

# LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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

## Autumn Newsletter 2013

### Editorial

What a marvellous start to Rose Mortenson's organisation of the LHS coach trips we had in July with a visit to Woolbeding. This wonderful garden in its rather secluded location excelled itself. The garden benefits from having a personality of its own amongst all the beautiful plants and tasteful plant combinations. In fact there is an interesting contrast between tastefulness of the planting and the quirkiness of some of the layout. But most importantly, the plants were looking lovely and not over shadowed by the theatre of the design.

*Whilst on the subject of trips, Rose would like to know whether there would be sufficient support for a coach trip to next year's Hampton Court Flower Show. To help her make a decision please complete and return the form at the end of the newsletter.*

And where else but at the LHS could you be offered the opportunity to acquire an Arkle for a mere 70p! To find out more about this not to be missed opportunity see the item below. [For those ignorant of matters relating to the turf, Arkle was a world famous horse.]

In the last newsletter a new photographic competition was announced but to date, rather disappointingly, there has only been one entry. So in the hope that all you photographers are merely biding your time here are the details again:

“A new photographic competition has been launched which is open to all LHS members, both adults and juniors as follows:

- You are invited to submit a photograph on a horticultural theme (garden, plant, vegetable, landscape, shed, gardener, wheelbarrow etc) representative of the particular month of the year in which it was taken.
- You can submit just one, or up to one for each month, or some number in-between.
- **They should be sent in as they are taken** using the following email address and will then be posted on the LHS website: [photos@lindfieldhorts.org.uk](mailto:photos@lindfieldhorts.org.uk)
- At the Spring Show the best of photographs would be exhibited and the show's visitors invited to vote for the one they like best, which would be awarded a prize. There would be a separate prize for best junior exhibit not otherwise winning a prize.”

Mention of the website gives me the opportunity to say that we welcome members sending us photographs of their garden, with or without a covering note, for posting on the website. Please send them to:  
editors@lindfieldhorts.org.uk

Looking through my gardening notebooks recently I came across a plant I had noted down at a Hardy Plant Society talk, *Sisyrinchium* 'Quaint and Queer'. What a lovely name, and instead of the usual blue, white, or yellow flowers, this hybrid has flowers of milk chocolate. I must look out for it.

### **Arkle runs in the 2014 Spring Show**

There will be a special daffodil class for members in the 2014 Spring Show schedule as follows:

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

Two hundred bulbs of the cultivar ‘Arkle’ 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, 14<sup>th</sup> September. ‘Arkle’ is a Division 1 ‘trumpet’ daffodil having a huge all-yellow flower. It has received an Award of Garden Merit (AGM) from The Royal Horticultural Society. These bulbs can be grown either in pots or in the ground.

The bulbs will be sold singly, although four bulbs could be grown in a 10 litre pot. They retail at £1 each but will only cost members 70p each or for an even greater bargain three for £1.80; a ‘growing hints’ sheet will also be supplied.

*Richard Hilson*

### **Summer Show**

Once again, despite the weather, we had a successful show. I must admit I was getting a bit worried when by the Wednesday before the show I had hardly any entries. In the event although the numbers were down from a normal summer show, the hall looked very good with many fine exhibits.

I must particularly congratulate all those who entered the floral art; the arrangements are getting better and better. Our judge Bob Tunks was very impressed with all the exhibits, well done exhibitors.

A new class in the flower section of the summer show was an arrangement of flowers picked from the garden or allotment and arranged in a tea cup. This class was very popular, and if anyone has any other ideas please let me or another committee member know.

Turning to the Autumn Show, with regard to the special fuchsia class, some juniors took plants to grow. As we do not have a class number in the junior

section for the fuchsias, if you have one you want to enter please just mark your entry form “special fuchsia” and I will make out a card for you. Noreen Smith will then judge these and the other special fuchsia entries. See you at the Autumn Show.

