to have new Committee Members to keep the Society running so I am personally appealing for Members to come forward and volunteer. This is not a joke your Society really does need you.

Sheila Hobbs

AGM Wednesday 11th November 2009

Formal notice is hereby given that this year's Annual General Meeting will be held on the above date in the main hall of the King Edward Hall commencing at 7.30pm. The meeting starts **30 minutes earlier than normal** and usually lasts only half an hour; so do please try to attend. The AGM will be followed by a talk by Annie Guilfoyle entitled 'What Makes a Great Garden'.

This year's AGM marks the end of an era as Tom Hughes, our Membership Secretary for the last 18 years, has decided to step down. This is very sad as Tom will be sorely missed and will be a very hard act to follow. However we are so pleased that Joyce Gladman has come forward and volunteered to take on the job. However, Joyce is unable to attend our Wednesday meetings due to her work commitments and therefore we are looking for an assistant Membership Secretary who can collect subscriptions on Wednesdays and who can liaise with Joyce. Another volunteer Chris Gurr has agreed to take on the distribution of newsletters and schedules.

Similarly to Tom another of the Society's stalwarts is standing down after many years. The Examiner of our Accounts Alan Spicer has also decided to retire but unfortunately we are yet to find a replacement. We are looking for someone with some figures experience to review the Society's Accounts each October and to verify that the Accounts are reasonable. If you think you could help would you please discuss the matter with the Treasurer, Michael Elliott.

As Sheila has said in her opening remarks to this Newsletter the Committee is very thin on the ground and this year has been more noticeable due to illness. Therefore we are asking for new Committee Members and/or helpers. We are now at the stage that if any of the usual helpers or Committee cannot make an event we cannot cover them and in some cases we do not know how to do the job. We would really like new Committee Members but if you don't want that commitment please volunteer to be a helper. There are always little tasks with which we need help.

The Society's annual subscription has been set at £3.00 for the last 10 years and your current Committee feel that it should be reviewed. We have not had a deficit since 2005 when we contributed to the KEH's new lights, so matters are not desperate. However, any increased agreed at this AGM will not be implemented until October 2010 for the 2010/11 year. Your Committee feels that an increase now would be a prudent measure and proposes that the Annual Subscription rises to £5.00 per Member or £5.75 by post or to £8.00 per couple living at the same address or £8.75 by post. This matter will be open for full discussion at the AGM where Members can make any proposal on the level of subscriptions they wish to add to the debate.

Alison Elliott

Autumn Show 2009 Report

LHS shows seem to get bigger and better! The Autumn Show attracted 340 entries this year, including more vegetable collections than usual. The judge commented on the high standard and quality of the vegetable entries and particularly praised the trugs full of seasonal produce.

Our traditional autumn category's had their place, with the 'heaviest marrow' award - and the Bob Lacey silver salver - going to 11 year old Ben Smith for his giant 30 pounder, which he had grown on grandad Alan Smith's allotment. Ben also produced the heaviest pumpkin at 46 pounds. Ben grew both vegetables organically, without chemical fertilisers - just Growmore and Maxicrop.

A new challenge, the LHS runner bean race, which spread across the hall stage, saw Ian Cooper winning with his longest 5. There were plenty of tomatoes of course and incredibly long leeks, while splashes of red chillies reflected the trend for growing more unusual vegetables, as did the numbers of peppers and squash.

The dominant flower in the Autumn Show is always the dahlia and they were magnificent this year, with all shapes, sizes and colours to be seen. No village show would be complete without its cookery classes and members had excelled themselves in producing variations on an apple dessert.

An additional feature of the Show this time was a display by the Brighton and Hove branch of the British Cactus and Succulent Society.

Pictures speak louder than words, so take a look at Carolyn Nurse's brilliant photos on our website www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk to bring back memories if you were there - and make you wish you had been if you missed it! If you didn't enter anything this time, maybe you will be inspired for 2010!

Rosemary Humphreys

L.H.S. AUTMUN SHOW CUPS & AWARDS 2009

The Bob Lacey Salver - Ben Smith
The Massey Dawson Cup - Diana Lindfield
The Helena Hall Cup - Richard Hilson
The Dahlia Members Cup - Richard Hilson
The Huddart Cup - Sheila Hobbs
The National Chrysanthemum Society's Certificate And Bronze Medal - Pat Mace
The Presidents Salver - Pat Mace
The Dahlia Championship Cup - Richard Hilson
The Penney Cup - Gill Jones
The Harry Tester Cup - Betty Billins
Forget-Me-Not Shield - Emily Sutlow
Heart & Soul Shield - Katherine Cameron

BEST IN SHOW

Vegetable - George Nicholls
Fruit - Michael Elliott
Pot Plant - Richard Hilson
Cookery - Gill Jones
Handicraft - Miss M L Fulford

L.H.S. ANNUAL CUPS AND AWARDS 2009

The Lady Wilkinson Silver Tray- Gill Jones
The Morecombe White Cup- Miss M L Fulford
The Proctor Cup- Jim Stockwell
The Shepherd Cup- Ian Cooper
The Ron Pickett Trophy- Alison Lainchbury
The Lhs Junior Perpetual Shield- Emily Sutlow
The Shepherd Perpetual Shield- Katherine Cameron

Garden Pride Discount Scheme

As Members will be aware, they receive a 10% discount at Garden Pride, Ditchling whereas members of the general public only get 5%. Unfortunately there had been an administrative problem within Garden Pride that may mean that some of our Members' cards have reverted to the 5%. It is suggested that next time you visit Garden Pride that you go to the Customer Services Desk and have your card checked and if necessary altered. Just to be on the safe side please take your Membership Card with you.

