

**PURBROOK HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**  
**GARDENER'S GAZETTE**  
**WINTER 2010**

**CHAIRMAN'S RAMBLINGS**

It was a less than inspiring weather situation on the day of the Annual Show but it didn't put off the entrants or the public. What a show! It was one of the best that I can remember – the exhibits were up to the usual high standard and those that attended were treated to tables full of top-quality exhibits in all classes. The floral art was indeed magnificent –the number of entrants excelled themselves. I believe the numbers were up on last year; which is a good sign of a healthy Society. If for any reason you missed this one pencil in the next show which will be our Spring Show held at the Deverell Hall, Purbrook. Schedules are already out if you feel like trying your luck! The bulbs for the named classes are at the Store.

The cups are all engraved and ready for collection at the Store – so if you were one of the lucky ones come along and pick them up.

On a more worrying note – the turnover at the Store on Saturdays has fallen way behind last year – recession, bargain prices that we cannot compete with at the superstore – could all be to blame. When buying elsewhere please try and compare 'like for like' in some cases things like compost, growbags and the like are smaller or of an inferior grade, so an apparent 'bargain' may not be so much cheaper than at the Store! Where else could you get the banter and advice that is so readily given. Most big places are just happy to get you out the door. On this note please remember that Brian our Trading Manager is able to procure special orders if you cannot find it on offer at the Store. If you have any thoughts on products you would like to see please contact one of the helpers, we may not always be able to help, but at least we will try!

Here's to some fine weather and good gardening!

**Richard Knight**

**MEMBERSHIP 2011**

The 2010 (green) membership cards expire on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010. New 2011 (purple) cards may be purchased from the Store on Saturday mornings or at the Thursday evening meetings from 4 November 2010. The membership fee for 2011 remains unchanged at £5 per year per household (0% inflation!). As always, if you are unable to get to the Store or attend the Thursday meetings you may renew your membership by sending a cheque for £5 (payable to PHS) to the Membership Secretary. If a sae is enclosed your card will be sent out at the earliest opportunity. If no sae is enclosed the

card will be sent out with the next gazette.

**Graham**

## **SPRING SHOW 2011**

A date for your diary – The Spring Show next year will be held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March.

In 2010, to encourage more entrants, we augmented the three stem/vase daffodil classes with four new classes that only called for a single stem on the basis that one good stem was easier to produce than three good stems. We had perhaps naively expected that this class would primarily attract novices and removed the Novice Section. The single stem classes were however dominated by our regular exhibitors. This year to further encourage new entrants we have reinstated the Novice Section and reintroduced the Novice Cup.

By the time you receive the Gazette, it will probably be a bit too late for you to respond to my exhortation to plant some spring bulbs specifically for the Show. If you have already planted some spring bulbs in pots, you may still be able to raise an entry for the Show. Get a Schedule and even if you cannot comply with pot sizes or numbers specified in the Schedule, any daffodils you have planted will meet one of the ‘single stem in a vase’ classes. You can bring some of these to perfection on the day of the Show and enter in the Novice class – if you have more than one you can also submit an entry in the main single stem classes.

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**Charles**

## **LOOKING BACK ON THE SUMMER SHOW**

As usual I am penning (actually “Microsoft Word”) this at the end of September - just in time to meet the Gazette deadline. Fortunately for you, five weeks after the show only things that made an especial impact come to mind.

We had just over 600 entries. Fortunately this year we had fewer craft stands so all the stands were in the entrance area and we were able to house all the exhibits by moving the Novice and Novelty sections to join the Handicraft, Cookery and Young Persons Sections in the Annex.

I am delighted to say that Jenny Withers’ magnificent efforts produced 25 Floral Art entries but the increase in numbers did present a staging problem. I am particularly

grateful to Graeme the Show Manager and his team for the inventiveness, flexibility and willingness with which they responded to my unexpected demands for additional display space.

The judges were impressed with the number and quality of the entries and were pleased to have to earn their fees. A very big “Thank You” to all of you who went to the effort producing and submitting such high quality exhibits. I was especially pleased to welcome some new faces - I hope you enjoyed it and hope to see you again next year.

My other recollections include:

- The three entries in each of the vegetable collection classes.
- The popularity of the “weed to be proud of” class. We had this class last year with no entries, but decided to persevere and were well rewarded.
- The very inventive entry in the above class from the Isle of Wight. The excellent picture and the beautifully produced explanatory notes certainly got my vote – but I wasn’t the judge.
- The wonderful cake I had with my cup of tea.
- A very welcome suggestion from an exhibitor regarding the allocation of space to each class: put out suitably spaced paper plates corresponding to the number of entries in each class.
- The “buzz” of conversation in the Hall and the refreshment area as friends met up and enjoyed the Show.

Finally my grateful thanks to all exhibitors, those who came to the show and last but not least, the army who helped stage the show. You made it a good one.

The class winners are detailed on the next page.