### Results

The Lemmey Cup	Ann Higgins
The Savill Cup	Jim Stockwell
RHS Banksian Medal	Rosemary and Neville Humphreys
The Gilbert Cup	Julie Hewitt
The Filmer Cup	Julie Hewitt
The Fruit Cup	Ian Cooper
The Thornbery Trophy	Julie Hewitt
Askew Cup	Jim Stockwell
The LHS Junior Cup	Sam Armstrong
The Kieron James Toys Shield	Liam Jolly
The Junior Shield	Nick Watson
The Blue Riband of the British Fuchsia Society	Rita Pickett
The Don Booker Fuchsia Cup	Julie Hewitt

### Best in Show

Vegetable	Richard Watson
Pot Plant	Rosemary & Neville Humphreys
Cookery	Jocasta Fearn
Handicraft	Sue Stockwell

*Pat Whetstone*

### **Autumn Show**

The Summer Show was a riot of colourful flowers set off by some magnificent delphiniums that almost reached the KEH ceiling. I now look forward to what exhibitors have in store for us at the Autumn Show, which will be held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September in the King Edward Hall. This is our biggest show of the year and the grand finale of the showing season. It can be relied upon to give a magnificent display of locally grown flowers, fruit, vegetables, floral art, cookery and children’s exhibits. As usual the show will be open to the public from 2.00pm, with tea, coffee and delicious homemade cakes available together with a selection of plants. Last orders in the Tea Room will be at 4.45pm; with the presentation of awards at 5pm which will include the annual trophies for the most points obtained over all three of the year’s shows, followed by the raffle and an auction of any donated exhibits.

Exhibitors are reminded that written entries should be delivered to 25 Eastern Road or 67 Brookway by 10pm on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September. Entries can also be made by email to [whet25@btinternet.com](mailto:whet25@btinternet.com) up to 1pm on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>

September. Exhibits may be staged between 7pm and 9pm on the Friday or between 8am and 10.30am on the Saturday. Exhibitors are reminded that it is their responsibility to collect any prize money from the Treasurer between 3.30 and 4.30pm on the day of the show and that no exhibit should be removed from the show bench until after the presentations.

Finally if you bought one of our special fuchsia plants, Celia Smedley, do not forget to enter it in class 299 on page 67 of the Show Schedule.

*Committee*

### **Sundries Centre**

The Sundries Centre will be open on:

Saturday September 21st

Sunday October 6th

Saturday October 26th

This is your opportunity to choose from the large range of stock so as to get ready to successfully over winter your plants, and prepare the soil for the spring. We offer top quality products at very competitive prices direct from the wholesaler. So come and see for yourself.

*Noreen Smith*

### **Christmas Social**

Tickets for the Christmas Social on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December will be on sale at the talk on the on 9<sup>th</sup> October, as well as the October Coffee Morning and the November evening 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 remains as it was last year at £10. The entertainment will be the Sussex Harmonisers, a very local, male barber shop choir which has some of our own members in its ranks. This is a return visit by them; we really enjoyed their performance a couple of years ago. Come along and enjoy yourselves, the format of the evening as always remains the same - wine, food and song.

*Alison Elliott*

### **Membership**

Membership fees for the New Year are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> September and at any of our events after that date. They 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*

### **Membership Records/Database**

The Society now has a proper database for our records due to Sandra Huggett who has also taken over the maintenance of our membership records. Not only is she maintaining the database she also produces the distribution lists for our

newsletters and schedules and sends out our emails. So when you receive your next communication from Sandra, save her address into your contacts. So a big thank you to Sandra. Also we would like to thank Chris Gurr and the large team of newsletter and show schedule distributors for all their help.

*Committee*

### **Suttons and Dobies Catalogues**

The Suttons and Dobies Catalogues for the 2013 season may 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 purchase Sutton's or Dobies seeds please do so through the Society. If you would like to reserve a catalogue please ring 483039 leaving your name and address and which catalogue you would like.

