

LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk

Winter Newsletter 2010

Thoughts from your Chairman

Here we are in early October sitting in front of a log fire. Why? Well it is pouring with rain, the central heating pump has broken, so has the telephone line, the mobile does not work properly because of the rain, and I have just bought a new washing machine because the last one died on me. But despite all that we did have a super Autumn Show as Pat recalls below, but **where** were the craft entries? Just a solitary, if beautifully made, doll.

Let us hope the weather soon improves so we can get on with working in our gardens and allotments. We can then have a good old tidy up and get all the Spring bulbs and plants in ready for a bright 2011.

I hope to see you all at our talks programme which is about to restart.

Sheila Hobbs

Talk on 10th November

Members are reminded that the talk following this years AGM is not free. It is by nurseryman Graham Gough who is well known to readers of 'The Garden' and is quite local to us at Laughton. Entry to the talk following the AGM will be by ticket, which only cost £1 for members and £2 for visitors. All members will be welcome to attend the AGM but if you do not have a ticket for the talk you will be asked to leave after the AGM.

Autumn Show 2010

What a fantastic autumn show. We had so many entries that Richard and I had great difficulty finding room to display them all. I think that dahlias are one of my favourite flowers. The colours are so vibrant and they made an eye catching display as you walked into the hall.

What can I say about the fruit and vegetables? What a wonderful display. I am going to have to pick up some tips about growing as my efforts look nothing like the displays we had on the show benches. We had five entries in the trug class. The amount of time and effort that must go into this class is amazing. There were a total of eight entries in the two collection classes; I understand from the experts that this is an exceptional number. The most fought over class in the vegetables was the great runner bean race, with twelve entries!

Once again we had new ladies entering the floral art. I think that these classes are one of the highlights of each show. The cookery classes were as usual well supported and the displays of fancy cakes were mouth-watering. As usual it would have been nice to

have had more entries in the adult handicraft but the children's classes were well supported.

I think the three shows this year have been the best since I became show secretary, so thank you to all those who have exhibited. Winter well and I look forward to seeing you at the 2011 Spring Show.

Cups and Awards

The Bob Lacey Salver	Ben Smith
The Massey Dawson Cup	Richard Hilson
The Huddart Cup	Jim Stockwell
The Helena Hall Cup	Richard Hilson
The Penney Cup	Gill Jones
The Dahlia Members Cup	Richard Hilson
The Harry Tester Cup	Sally McBirney
Kieron James Toys Shield	Emily Sutlow
Heart and Soul Shield	Katherine Cameron
The Dahlia Championship Cup	Richard Hilson

Best in Show

Vegetable	Richard Hilson
Fruit	Paul Lindfield
Pot Plant	Sally McBirney
Cookery	Lorelei Hilson
Handicraft	Nora Penfold

Annual Cups and Awards

The Morecombe White Cup	Clare Imms
The Lady Wilkinson	Lorelei Hilson
The Proctor Cup	Wendy Dumbleton
The Shepherd Cup	Alison and Michael Elliott
The Ron Pickett Trophy	Tim Richardson
The LHS Junior Perpetual Shield	Emily Sutlow
The Shepherd Perpetual Shield	Katherine Cameron
<i>Pat Whetstone</i>	

Seed Orders - Reduce the Costs of your Seeds

Sutton and Dobies Catalogues are now available; place your order through the Society and save 20% on seeds and 10% on other items. If you wish to partake please contact Alison (483039).

Alison Elliott

Christmas Social 2010

By the time that you read this a few Christmas Social Tickets may still be on sale, if you have forgotten to buy your ticket please contact Alison as soon as possible.

Alison Elliott

Utter Failure!

Despite the best efforts of your intrepid reporter, with telephones being bugged, mail intercepted and satellite observations, we have been unable to find out what outings Ann is planning for next year. There was a rumour that one is to be to a garden previously only seen by a select few, but even with your editor being on his best behaviour nothing has been forthcoming. Ah well we shall all have to wait for the Spring Newsletter to put us out of our misery!

NOMINATION FORM

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.....

.....

Lindfield Horticultural Society

(Affiliated to the R.H.S.)