**Charles Mobsby**

## COOKIES

Would the gentleman who donated cookies and cakes for sale at the Summer Show, please share the recipes with us! The customer who bought them said they were delicious and would like to make them. Please contact me.

**Betty**

## \*\*\*\*\*AGM\*\*\*\*\*

The AGM is an important milestone in the life of any society. Not only is it an opportunity to look back over the year’s activities but it is a chance for members, i.e. you, to offer comments and suggestions for the future well being of your Society.

Formalities will be kept to a minimum and there will be the usual Show Table, Bulb Sales and of course Betty's delicious refreshments to help make it an enjoyable social evening – so please come along

## **TROPHY WINNERS SUMMER SHOW 2010**

Charles Rose Memorial Cup (Best Vegetable Collection)	Peter Rogers
Borrow Cup (Best Potato exhibit)	Peter Rogers
Cornelius Cup (Best vegetable exhibit excl collections)	Peter Rogers
Ted Miles Trophy (Most points for vegetables)	Peter Rogers
Juniper Cup (Most points for novice)	Ellen Pope
Rowena Cup (Most points for fruit)	John Reynolds
Dring Cup (Most points for roses)	Barry Moore
Healey Cup (Most points for flowers)	Peter Rogers
George Broom Memorial Bowl (Most points for pot plants)	Brian Andrews
Dring Chrysanthemum Cup (Most points for chrysanthus)	Jack Primmer
Norman Cup (Most points for Dahlias)	Allan Chivers
Rosemary Trophy (Most points for floral art)	Jenny Withers
Ava Trophy (Most points for jams and preserves)	J D Reynolds
Charlwood Cup (Most points in all classes, ladies)	Mrs R Moore
Napier Cup (Most points in all classes, gentleman)	Peter Rogers
Enid Gauntlett Cup (Most points for handicrafts)	Mrs R Moore
Mary Gauntlett Cup (Best Fuchsia exhibit)	C Copeland
Society Shield (Most points monthly show table)	Gerry Clark
Janet Bendell Cup (Best pot plant)	Audrey Brown
Chairmans Cup (Best floral art exhibit)	Jenny Withers
Jim Mew Cup (Best Onion exhibit)	Peter Rogers
Greta Carter trophy (Best novice floral art exhibit)	Mrs C Middleton
West Cup (3 vases Chrysanthemums)	Jack Primmer
Gauntlett Cup (Local Dahlia Championship)	Roy Harding
G A Day Cup (Rose Class 48 – four blooms)	Barry Moore
Smith Cup (Most points child up to 7 yrs)	Tyler Smith

Eileen Jones Cup (Handwriting child up to 7 yrs)	Leah Tickner
Borrow Young People's Cup (Most points 7 – 11 yrs)	Not Awarded
Mary Grinter Cup (Most points 11 – 16 yrs)	Not Awarded
Havant Borough Council Cup (Most points cookery classes)	C Copeland
The National Chrysanthemum Society Silver Medal	Jack Primmer
The National Chrysanthemum Society Bronze Medal	Jack Primmer
The National Chrysanthemum Society Certificate	Jack Primmer
The National Dahlia Society Silver Medal	Roy Harding
The National Dahlia Society Bronze Medal	Allan Chivers
The National Rose Society Bronze Medal	Not Awarded

## JARS

I have used every jar you kindly delivered to the store, so once again one pound jars only please for next years fruit. The jars donated to the Society has helped with the raising of funds

**Betty**

## DIDN'T YOU DO WELL

Thank you to everybody who donated cakes and preserves for the catering and the stall. It was the most generous amount we have had for the last 12 years. What a difference it made, so much choice you were spoilt! The weather also played a part, as the public decided it was a good idea to spend the wet afternoon viewing the exhibits, eating and drinking.

We must also not forget that in spite of the difficult summer, you produced the produce to make a great Show, well done. What can you do next year???

I look forward to meeting you and seeing the results.

**Betty**

## TONY'S INTER SCHOOLS ANNUAL TROPHY 2011

(SPONSORED BY TRANSIT MAN)

Classes for our Inter Schools Trophy 2011 are as follows:

1. Draw a flower/vegetable or piece of fruit grown in the School Garden (maximum A4 size please)

2. Decorate a pair of Wellington Boots (maximum of 2 pairs per school please)
3. Using fruit/ vegetables grown in the School Garden, create a 2 course meal (send in recipe and photograph of the meal)
4. Craft a centrepiece for the dinner table entitled "Gardeners Delight".
5. Produce a montage entitled "The Four Seasons" (any medium may be used but please only send a photograph of the finished article)

Entry forms to be in by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010

Entries to be in by 1<sup>st</sup> June 2011.

**Lynda Piddington**

## **EDITOR'S REPORT**

It is another request for articles for the Gazette. Please don't be worried about spellings, grammar and the like! It will be corrected without losing any context. Also don't worry about handwriting I am quite an expert on deciphering handwriting. It also doesn't have to be on gardening, have you an interesting hobby or have you been to somewhere interesting?

