

LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk

Spring Newsletter 2012

Thoughts from your Chairman

This being the first newsletter of the year I am now looking forward to the spring; but before I get there I must thank Alison and Michael Elliott and their team who shopped, cooked, chopped, served the drinks, laid the tables and cleared away for the Christmas Social. I must also thank Tony and Steve the Stewards and Sue in the kitchen who really put themselves out to help us. All in all another good evening with £129 donated to prostate cancer research from the retiring collection. This year the Social will be held on Friday 7th December and we will be entertained by Nicholas and Simon Hancock who are returning due to popular demand with an all new show.

Over the last few years Busy Lizzies (Impatiens) have suffered from Downy Mildew, so there will not be very many around this year as the growers are not offering them for sale. You may be offered some seed grown plants which could be okay, but if I was you I would choose something else. They are working on the problem, so watch this space.

This is the edition of the newsletter in which you get the opportunity to apply for one of the trips which Ann has organized for us. As this is the last year in which she will be doing so, we urgently need to find a replacement otherwise there will be no programme of visits for 2013. If you would like information about what this role involves please contact Ann or Martin Higgins (484120).

The Spring Show will soon be with us and I am looking forward to seeing you there and all the exhibits. And talking about shows you will find exciting information below about a new show which will be held on the village common on Village Day. This venture although not being organized by us, is being fully supported by the Horticultural Society and I hope as many of you as possible will enter so that it can become an annual event.

Sheila Hobbs

Amended Date of May Coffee Morning

As many of you will be aware by now, the date shown on your membership card for the May Coffee Morning is incorrect. It should be the 5th May the date shown on the back of the show schedule.

Kidnapped in Columbia

This is just a reminder that tickets for the talk by Tom Hart Dyke on Wednesday 11th April are now on sale at £1.50 for members and £3.00 for visitors. The previous

newsletter gave details about the talk which in case the Christmas excesses have caused you to forget is repeated below:

“Many of you will have been on our outing earlier this year (2011) to Lullingstone Castle to visit the two acre World Garden which Tom created following his kidnapping. This shows where many of the plants we use in our own gardens come from by being planted in their respective country of origin. It was planned by Tom during his captivity when he was held for nine months by guerrillas in the Panamanian jungle whilst on a plant hunting expedition that went dangerously wrong. Tom is a recognised horticultural expert with a very lively personality and is much in demand as a speaker. It promises to be an excellent evening.”

The Stockwell Lindfield Weather Station

Did you know that there is a detailed record of Lindfield’s weather? So you need no longer argue as to what the weather was like yesterday, last week or last year for Lindfield’s very own weather station has all the answers. All you need to do to access this is to type the following into your computer’s browser:

<http://lindfield-weather.net/weatherstation/index.htm>

Once you have done so you will be able to view a most interesting and well laid out site. If you click the trend button at the bottom of the screen, this brings up trend graphs which are more interesting than the spot readings, and there is a lot more information available as well if you click the other buttons. This service comes courtesy of Jim Stockwell that well known and intrepid member of the Society. With all the readings taken from the weather station in his garden our weather records are now truly local and not based on readings at some distant station in Ashdown Forest or Uckfield. Well done Jim.

Spring Show 2012

It does not seem possible that we are starting a new horticultural year; where does the time go? I hope you have all received your new schedules and are busy studying the classes in preparation for the Spring Show on the 7th April.

There are two changes that Martin has written about in the Show Schedule editorial that apply to exhibitors. The first is my email address is now: **whet25@btinternet.com** and the second is that entries will no longer be accepted at Abbots Pharmacy or Cloughs. It will make life easier for me to have all the entries emailed, phoned or delivered to my home 25 Eastern Road or my daughter Debbie’s home 67 Brookway. I would like to thank Abbots and Cloughs for their support over the years.

I recently went up to Ardingly Reservoir for a walk with two daughters, four grandchildren and one rather mad dog. I have never seen the water so low, it does not bode well for watering the garden during the summer unless we get an awful lot of rain soon (during the night please). As a result I have just invested in a third water butt and am saving every drop of water that I can to fill it. I look

forward to seeing you all at the spring show, and I hope we have a mega number of entries.

Pat Whetstone

Rosemoor Gold Update

How are your Rosemoor Gold bulbs? Here are a few tips for looking after your bulbs and also to help you make the most of the flowers on Saturday 7th April, the day of the Spring Show:

- Keep your pots well-watered, especially when the bulbs are in flower.
- Rosemoor Gold has tall foliage in relation to the size of its blooms and it will require staking. Its blooms are fragrant and it has reed-like foliage.
- Don't expose the pots to too much warmth as this is likely to result in poorer quality blooms.
- Rosemoor Gold is likely to have two, or occasionally three, flowers to a stem. Try to enter a multi-headed stem into the class if you have one.
- Cut the flowers on the morning of the day before the show. Place in water in a cool place out of direct sunlight.
- A couple of daffodil leaves will enhance your exhibit. Vases are provided by the Society to stage your entry. Some paper or moss used as packing in the vase will aid its presentation.

