

# LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

## Newsletter - Autumn 2018

**Membership Renewal** - Membership fees for the new year are due on 1 October 2018 (£6 per individual member and £10 for a couple living at the same address). Renewals for the New Year can be made at the Autumn Show on 8 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.

**Chairman's Report** - Welcome to our autumn newsletter. As you will see from the report - see below - we had an excellent summer show. Thanks to all the exhibitors who managed to find some excellent exhibits from their drought ridden gardens and allotments. Thanks also to all the volunteer helpers and committee members who gave their time to help make the show a success.

I would like to encourage more members to enter exhibits for the shows. I expect there are many of you who walk round the show on a Saturday afternoon and think "I had a flower or vegetable like that which I could have entered". If you have, don't just think about it in future, enter it!

The 2019 Show Schedule coming out in January will include a section entitled "hints and tips on exhibiting". We hope it will help new members to understand the whys and wherefores of exhibiting. Please remember that there are always some of the more "experienced" exhibitors about on the Friday evening and Saturday morning of each show who would be more than willing to give you advice.

Once again, I am making my usual plea for more volunteers to take on some of the vacancies in the LHS. We still need a Secretary and Treasurer and also committee members. As I said in the last newsletter we also need volunteers to help at the shows. We are not asking for you to assist at every show but if you could help at least at one event in a year it would be a great help.

Don't forget that the A.G.M. is on the 14<sup>th</sup> November followed by a talk entitled "How to commit the perfect murder and put the body to good use in the garden afterwards". Sounds interesting!

Please try to attend the A.G.M. if you can and I shall look forward to seeing many of you at the Autumn Show on 8 September.

*Pat Whetstone*

*Chairman Lindfield Horticultural Society*

*Phone: 01444 483236*

*Email: whet25@btinternet.com*

**25% off Suttons's and Dobbies's Seeds** - the 2018/19 catalogues of Suttons and Dobbies should be available at our October Meetings or the AGM.

The advantages of purchasing from these companies are obvious in that LHS Members ordering their seeds and plants for themselves or acquaintances, through the LHS will receive a 25% discount on Seeds and a 10% discount on other items. It does not matter how much you order eg £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 purchasing (or are thinking of purchasing seeds etc.) please consider the Suttons and Dobbies catalogues and make use of the arrangement we have with each company, **both of which are award winning suppliers of seeds and plants.**

There is usually a postage charge with orders so anyone only wanting a few packets of seeds where the postage outweighs the saving, can send their order to the Treasurer who will make a collective order and share out the cost of postage. If you would like to reserve a catalogue please phone Michael and Alison Elliott on 483039, leaving your name and address and which catalogue (or both of them) you would like.

Somewhat surprisingly, last season only 19 members took advantage of this scheme. Despite this 'low' take up, the total saving made on purchases by LHS members was approx. £150 and the commission we earned was £168.

### **Forthcoming Events**

**1 September** - Sundries Centre is open

**8 September** - Autumn Show

**13 September** - outing to Fishbourne Roman Palace and Woolbeding Garden - see below

**23 September** - Sundries Centre is open

**6 October** - Sundries Centre is open

**10 October** - Evening Talk by Rosy Hardy who has recently won her 23rd Gold Medal at the Chelsea's Flower Show - see below

**13 October** - Coffee Morning and plant sale

**28 October** - Sundries Centre is open for the last time this year

**14 November** - AGM, followed by a talk entitled "How to commit the perfect murder and put the body to good use in the garden afterwards" by Guy Deakins

**Talk by Rosy Hardy** - 10 October - Rosy's nursery, which grew out of her and her husband selling plants at car boot sales 30 years or so ago, has just won their 23rd Gold Medal at the Chelsea Flower Show. It is quite a coup for Wendy Dumbleton to secure Rosy for an Evening Talk particularly as she is very well known in the Horticultural industry. What she has to say will doubtless be very interesting and the talk will be worthwhile attending. The entry fee will be £2 for members and £5 for non members who, if they wish, can join the LHS before the start of the Talk.

