

LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk

Autumn Newsletter 2012

Thoughts from your Chairman

Those of you who do not receive their newsletter by email may have noticed that the Summer Newsletter was in A5 format. As this is slightly more expensive to produce than the usual A4 version and although we thought it looked more “professional”; as only two members commented that they preferred it in this format, the committee has decided to revert to the A4 version for the time being.

Some of you may not know that on the LHS website (the address of which is at the top of the page) you can find super photographs of recent shows and outings. I particularly like those of the first ever winners of the new LHS Junior Cup at this year’s Spring and Summer Shows, David Adams and Mat Watson respectively. If you have misplaced your newsletter you can also find a copy on the website, together with much else – it is well worth exploring.

Talking of shows, the Autumn Show will be held on Saturday 8th September 2012 in the King Edward Hall. This is the Society’s biggest show of the year and will be a magnificent display of locally grown flowers, fruit, vegetables, floral art and children’s exhibits. The show will be open to the public from 2.00pm. Tea, coffee and delicious homemade cakes will be available together with a selection of plants – with last orders in the Tea Room taken at 4.45pm. The presentation of the Societies awards will take place at 5pm and will include the annual trophies for the most points obtained over all three shows and will be followed by the raffle and an auction of any donated exhibits.

Just to remind you as some people forget; written entries should be delivered to 25 Eastern Road or 67 Brookway by 10pm on Wednesday 5th September and entries can also be made by email to: whet25@btinternet.com up to 1pm on Thursday 6th September. Exhibits may be staged between 7pm and 9pm on the Friday or between 8am and 10.30am on the Saturday. It is the exhibitors’ responsibility to collect any prize money from the Treasurer between 3.30 and 4.30pm on the day of the show and no exhibit should be removed from the Show bench until 4.45pm.

Sheila Hobbs

Newsletter distribution

All Members who are on email are offered the opportunity to have their copy of the newsletter on the day it is published. Just go to: www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk and click on ‘email us’ on the shed door and ask for your newsletter by email.

Committee

Christmas Social

Tickets for the Christmas Social on Friday 7th December will be on sale at our talk on the on 10th October and as well as the October Coffee Morning and the November talk. The ticket numbers will be limited to 114 and will be sold on a first come first served basis to members only. The ticket price of £10 is the same as it was last year. By public demand the entertainment will be by Nicholas and Simon Hancock in an all new show. The format of the evening as always remains the same, with plenty of food and drink and lots of jolly good company.

Alison Elliott

Summer Show 2012

The best thing about the summer show is that we were able to hold it at all. I must admit that on Thursday I was a bit worried, but as usual members battled against the weather and responded, enabling us to have a very good display. In fact the quality of the exhibits was amazing, so a big thank you to all those who entered. Now we move on to the autumn show, and if the weather ever improves we will hopefully have enough entries to finish the show year on a high note. See you there.

Results

The Lemmey Cup	Ann Higgins
The Savill Cup	Jim Stockwell
RHS Banksian Medal	Michael Elliott
The Gilbert Cup	Julie Hewitt
The Filmer Cup	Julie Hewitt
The Fruit Cup	Ian Cooper
The Thornbery Trophy	Sue Stockwell
The LHS Junior Cup	Mat Watson
Heart and Soul & Perri Winkle Shield	Emily Sutlow & Liam Jolly
The Blue Riband of the British Fuchsia Society	Rita Pickett
The Don Booker Fuchsia Cup	Rita Pickett

Best in Show

Vegetable	Michael Elliott
Pot Plant	Martin Higgins
Cookery	Sue Stockwell
Handicraft	Sue Stockwell
<i>Pat Whetstone</i>	

Sundries Centre

The Sundries Centre will shortly reopen after the summer break and be available for your purchases on the following dates:

September - Saturday 15th and Sunday 30th

October - Sunday 14th and Saturday 20th

Committee

Rapture at the 2013 Spring Show

There will again be a special daffodil class for members in the 2013 Spring Show schedule as follows:

“One bloom of ‘Rapture’ from a bulb purchased from Lindfield Horticultural Society exhibited in a vase provided by the Society.”

Two hundred bulbs of the cultivar ‘Rapture’ have been ordered by the Society and these will be on sale to members only, during the Autumn Show at the King Edward Hall on Saturday, 8th September. ‘Rapture’ is a Division 6, all yellow, cyclamineus-type daffodil having a long, narrow cup pointing downwards and highly reflexed petals. They can be grown either in pots or in the ground. The bulbs will be sold singly, although six bulbs would be the ideal number to grow in a 10 litre pot. ‘Rapture’ is an outstanding exhibition cultivar within its division. Each bulb will only cost 50p and a ‘growing hints’ sheet will be supplied with your purchase.

Richard Hilson

Membership

Membership fees for the New Year are due on the 1st October and remain unchanged at £5 per individual member and £8 for a couple living at the same address. Renewals can be made at the Autumn Show on the 8th September and at any of our events after that date. Renewals can also be made by post to our Membership Secretary Mrs Joyce Gladwell at 7 Brookway Lindfield RH16 2BW but please remember to add an additional 75p for postage and packing.

Committee

The Talks Programme

Our popular programme of talks will recommence in October, and if you have not already done so the following Wednesday dates should be entered in your diary:

2012

10th October – A Lavender Collection – Simon Charlesworth

14th November – Vegetable Growing, Techniques, Ideas and Advice – Barry Newman

2013

9th January – Four Days at the Nursery - Jacqueline Aviolet

13th February – Growing and Showing Daffodils – Richard Hilson

13th March – A Demonstration of Floral Art – Bob Tunks

10th April – Fuschias – Derek Dexter

8th May – Autumn Planting – Monica Lucas

9th October – Heucheras – Clive Gravett

13th November – Sussex on the Rocks – Geoffrey Mead

Admission remains at 50p for members and £1 for guests and everybody is welcome.

Committee

Suttons and Dobies Catalogues

The Suttons and Dobies Catalogues for the 2013 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 15% 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 (dependent on the total amount of seeds ordered). So if you intend to purchase Sutton's or Dobies seeds please do so through the Society.

Alison & Michael Elliott

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% when using the Garden Pride loyalty card. If you do not use this facility once in every nine months the discount will drop to 5%. So if you have not used your card for sometime, 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. Members who have not got this facility should join the scheme as do ordinary members of the public and then when they receive their loyalty card they should have it updated.

Michael Elliott

Plant matters

In the previous issue of the newsletter I mentioned that I had stopped growing *Salvia microphylla* 'Hot Lips' as it is so difficult to place with other plants. Rosemary Humphries has drawn my attention to the fact that at Nymans although they have not found suitable companion plants, they overcome the problem by giving them a bed to themselves.

A plant I have increasing admired in recent years is *Nicotiana mutabilis*, but this year I was foiled since my usual source did not have any plants to offer. They explained that as last year's plants had not set seed they could not help me. I must remember to get some seed early next year and grow it on myself as in this country it is a half hardy annual. It comes from Brazil and is a real show-stopper quickly reaching five feet tall with a two foot spread, producing a cloud of blooms in early summer which start out a creamy white and gradually fade to pink and then darken as they mature to a deeper rose. As you will usually have young and old flowers on the plant at the same time it creates a glorious, multi-coloured effect. For some people though the foliage may cause skin irritation, but it is a plant well worth growing nevertheless.

I would be interested to know about any plants which have particularly found favour with you in recent years so that I can share your experience with other members (tel: 484120 or email: martin.lindfield@btinternet.com).

Martin Higgins