The special members' class for one stem of Rosemoor Gold is Class 10 on page 20 in the schedule. 'Rule 17' has been waived for this class to enable two or more members of the same household who purchased Rosemoor Gold bulbs from the Society to make their own entries in this class.

You may have more than one stem of Rosemoor Gold to show. As it is classified as a Division 7 daffodil, it may also be entered into one or more of the following classes:

Members' Class 11	Five stems (can be mixed with other daffodil cultivars).
Members' Class 16	Three stems (can be mixed with other Division 7 cultivars).
Members' Class 22	One stem.

If you are a 'Novice' (a member who has not previously won a first prize in any daffodil class), you could also enter Rosemoor Gold stems in Classes 61, 62 and 67.

I am looking forward to seeing your blooms at the Show. If you need any advice beforehand, please contact me on 440148.

Richard Hilson

Never won a first prize for a daffodil?

Why not try your luck with your daffodils and have a go in the Novices' classes for members in the Spring Show (see Section C – page 22 in the schedule).

This is an ideal starting point if you are new to showing. Confused about which 'divisions' or into which of the classes your daffodils should be entered? Don't worry. Just bring them along either on Friday evening or Saturday morning during the staging times shown in the Show Timetable and I will do my best to help you decide. For your guidance, there are some illustrations on page 16 of the schedule. A very elegant challenge cup engraved with your name could be yours for a year. This is awarded to the member gaining the most points in the Novices' daffodil classes. Good luck.

Richard Hilson

Garden Visits for 2012

Set out below are the details for this year's garden visits as referred to on the back of the Show Schedule plus a self drive/seek a lift trip. The trips have been timed to take place when in a "normal" season the gardens can be expected to be at their best.

Because of the popularity of the outings only members of the Society may purchase tickets. This means that tickets may not be bought either by members for their guests or by non members of the Society. Last year there were plenty of unallocated lifts available on the self drive / seek a lift trip, so please do not be put off from applying just because you do not have transport.

Please ensure that all queries etc about outings are made to me, Ann Higgins (484120) as some members contact Alison and Michael Elliott who only have to refer the matter on to me, and they have enough to do for the Society without us needlessly adding to it.

A separate cheque should be sent for **EACH of the coach** trips, the money for the self drive/seek a lift trip will be collected on the day.

Cliveden – Thursday 5th July

A country retreat on a grand scale, Cliveden's magnificent gardens and breathtaking views have been admired for centuries. Visited by virtually every British monarch since George I, in the early 20th century it became home to Waldorf and Nancy Astor. As the glittering hub of society, numerous parties and political gatherings were hosted here and later Cliveden became infamously associated with the Profumo affair. The house is a hotel, and tours of part of the interior are only available on certain days but will form part of our proposed visit. The site is owned by the National Trust and offers amongst other things:

- herbaceous borders devised by Graham Stuart Thomas
- a terrace with stunning views
- a parterre

- the Octagon Temple (a fabulous family chapel)
- the Yew Walk
- the Secret Garden
- the Long Garden
- the Grand Walk
- a tour of a small part of the house (but well worth taking)

The coach will leave Lindfield at 8.45am and it is anticipated that it will return by 8.00pm. You may also pre-book coffee and home made biscuits for on your arrival which will save you time. The cost of a ticket will be £23.00 for non NT members, or £13.40 for NT members, which covers coach travel, tips and the appropriate garden entrance; or £25.00 and £15.40 respectively if you want to pre-book coffee. **Please use the attached application form at the end of this newsletter to order tickets.**

Wisley and Hinton Ampner - Thursday 16th August

There is no need to say anything about Wisley other than the last visit by the LHS was in 2009. It is proposed to visit here in the morning and take lunch. Afterwards we will travel to Hinton Ampner which has very pleasant gardens together with the added advantage that as from 2011 the house is now also open to the public, and some of you who may know the gardens, will not have had the opportunity of entering the house before. It is a National Trust site and offers:

- a park
- Autumn Border
- Walled Garden
- Terrace
- Sunken Garden
- Long Walk
- House
- Tea Room

The coach will leave Lindfield at 8.30am and it is anticipated that it will return by 7.30pm. The cost of a ticket will be £20.00 for non NT members or £13.00 for NT members, which covers coach travel, tips and the appropriate garden entrance. **Please use the attached application form at the end of this newsletter to order tickets.**

Self Drive / Seek-a-Lift – Guided Tour Wakehurst Place – Monday 18 June

Wakehurst Place needs no introduction and although many of you will know it well, here is an opportunity to have a guided tour which will be exclusively for LHS members. The tour will start at 10.30am (meeting by the Mansion in the courtyard) and finish at the Seed Bank with a general outline of the work undertaken there and an opportunity to stay and use the interactive displays if you so wish. It will last approximately an hour and a half.

