

LINDFIELD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Newsletter - Summer 2019

Editor - Chris Gurr 01444 482739

Reminders for your diary

15 June - Sundries Centre - 9.30 to 11am

13 July - Summer Flower and Produce Show*

14 September - Autumn Flower and Produce Show*

1 and 15 September - Sundries Centre - 9.30 to 11am

Outings - There are also Outings on

12 July - to Leonardslee,

8 August - to Colwood House and

5 September - to Wisley

If you haven't booked on any of these outings but are interested in going to one or more of them, please see the Spring Newsletter - www.lindfieldhorts.org.uk - or phone Rose Mortenson on 01444483229 or 07931775675

Vacancies

Your Committee is looking to fill various roles within the LHS and please phone Pat Whetstone - 01444 483236 - if you would like more information. Most of you know that we have 3 Flower and Produce Shows and 3 Coffee Mornings (plant sales) each year and volunteers to help (even for a few hours as a 'helper') at one or more of these events would be welcome.

The Garden Forum

This event in May was very successful. The vast knowledge of the panel provided an informative and entertaining evening, not without a little humour. There were very serious discussions between all the panel and the audience about many subjects. Commercial weed killers were mentioned, many of which are potentially dangerous and not good for the environment. Couch Grass, Bindweed and Mares Tail was discussed and the panel suggested that these weeds should be dug up but should not be composted unless the compost heap is as hot as a local authority composting system. Daisies etc on lawns should be welcome as they attract pollinators. A pristine lawn is not environmental friendly and if such a lawn is required, the owner should, to quote the panel, 'join a bowling club'. Also, the panel suggested that if we must buy a pot plant as a Christmas present, try something other than a poinsettia - at least one panel member imitated hanging himself when he hears the word 'poinsettia'. All in all, most of the audience went home with a great deal more knowledge than before they arrived and the opportunity to purchase some excellent produce of Paul Seaborne's Nursery was irresistible to many of the audience.

Langley Green Hospital - appeal for assistance from the LHS

The LHS has been approached to assist the Lindfield branch of Rotary on a project they have going at Langley Green Hospital, which is a mental health crisis unit in Crawley. Rotary are helping improve their outdoor space and this is an extract from an Email we have received from Karoline Baird of Haughty Culture Garden Design Ltd who is working with Rotary on this project.

'There is an area that we want to develop into a relaxing and scented space and had thought to have a wild-flower meadow that patients and their families can wander through and sit amongst, in the summer. I had suggested that green-fingered members of Rotary could use their greenhouses to raise the seedlings, but as the average age of the Rotarians is north of 70 and they are (with the exception of two) all men, this is never going to happen. So I wondered if you felt there would be any appetite by LHS to work together with Rotary to help raise the plants in order to transform this particular area of West Sussex's ONLY mental health adult acute care facility. Rotary would of course supply the seed and it would be for an autumn 2019 sowing in plugged seed trays'

Please let me know if you can be of assistance. (Pat Whetstone 01444 483236)

The evening talks

The talk by Peter Lovett in March on Native Orchids of Sussex, Surrey and Kent was fascinating and he mentioned when and where to visit various local areas where Native Orchids, many unique to SE England, can be seen. Steven Moore's talk in April on spring colour at Rapkyns Nursery was also fascinating and many of the audience went home very happy with a bonus of having purchased some of his produce.

Sundries Centre.

Despite some 'logistical' difficulties, there has been a busy trade during the year and it does seem amazing that we only have one more - on 15 June - opening before the Autumn and we would be pleased to see you before our Summer Break to get your last minute garden necessities.

Outings

The outing to **Hole Park** in May was very successful. It is rightly well known for its wonderful display of bluebells, the reason for our visit at this time of year. The enthusiastic welcome by the owner and his wife's extensive selection of tasty home made cakes added to the reasons to visit this lovely place. We followed this visit by spending a few hours at the spectacular **Scotney Castle**. In early June, the trip to Whitchurch included a visit to **Hardy's Nursery** where Rosie Hardy explained what went on at the Nursery, which has won numerous gold medals at Chelsea Flower Shows. This was followed by some of us spending 2/3 hours at the **Bombay Distillery** and others at **Whitchurch Silk Mill** both situated on the beautiful River Test. A busy but highly successful day for everyone, including tours of each facility and some took the opportunity to purchase the products of the distillery and of Hardy's Nursery.

Village Day

We had a successful sale of plants at Village Day and our stall was a hive of activity throughout the day.

Spring Show

For the second year running the 'adverse' weather leading up to the Spring Show seemed to have had an effect on the number of entries, particularly in the vegetable classes. Being 'too wet' and 'too cold' is often heard before Spring Shows. The cry of 'too dry' as was the case this year is rare and 'too warm' is almost non-existent and all exhibitors should be particularly congratulated this year for the quality of their exhibits and for making the KEH look as colourful as it did. Based on the number of entries, the inclusion of photograph classes and a class for homemade compost for the first time in this show proved successful.

The following were the winners of the various trophies:-

The Daffodil Society Bronze Medal and Certificate - Richard Hilson

The Fisk Cup - Richard Hilson

The Lea Cup - Tim Richardson and Richard Hilson

The Jeeves Cup - Tim Richardson

The George Murrell Cup - Tim Richardson

The Daffodil Cup - Rebeca Patman

The Evelyn Drew Floral Art Cup - Clare Wilson

The Keiron James Toys Shield - Florence Fearn-Hughes

The Dawson Cup - Heather Hitchcock

The Junior Cup - Eleanor Anderson

The Junior Shield - Alice Anderson

Best in Show:-

Tim Richardson - **Vegetable**

Gill Jones - **Cookery**

Barbara Clayton - **Handicraft**

Jacqui Essen - **Plant Pot**

Richard Hilson - **Flower**

Clare Wilson - **Floral Art**

As usual at this Show (and the other Shows and the Coffee Mornings), the Jubilee Room was busy with a buzz of friendly chat. For many, these social 'get togethers' are not to be missed with the bonus of the Flower and Produce Shows and Plant sales and, of course the friendly atmosphere and excellent service.

The hard work of all concerned - the organisers, volunteer helpers and the exhibitors - at this Show and all of our other events is much appreciated by your committee.

** for details of the Summer and Autumn Flower and Produce Shows - see the 2019 Show Schedule and Programme -*