Michael Elliott

Suttons and Dobies Catalogues

The Suttons and Dobies Catalogues for the 2010 season are now available at our events. Members of the Society 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 total on which the Society itself gets a commission (dependant on the total amount of seeds ordered). So if you purchase Sutton's or Dobies seeds please do it through the Society. *Alison Elliott*

Lindfield Horticultural Society

(Affiliated to the R.H.S.)

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Email alisonmelliott@sky.com

Please reply to: -
23 William Allen Lane
Lindfield
West Sussex RH16 2SE

October 2009

Notice is hereby given that the **Annual General Meeting** of the above named Society will be held on Wednesday the 11th November 2009 at 7.30pm in the King Edward Hall, Lindfield.

AGENDA

- 1) Chairman's Welcome and Apologies for Absence
- 2) Minutes of the 2008 AGM.
- 3) Matters arising there from.
- 4) To consider the Chairman's report for the year 2008/2009.
- 5) To adopt the Statement of Accounts for the Year ending the 30th September 2009.
- 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) To set the Annual Subscription from 1st October 2010
- 10) Appointment of an Examiner
- 11) Any Other Business

Alison Elliott (Mrs)
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 4th November 2009.

Nomination Form

I propose the appointment of

.....

as..... of the Society for the
forthcoming Year.

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

.....

.....

.....

I second the proposal

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

.....

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.....

If appointed I am willing to serve

as.....

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

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Please return this form duly completed, to the Secretary by the 4th November
2009

Lindfield Horticultural Society

(Affiliated to the R.H.S.)

Minutes of the AGM of the Society held on the 19th November 2008 in the King Edward Hall.

- 1) The Chairman, Mrs Sheila Hobbs opened the meeting and welcomed the Members attending.

Apologies for Absence were received from Alison and Michael Elliott, Roy Billings, Peter Kite, Hugh Parkyns, Ann Higgins, Maud and Robert Cameron, Rita Pickett, Ray Saunders and Pat Whetstone.

Before the meeting commenced the Chairman brought to Members attention the death of Cliff Newnham, one of the Society's Vice Presidents. Cliff had been a very active helper and Committee Member for many years, especially at the Shows and Jumble Sales.

- 2) **Minutes of the meeting of the 2007 AGM** were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.
- 3) **Matters Arising.** Richard Hilson wished to point out that although he was acting as Show Superintendent he had not been co-opted to the main Committee.
- 4) **The Chairman** presented her report and stated that it had been another busy year with a very full programme. She wanted to thank everybody for their help and assistance. It was the Members that made the Society such a happy one and that she was proud to be its Chairman.
She specifically mentioned Gillian Macmillan who was standing down from the Committee and thanked her for her help with the Schedule and at Shows over many years and hoped that she would have a happy retirement.
- 5) **The Treasurer** had sent his apologies for not giving his report personally. His report highlighted the surplus of £676, which he attributed to the sale of Teas at the Shows, the sale of Advertising space in the Schedule and the improvement in turnover at the Sundries Centre. He also stated that the Society was in a strong financial position.
The Treasurer asked for his thanks to be recorded for the help and assistance of our examiner Alan Spicer. In reply to a question from the floor the Chairman stated that it was necessary to hold cash in the current account at the year-end in order to restock the Sundry Centre.
The accounts for the year were accepted proposed by Neal McNamara and seconded by Wendy Dumbleton.
- 6) **Election of Chairman** The President took the Chair and proposed Mrs Sheila Hobbs as Chairman who was then elected unanimously.

- 7) **Election of Officers** The following Officers were elected on block proposed by Pauline Parkyns and seconded by Neal McNamara: -
- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Secretary | Alison Elliott |
| Treasurer | Michael Elliott |
| Show Secretary | Pat Whetstone |
| Sundries Centre Supervisor | Noreen Smith |
- The position of Show Superintendent would be filled by Richard Hilson and that of Catering Supervisor by Audrey Kite, although neither would not be sitting on the Committee.
- 8) **Election of the Committee** The following existing Committee were elected on block proposed by Ed Keatley and seconded by Neal McNamara: - Anne Marsden, Tom Hughes (Membership), Peter Day (Raffles), Rosemary Humphreys (Publicity), Rita Pickett and Martin Higgins (Newsletter). It was also noted that Wendy Dumbleton (Talks) and Ann Higgins (Outings) would assist the Society but would not be on the Committee.
- The Chairman thanked her Committee for their hard work and especially mentioned Richard, Audrey, Wendy and Ann who covered unfilled Committee places. Members then showed their agreement by spontaneous applause.
- 9) **Appointment of Examiner** Alan Spicer had offered to stand again and was duly elected proposed by the Treasurer and seconded by Neal McNamara.
- 10) **Any Other Business** The Chairman brought the meeting's attention to the fact that the Sundries Centre Shed was about to fall down and that the Committee had decided to replace it and had set aside a budget of £2000. In response to a question from Audrey Kite she agreed that it would be properly insured. There was no further business and the meeting closed at 7.43pm.