There will be a charge of £1 each for the tour which Martin will collect on the day. Most members will either have a Wakehurst Garden Season Ticket or be National Trust members and so will not have to pay an entry fee, but if you do not qualify for free entry, you will have to pay the standard entry charge of £11.50 on arrival. **If you wish to come on this visit please complete the appropriate form at the end of the newsletter.**

Fantastic Bargains at the Sundries Centre

Attached to the newsletter is a copy of the latest price list for the Sundries Centre. How Noreen has managed to do it in the present economic climate I do not know but compared with last year 15 items have a reduced price, 30 are the same and only 3 have a slight increase. So for quality products and low prices you cannot beat Noreen the Sundries Centre ace! All you have to do now is to get on down to Spring Lane....

Spring Opening Dates (from 9.30am-11.00am)

March	Sunday 4 th
March	Saturday 17 th
March	Saturday 31 st
April	Sunday 15 th
April	Saturday 28 th
May	Sunday 6 th
May	Sunday 13 th
May	Saturday 19 th
May	Sunday 27 th

The Lindfield Village Day Grand Competition

As mentioned by Sheila Hobbs above there will be a new show on Village Day, which is being sponsored by the Toll House, Lindfield High Street. It is being organized by Claire Fuller (who was one of the organisers of the first Lindfield Arts Festival) and supported by the LHS. Here is what Claire is saying about the new event:

“Enter the Village Day Grand Competition and celebrate traditional skills and crafts. Win the admiration of your friends and neighbours and a Winners Certificate to hang on the wall. The competition categories are listed below; there is something for everyone, young and old! Register your entry by the closing date of Saturday 26th May at the Toll House, Lindfield High Street. There are specific competitions for children only; however they are welcome to enter any category although age will not be taken into consideration when judging them. The categories and classes are as follows:

Horticultural Competitions

- An arrangement in a Teacup - flowers picked from a garden or allotment
- The Rose – a single stem in a vase

- Any Vegetable
- One of my first Potatoes of 2012
- **Childrens Competition** -Best Miniature Garden in a Seed Tray.
(With prizes for this children's category kindly donated by Lindfield Horticultural Society)

Home Baking and Preserves

- 4 Egg Victoria Sponge- presented on a white paper plate
- Homemade Jam /Chutney – presented in a 1lb unopened jar
- Homemade Sweet – confectionary, 10 pieces to be presented on a white paper plate
- One Loaf of Homemade Bread
- One bottle of Homemade Wine, Beer or Liqueur
- **Children's Competition** –Brownie Bake Off- 8 pieces presented on a white paper plate

Art and Craft Competitions

- A Diamond Jubilee Cushion
- A Knitted or Crocheted Tea-cosy
- Handmade Fashion Accessory
- Artwork on the theme Olympic Dreams – any medium
- Local Photograph on the theme – 2012 - People, Places, Perspectives
- Children's Competition - A Diamond Jubilee Crown – must be wearable
- Artwork on the theme Olympic Dreams – any medium”

Your committee hopes that as many members as possible will support the show by making at least one entry. This is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate to non members the pleasure that showing can give.

Pea Sticks and Bean Poles

Recent coppicing at St Peter and St James Hospice has produced material suitable for use as pea sticks and bean poles. If you would like to make use of these on

your garden or allotment, please ring Bob Jacobs (451682) to arrange to collect them. In return, a small donation to the Hospice would be appreciated.

Sally McBirney

Salvias

In the last few years I have become particularly fond of perennial salvias, so I thought that I would share with you some of my favourites. If you have some others please let your editor know and I will include them in the Summer Newsletter. Salvias have a wide range of shapes, sizes and colours and although traditionally grown for their late summer and autumn colour some salvias do bloom much earlier in the year.

- *Salvia guaranitica* 'Blue Enigma' – this has deep blue flowers between July and November and is about 1.7m in height
- *Salvia* 'Penny's Smile' – and she certainly does with lovely rich pink flowers and grows to about 1.2m
- *Salvia* 'Lalarsha' – pinky/purple flowers from May to November, height 80cm
- *Salvia microphylla* 'Blush Pink' - rose pink flowers from May to November, height 80cm

The best place to buy salvias is from Dysons Nursery at Great Comp Garden, Platt, near Sevenoaks. It is open every day between 1st April and 31st October from 11am to 5pm. There is a mail order service and a very informative website at:

www.greatcomparden.co.uk

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 members 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 LHS membership card with you.

Members who have not got this facility should join the scheme just as ordinary members of the public and then when they receive their loyalty card they should have it updated.

