



GARDENER'S GAZETTE

Winter 2020

AGM

**To be rescheduled as and when possible,
due to Coronavirus restrictions.**

Affiliated to:

The Royal Horticultural Society

National Dahlia Society

National Chrysanthemum Society

The Daffodil Society

The National Vegetable Society

The Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies

www.purbrookhorticulturalsociety.org.uk

Officers and Committee Members 2020

President: Peter Brooks, JP

Life Vice-Presidents: Maureen Kemp, Phyllis Brooks

Chairman: Lynda Piddington 023 9226 1149
40 Westbrook Grove, linda.piddington@sky.com
Purbrook PO7 5HX

Treasurer: Brian Andrews 023 9226 3731
26 Kings Road, Cowplain PO8 8UR

Trading Manager: Brian Andrews (as above)

Secretary: Chris Middleton 023 9238 0613
147 The Dale, Widley PO7 5JH

Show Manager: Graeme MacFarlane 023 9225 2124
30 Khandala Gardens, Purbrook PO7 5UA

Show Secretary: Charles Mobsby 023 9226 5136
17 Padnell Road, Cowplain PO8 8DZ

Membership Sec: Jennie Ryton-Smith 023 9235 2718

Catering Convenor: Ann Richardson 023 9225 4986

Outing Organiser: Ann Richardson 023 9225 4986

Gazette Editor: Richard Knight rwknight@live.co.uk

General Committee: Lynda Piddington, Brian Andrews, Phil Stock, Jan Baxter, Ron Brumhill, Chris Middleton, Frances Leppard, Charles Mobsby, Betty Clark, Richard Knight, Carole Rowland, Wendy Wright, Ann Richardson

Show Committee: Brian Andrews, Ron Brumhill, Charles Mobsby, Mark Ward, Lynda Piddington, Ann Richardson

The Chair Chats!

'What a difference a year makes!' - a saying that has never been more apt than in relation to 2020.

The year started as a year full of promise as being our 80th Anniversary some special celebrations were in the pipeline; wonderful trips were booked; interesting speakers filled the calendar and then ...

Still, thanks to the resilience and enthusiasm of the Committee, volunteers and the whole membership, we did manage to hold both Spring and Summer Shows; albeit virtually, which stretched and tested our technical abilities! The friendly services received at our Trading Store continued where possible, thanks to a small but very willing number turning up every Saturday to serve (and even during closed periods to water plants, receive stock and do essential maintenance).

As I write this, we are in a second lockdown situation, with winter approaching, dark days and nights and the uncertainty of Christmas arrangements. Please do try and keep in touch with friends and other members in order to brighten their day and yours, something I'm sure you already do, knowing what a friendly bunch you are.

Looking ahead with optimism, we have booked the Deverell Hall for the Spring Show due to take place on Sunday 21st March 2021. Schedules are available at the Store. We have a full calendar of speakers booked for the monthly meetings and even the possibility of a resumption of trips!

These are all great things to look forward to, but the one thing most people have stated as top of their wish list is to be able to meet up again in person - so until then,

keep well, keep safe.

Lynda

Trading Store

31st October is the end of the Society's financial and trading year and, surprisingly, despite the difficult last 8 months, the overall trading level has, in fact, not only been maintained, but has, by a fraction, exceeded last year.

A big blow this year has been the closure of Warwicks of Wickham at the end of September. They have supplied us with most of our stock and provided excellent service for well over 50 years, and are therefore not easy to replace. We are having to look for various sources in order to cover the wide range of items that Warwicks supplied. We have set up new accounts with BHGS at Funtington and King's Seeds, in addition to existing ones with LBS in Lancashire and Taylor's Bulbs, but we will still need to look elsewhere for smaller quantities of some items and may face longer delivery times.

The Store itself remains in good shape and we haven't had to do as much maintenance this year. Work is on-going on the border at the side of the Store where the protective rails and posts have rotted.

We are sad to hear that Waterlooville Allotments and Gardening Society is permanently closing their Store before Christmas. However, they have generously said that we can have any fixtures and fittings that may be of use and any residual stock. We very much hope that some of their members will come and join us.

In these restricted and unusual times particular thanks are due to the helpers at the Store who have enabled us to open within the guidelines and we are very grateful that so many members have continued to support the Society and helped to keep us on a sound footing even though sadly, we have had to cancel our Shows and monthly speakers.

Please note that the Store will not be open on 26th December and 2nd January 2021.

Let us hope that next year will be a better year for everyone.