Minutes of the AGM of the Society held on the 11th November 2009 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 Andrew Harding, Glenise Buck, Richard and Lorelei Hilson.

- 2) **Minutes of the meeting of the 2008 AGM** were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.
- 3) **Matters Arising.** There were no other matters than those on the agenda.
- 4) **The Chairman** presented her report and stated that it had been another interesting growing year with so many extremes of weather. She congratulated the shows exhibitors for still being able to produce such good quality produce, and wanted to thank everybody for their help and assistance and especially her Committee and family.
- 5) **The Treasurer** presented the accounts for the year, which showed a small surplus of £355. He highlighted the increase in sales at the Sundries Centre and thanked Noreen and Alan Smith for all their work especially with the erection of the new shed. He also thanked David Macmillan for selling adverts in the Show Schedule, which held down the show costs although show costs had risen slightly due to the increase in prize money.

The Treasurer asked for his thanks to be recorded for the help and assistance of the examiner Alan Spicer and to Tom Hughes for all his years of support as Membership Secretary.

The accounts for the year were accepted proposed by Neal McNamara and seconded by Rosemary Humphreys.

- 6) **Election of Chairman** The President took the Chair and proposed Mrs Sheila Hobbs as Chairman who was then elected unanimously. Betty Billings asked that the meeting showed its appreciation to Sheila.
- 7) **Election of Officers** The Chairman informed the meeting that during the year the Committee had co-opted Martin Higgins to the post of Vice Chairman and proposed his election for the coming year. This was seconded by Tom Hughes and agreed. The following Officers were elected on block proposed by Pauline Parkyns and seconded by Ann Higgins:

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 be joining the Committee.

- 8) **Election of the Committee** Before the election of Committee Members the Chairman took the opportunity to thank Tom Hughes for being our Membership Secretary for the last 18 years; she referred to Tom as a treasure and said on behalf of the whole Society how much he would be missed. She announced thankfully that Joyce Gladwell had agreed to take on the post, which was seconded by Neal McNamara and agreed. The following existing Committee were elected on block proposed by Pauline Parkyns and seconded by Ann Higgins:

Anne Marsden, Peter Day (Raffles), Rosemary Humphreys (Publicity), Rita Pickett.

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) **Annual Subscription** The Committee proposed that subscriptions be increased on the 1st October 2010 to £5 per individual Member and £8 per couple living at the same address. There being no need for a seconder the proposal was opened for discussion. Generally Members considered the increase more than reasonable. Subscriptions had not increased since 1998; if membership remained the same approximately another £600 income would be raised. David Macmillan seconded by Brian Tester proposed an amendment that coupled with this increase that there should be a requirement that the Committee undertake a major recruitment drive. The Chairman appreciated the need for new members and stated that regular efforts were made to encourage people to join but she felt it was too much to ask the existing Committee to undertake such a task without an increase in numbers. The amendment was put to the meeting and was lost with only three votes for. The main proposal was then put to the meeting and was agreed overwhelmingly.
- 10) **Appointment of Examiner** The Treasurer reported that Alan Spicer had decided to stand down as Examiner after 20 years in the post. Alan had survived a number of Treasurers and had made a considerable contribution to the Society over those years and the Committee asked the meeting to make Alan an Honorary Life Member in recognition of this service. The proposal was agreed unanimously.

In response to the appeal in the newsletter Martin Springall had volunteered to take on the post of Honorary Examiner, he was proposed by the Treasurer and seconded by the Secretary and duly elected.

- 11) **Any Other Business** In reply to a question from the floor the Treasurer stated that Life Membership would be £75 from 1st October 2010.

The Chairman made a final appeal for help stating that so much was left to do in the Society at which point Sally McBirney offered to join and help as a Committee Member. She was immediately proposed by the Chairman and seconded by the Treasurer and duly elected. In addition Graham Buck and Ann Peters agreed to help as and when required.

At the end of the meeting a presentation of a garden bench was made to Tom Hughes to thank him for his 18 years with the Committee. A bouquet was also presented to his wife Jose who was as much of a Membership Secretary as was Tom. The meeting then showed how much they appreciated Tom.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 7.55pm.