

## The 2011 Spring Show.

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March dawned bright and clear following an overnight frost. Chats with a few of the show “regulars” suggested that it had not been a straightforward growing season and doubts were expressed regarding some of the classes being ready by Show day. I was thus pleasantly surprised on Friday night to find that I had processed entries from 26 entrants and printed entry cards for 125 exhibits. This was well up on the 98 and 86 entries in 2009 and 2010 respectively, though I expected a few “no shows” from those few entries submitted several days ahead of the show which would probably have included a few classes based on hope rather than expectation.

Armed with my list of the number of entries in each class two of the team of volunteers had all the class cards and class dividers in place on the tables by 9a.m. We had however forgotten about the overnight frost that had flattened some entries resulting in only about 100 entries turning up and some last minute “adjustment” to the allocated space for each class. In the view of the Judge the standard of the daffodil entries was very high given the vagaries of the weather and the date of the show. The Floral Art judge was similarly impressed by the number and standard of the entries. Thanks to Jenny Withers for “persuading” so many of you to enter.

As usual, the hall heating was only turned on after the judging so when the show opened at 2pm, the visitors were greeted by the very strong scent of the hyacinths and the “Sir Winston Churchill” narcissi. Following last years trial, entry was again by donation and once again these were generous. There seemed to be more visitors than last year and before long the admiring comments on the spring flower and the floral Art exhibits was replaced by the very loud buzz of friends chattering. By about 3-15pm nearly all of Betty’s delectable cakes had been bought and consumed - a first for our show and confirmation of just how good they were.

The trophy winners were:

The Peter Harden Trophy for the best narcissi in pebbles and water – Brian Andrews.

The Stan Wood Cup for the best “Binkie” daffodils in a pot – Maureen Kemp.

The Eric Martin cup for the best exhibit – Mark Ward.

The PHS Novice spring Cup – Mary Brown.

The Society Shield for the highest total points awarded – Mark Ward.

The PHS Spring Cup for the highest total points classes 1 to 6 – Mark Ward

The Trophy for the best Floral Art Exhibit – Maureen Simpson.

The Daffodil Society Bronze medal awarded to the best bloom in show – Peter Rogers.

The trophies were presented by the Society president – David Parker.