Committee

Newsletter by Email

This is to remind you that all members who are on email are offered the opportunity to have their newsletter on the day it is published. To do so just go to our website: www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk and click on 'email us' on the shed door and ask for your newsletter by email. Why not at the same time view our website,

which is really great thanks to the efforts of our Webmaster Tim Richardson who can be contacted with your suggestions in the same way.
Committee

Other dates of interest for your diary

Ardingly Show Dates

Spring Show 24th March

Summer Show 14th July

Autumn Show 1st September

Hapstead Hall, Ardingly

Burgess Hill Gardens and Allotments Association Show Dates

Spring Show 31st March

Summer Show 30th June

Autumn Show 1st September

The Cyprus Hall, Burgess Hill

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**APPLICATION TO VISIT WAKEHURST PLACE
ON MONDAY 18 JUNE 2012**

NAME.....

Contact telephone No.

ADDRESS

..... Post Code

I am a member of LHS and wish to visit Wakehurst Place:

a) on a self drive basis **Yes / No**

b) if I can have a lift **Yes / No**

How many are in you party

If you will be driving there are you able to offer a lift to other members? **Yes / No**

If you are able to offer a lift please indicate to how many

We will meet next to the Mansion in the courtyard - tour commences at 10.30am

Please send this form to:

Mrs Ann Higgins, 39 Dukes Road, Lindfield, West Sussex RH16 2JQ
Tel: 484120

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COACH TRIP TO CLIVEDEN
THURSDAY 5 JULY 2012

THE COACH WILL LEAVE LINDFIELD AT 8.45am WITH AN ANTICIPATED RETURN AROUND 8.00pm. THE COST OF A TICKET COVERS COACH TRAVEL, TIP AND ENTRY FOR NON NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS (ENTRY IS FREE TO NT MEMBERS SUBJECT TO YOU HAVING YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD WITH YOU ON THE DAY OF THE TRIP), AND A TOUR OF THE HOUSE.

PLEASE ENCLOSE:

- COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM AS PER OVER THE PAGE (INCLUDING DETAILS OF ANY NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERSHIP)
- A CHEQUE FOR TICKET(S) AT
 - £13.40 EACH FOR NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS, **OR**
 - £15.40 EACH FOR NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS IF YOU WANT PRE-BOOKED COFFEE ON ARRIVAL, **OR**
 - £23.00 EACH FOR NON NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS, **OR**
 - £25.00 EACH FOR NON NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS IF YOU WANT PRE-BOOKED COFFEE ON ARRIVAL
- A STAMPED SELF ADDRESSED ENVELOPE FOR THE RETURN OF YOUR TICKETS (**PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO INCLUDE THIS!!**)

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM OVER THE PAGE

**TICKET APPLICATION FOR CLIVEDEN ON THURSDAY
5 JULY 2012**

I am a member of LHS and wish to apply for: ticket(s) at £13.40 each
..... ticket(s) at £15.40 each
..... ticket(s) at £23.00 each
..... ticket(s) at £25.00 each

for the following members of LHS:

Names with contact telephone numbers and **if covered by National Trust membership**

.....
.....
.....

If anyone in your party would like a manual wheelchair please give their name as it needs to be pre-booked

.....

Address for tickets to be sent to

..... Post Code

I enclose a cheque for £ made out to LHS, a **separate** cheque for each outing.

Please send this tear off slip, SAE and your cheque to:

**Mrs Ann Higgins, 39 Dukes Road, Lindfield, West Sussex RH16 2JQ
Tel: 484120**

***COACH TRIP TO WISLEY AND HINTON AMPNER
THURSDAY 16 AUGUST 2012***

THE COACH WILL LEAVE LINDFIELD AT 8.30am WITH AN ANTICIPATED RETURN AROUND 7.30pm. THE COST OF A TICKET COVERS COACH TRAVEL, TIP AND ENTRY FOR NON NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS (ENTRY IS FREE TO NT MEMBERS SUBJECT TO YOU HAVING YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD WITH YOU ON THE DAY OF THE TRIP).

PLEASE ENCLOSE:

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- A CHEQUE FOR TICKET(S) AT
 - £13.00 EACH FOR NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS, **OR**
 - £20.00 EACH FOR NON NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS
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**PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM OVER
THE PAGE**

**TICKET APPLICATION FOR WISLEY AND HINTON AMPNER
ON THURSDAY 16 AUGUST 2012**

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..... ticket(s) at £20.00 each

for the following members of LHS:

Names with contact telephone numbers and **if covered by National Trust membership**

.....
.....
.....

If anyone in your party would like a manual wheelchair as it needs to be pre-booked at Wisley and Hinton Ampner please give their name

.....

Address for tickets to be sent to

..... Post Code

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