On that note I am starting the ball rolling by including the following article by my daughter who is in her last year at college and her interest is Geology. I will also be putting some of her pictures on the website.

**Patricia**

## **ICELAND OCTOBER 2011**

I am currently studying A-levels in Geology, Geography and Environmental Science at college. We have just returned from Iceland as part of a college science trip. The trip was 6 days long and it was a chance to see first hand what we have been studying in the previous year. We started our journey arriving in Reykjavík, and then travelled along the South coast of Iceland. As plate tectonics is one of my favourite topics it was an amazing experience to see a geologically active country that lies along a plate boundary, and to see its natural formations. On our second night a few of us were able to see the Northern lights very clearly rippling in the sky, we stood silently as we watched, it was very surreal.

On our journey we were able to see the boundary between the North American plate and the Eurasian plate, plenty of waterfalls (too many in fact). Beautiful natural columnar basalts such as the Svartifoss waterfall and Hálsanefshellir cave. The effects of recent 2010 eruption of the volcano Eyjafjallajökull and the neighbouring volcanoes. Lava fields that cover a quarter of Iceland's vast barren landscape. We also visited Reykjavik's

largest geothermal plant where a large percentage of Iceland's hot water and electricity is produced. We also went caving in a lava tube, horse riding, glacier walking, boating on the Ice Lagoon and swimming in the Blue Lagoon.

It was one of the most educational but exciting trips I have been on and would love to go there again. It was definitely worth getting up early for.

**Grace Larcombe**

## **TRIP TO BENNETTS WATER GARDENS AND ATHELHAMPTON HOUSE- 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2010**

The day dawned a bit dull but we set off in good spirits (sounds like the Girl Guides). Unfortunately, about half way there, one of our party was taken ill, the ambulance arrived pretty swiftly and you know what they say about policemen as you get older-one of them looked about 14yrs old. They were very good and Bill was soon up and about but he and his wife decided to get a taxi home. We are pleased to know that he is now well.

I don't think Bennett's water garden staff get many coaches as we put them in a bit of a flap but the café was fine and after a T and P we proceeded to the garden, nearly tripping over a family of mallards on the way who were snuggled on the gravelled path.

The water lilies were fabulous, every shade in the book and although we were a little delayed we had ample time to see everything. The blue Monet bridge was very attractive and I couldn't understand why the other bridge had to be Red!

On then to Athelhampton House and as you approach the building it really does look old. It was built in 1485 but after several owners the formal gardens were laid out in 1891. It is now owned by the Cooke family who are trying to preserve it for future generations. The young guide in the house was very approachable and it would have been nice to have had a tour. She told us about the dining table which is rough on one side for eating off and smooth the other for ornaments. When everyone had finished the meal the table was swivelled over and the dogs were let out from an alcove next to the fire to clear the unfinished food and lick the plates clean, better than a dishwasher?

The gardens were lovely, we had missed the roses but the statuary and topiary were very elegant. There was a small weir and a family of swans was posing for us. The weather had been kind to us and after a leisurely glass of wine we had a pleasant journey home.

Thanks again Ann for organizing a good day out.

**Frances**

## **2<sup>ND</sup> JUNE MEETING 2011**

It has become more expensive to book a coach for the evening meeting, also it is difficult to find a venue close enough to be visited and enjoyed in the time scale we have. So the Committee decided to have a social evening:-

### **Skittle Evening**

**At the Anson Rooms  
Anson Road  
Waterlooville**

**Time 7pm  
Ticket cost £8**

The tickets include a meal of your choice to be arranged at purchase of ticket from the following menu:-

- **Chicken, chips and peas**
- **Plaice, chips and peas**
- **Vegetarian lasagne**
- **Cheddar Ploughman's**

**Drinks can be purchased at the bar.**

You do not have to play skittles, just come, join us and watch the experts!

Tickets will be on sale in the New Year and numbers will be limited.

**Betty**

## **FORTHCOMING TRIPS 2011**

Trips for next year will probably be Osterley Park, Sherbourne Castle and Gardens, Chenies Manor, Plant and Garden Fayre and Waterperry Gardens. Full details will follow in the Spring 2011 issue of the Gazette.

Have a nice seasonal break and see you in 2011.

**Ann**

## **ADVANCE NOTICE OF** **MONTHLY MEETINGS FOR 2010/11**

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November**

Mrs Carol Watson 'South Africa in Bloom'.

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

AGM – All welcome, refreshments and light bites available.

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**

Dr Owen Plunkett – A talk about the South Downs.

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

Philip Green – 'My approach to natural history photography'

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April**

Carol Gubler – from Little Brook Fuchsias.

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May**

Jan Mitchell – 'From garden to glass, home wine making with samples'

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**

Skittles Evening – Anson Rooms, Waterlooville – Tickets £8.