**Seed swap 2019** - A reminder that now is the time of year to make final thoughts about saving seeds including unused surplus purchased seeds for the seed swap at the coffee morning on 2 February 2019 and following events at the KEH

**Christmas Social** - 7th December - tickets go on sale at the October coffee morning, the October talk and the AGM. The ticket numbers will be limited to 114 and will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis and to members only. The ticket price is as last year at £10. The entertainment this year is provided by the Sundown Ukulele Band. Come along and enjoy yourselves, the format of the evening as always, remains the same – good company, good food, a glass or two of wine and great entertainment including a seasonal song or two or more. More information Pat Whetstone 483236

**Summer Show** held on 4th July - Despite other attractions; Wimbledon Tennis, the football World Cup and 'beach' weather, there was an excellent 'turn out' for the Show.

As usual, the colours of the flowers on display were spectacular and the quality of the fruit and vegetables was excellent as was the craft exhibits. The mouth watering home made cakes, jam etc. on display was the impetus for many to enjoy the drinks and homemade cakes available in the Jubilee Room where there was also a good turnover of the quality plants on sale.

The prize winners were:-

Savill Cup - Ian Cooper  
 President's Cup - Ian Cooper  
 Don Booker Fuchsia Cup - Michael Elliott  
 Gilbert Cup - Gill Jones  
 Thornbery Trophy - Sue Stockwell  
 Askew Cup - Michael Elliott  
 RHS Banksian Medal - Jim Stockwell  
 Filmer Cup - Jeff Essen  
 Fruit Cup - Jim Stockwell  
 Lemmey Cup - Andrew Harding  
 Fuchsia Society Blue Riband - Michael Elliott

The 'Best in Show' awards were, Vegetable - Richard Hilson, Pot Plant - Wendy Dumbleton, Cookery - John Robinson, Handicraft - Jeff Essen, Floral Art - Jeff Essen and the best display in a Trug was won by Andrea Fall.

The success of the show was thanks to the many exhibitors, volunteers, Judges and all those who attended this long standing (historic) Lindfield event. (*Chris Gurr*)

### **Outing - Fishbourne Roman Palace & Woolbeding Gardens - Thursday 13th September**

There are still a few places left on this outing and see below for a reminder as to what was in the Spring Newsletter (please phone Rose Mortenson on 01444 483229 direct if you are interested in coming on your own or with a guest(s)).

“Fishbourne Palace was built in AD 75 and destroyed about 200 years later but the site provides a fascinating glimpse of what it was like. This year is the 50th anniversary of the opening of the site and you can explore the huge collection of artefacts and see the beautiful mosaics. The garden of the original palace has been carefully restored to show what the very earliest gardens would have been like. There is a collection of fruit, vegetable, herbs, dye and medicinal plants and shrubs that would have been cultivated in Roman times. There is a shop, a café and an optional tour available.

From here we will continue on to Woolbeding Gardens which is a far more modern and constantly evolving garden run by the National Trust. This is a 26 acre garden with a wide variety of ‘rooms’, plus greenhouse, orangery, orchid house, vegetable and herb gardens. We will have a short introductory talk on arrival but then wander freely. We came to this garden on the first trip I organised for LHS and it has become a personal favourite of mine. Always beautiful, always relaxing and a lovely café ... what more can we ask of our last outing of the year.

Both sites have good access, wheelchairs and good cafés. Fee includes coach travel, driver’s tip, and entrance fees where necessary to both venues: **Standard Fee - £30.00; NT member - £22.25; Optional Tour of Fishbourne - £3.”** *(Rose Mortenson)*

**Recent outings** (in June and July) were successful apart from the blocked M2 on the way to Mount Ephraim in North Kent in June. Despite the delay, the visit was well worthwhile. We don’t often have the opportunity to visit a lovely garden with an arboretum. The attentive and helpful staff were terrific and to the ‘foodies’ on board, the bacon ‘butties’ were very tasty. To some, the diversion though Sittingbourne and Faversham was ‘interesting’. There was no such difficulty with the journey home, particularly as it included a stop at the ‘always-worth-visiting’ Ightham Mote. The journey to London in July was less eventful and the experience of visiting the Chelsea Physic Garden was fascinating - well worth the visit, even a return visit. The history of Fulham Palace was also fascinating and the flower borders in the garden were very colourful as was the rose garden between the grounds of the Palace and the nearby River Thames at Putney Bridge.

The stroll around the lovely woodland and water garden at High Beeches on 17 August was incredibly peaceful with a well shaded area to picnic. Being able to enjoy seeing blue willow gentians, sheep’s bit scabious and blue agapanthus was a bonus. Worth visiting again particularly on their ‘special’ days and at different times of the year to experience the changing colours of the magnificent trees and shrubs. *(Chris Gurr)*