*Alison and Michael Elliott*

### **The Talks Programme**

Once more Wendy Dumbleton has organised a very interesting talks programme for us which will recommence in October. The following Wednesday dates should be entered into your diary:

2013

9<sup>th</sup> October – Heucheras – Clive Gravett

13<sup>th</sup> November – Sussex on the Rocks – Geoffrey Mead

2014

8<sup>th</sup> January - The Natural Year in Focus - Peter Lovett

12<sup>th</sup> February – Camelia Botnar Foundation – Richard Horsley

12<sup>th</sup> March – Clematis through the Seasons – Everett Leeds

9<sup>th</sup> April – Growing and Showing Dahlias – Richard Hilson

14<sup>th</sup> May – Floral Art Demonstration – Bob Tunks

8<sup>th</sup> October – Successional planting in the Long Border – Fergus Garrett

12<sup>th</sup> November – A Celebration of Wild Flowers – Margaret Pilkington

Admission remains at £1 for members and £2 for guests, except for the October 2014 talk which will be at a higher admission fee and by ticket only. Meetings are in the KEH and commence at 8pm except for the November meeting which starts at 7.30 pm with the AGM, Margaret Pilkington's talk following on.

*Committee*

### **Talk by Chris Beardshaw on Furzey Gardens**

On Wednesday 18th September at 7.15 pm in the Steyning Centre the Sussex Group of the Hardy Plant Society has arranged for Chris Beardshaw, the renowned writer and broadcaster on gardening, to talk about his 2012 Chelsea Flower Show Garden. He will be explaining how a little known garden can be brought to life, both in terms of the garden itself and its plant heritage. The talk

will look at how the garden is constructed, the theatre and the design of show gardens and what makes this a unique garden.

Furzey Gardens is a charitable trust set up to help people with learning difficulties. The students are accommodated in part of the trust's property in the vicinity of the gardens, learning garden work and how to care for one another. Chris will be talking about this interesting and worthwhile project and will answer questions afterwards. There will be drinks available on arrival at 7.15pm and the talk will commence at 8pm. The cost is £12 per person, to include a glass of wine, and if you are interested in going please contact Mrs Carolyn McCutchan on 01323 485152 or email [batesgreen@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:batesgreen@dsl.pipex.com)

### **Bressingham Hall Gardens**

We visited Bressingham Gardens the home of the late Alan Bloom (of the famous Bloom's nursery) late in June; it was amazing, fantastic and really took your breath away. It had been Alan Bloom's idea to turn the long herbaceous borders you find in most formal gardens into a variety of beds: round ones, oval ones, rectangular ones, in fact any shape you could think of. In the six acre garden adjacent to the Hall there are actually 58 of them, all planted differently but on the same structure and theme: blocks of perennials, smaller in height to the outside and larger in the middle.

There are actually another two gardens at Bressingham's, the larger of which was developed and is still maintained by Alan's son Adrian, again quite magnificent, with North American planting and a lot more trees. In all there are 17 acres of wonderful gardens, with over 2 miles of edges for someone to trim.

What made it special for us was that we stayed B & B in Bressingham Hall, Alan Bloom's own house, it was a little run down and creaky, but very clean with excellent breakfast. It was however right in the middle of the six acre garden, which became our own when the gardens were closed to the public.

In addition to the Gardens, Bressingham's has a collection of steam locomotives and a tribute to the Dad's Army series; you can actually walk through Walmington-on-Sea!

All in all a wonderful place only 2.5 hours away, situated between Cambridge and Norwich, near Diss in Norfolk.

*Alison and Michael Elliott*

### **Hospice Shop**

You may have noticed that St Peter and St James Hospice has opened a new Furniture, Home and Garden shop in the Lindfield Enterprise Park on Lewes Road. It is light and airy and has some lovely items for sale – it's a very up-market charity shop! They would welcome donations of good quality garden items

*Rosemary Humphreys*

## POSSIBLE COACH OUTING TO 2014 HAMPTON COURT FLOWER SHOW

Would you book a place on a coach trip to the 2014 Hampton Court Flower Show?

YES / NO (please tick as appropriate)

Name.....

Please return this form to:

Rose Mortenson  
Shamrock Cottage,  
Gravelye Lane,  
Lindfield,  
West Sussex  
RH16 2RY

Or email Rose at: [rose.mortenson@gmail.com](mailto:rose.mortenson@gmail.com)