Brian

Welcome

A warm welcome to all our new members and in particular those ex-Waterlooville Garden Club members who sadly saw their club close. New members obviously bring new skills and enthusiasm which is always to be welcomed, and any wishing to help please do not be shy in coming forward!

It is always surprising to me how much depth of knowledge the Society has amongst its members due to their love of a particular species of flower, fruit, vegetable or tree, and their willingness to impart that knowledge which is often evident at shows where the more experienced really do help novices to give their entry a better chance, and also in the Trading Store where again advice is sought and given willingly.

We hope you get to enjoy all aspects of the Society and like all of us, look forward to all being able to meet in person.

Lynda

* * * * *

Thank You

I wish to express my gratitude to all who have managed to keep the Society afloat and relevant in these challenging times, while still dealing with their own personal health and well-being. I would not only like to thank the Committee who have worked 'back stage' but also the hardy volunteers who managed the Store: Phil, Frances, Brian, Jan, Garry, Trevor, Richard, Wendy, and the 'back-room boys' Vic and Peter.

Our web designer, Doug, has excelled with his technical wizardry in putting together the virtual shows; making our entries look so good. Thanks to him, and to all of you who submitted the photographs.

Lynda

Membership

The new membership year started on 1st September and will remain at £6 per household per annum. For that small fee you have access to specialist Horticultural magazines; four Gazette newsletters a year giving information regarding all aspects of the Society as well as sharing knowledge; Spring and Summer Shows; Monthly meetings (on 1st Thursday of the month at 7pm for 7.30pm start at the Deverell Hall, London Road, Purbrook); Outings in the Summer months (when regulations allow) to places of interest; Trading Store for all your garden needs (open Saturday mornings 9.30am - 11.30am situated adjacent to the Purbrook East allotments on London Road); affiliated membership to other Horticultural Societies and Organisations; an informative website full of interesting items and photographs; a new facebook group page, and most of all, the chance to chat with friendly people, all interested in all aspects of gardening, wildlife and the environment.

* * * * *

Contacts

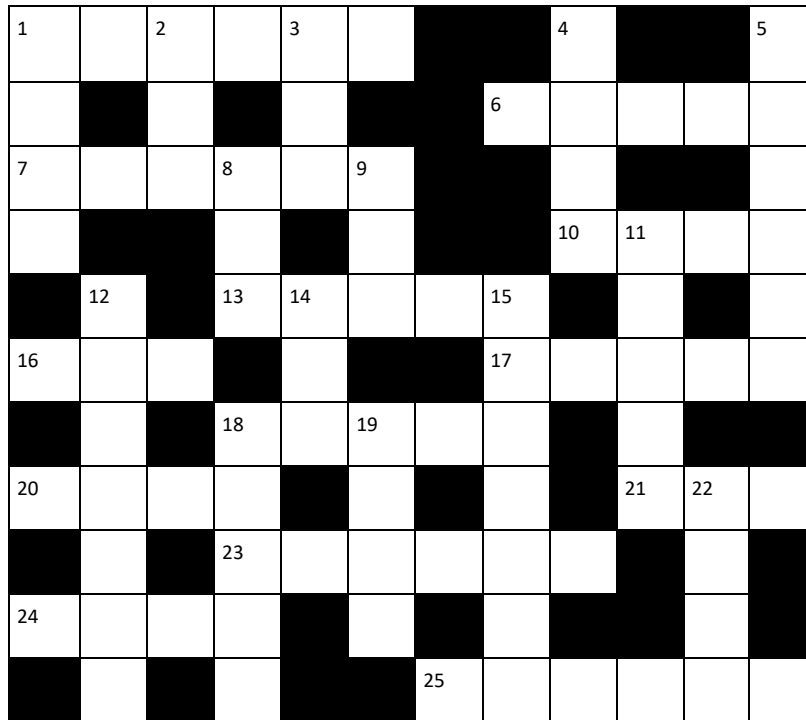
This year has proved the importance of contact information and the greater use of technology to enable us to keep in touch. With a large membership, not all of whom have access to technology, it has proved quite a challenge, therefore, if you have not been contacted by myself, I apologise.

The regular updates on the website and new facebook group page have assisted in keeping members up-to-date as quickly as possible, but if any further information is required, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Lynda

Just for You

Our estimable quiz presenter has felt left out this year after the cancellation of the Pumpkin Evening and Quiz, so she has done a taster for the *Gazette!* Answers on next page.



Crossword Clues

Across

1. To cause a delay
6. Ship of the desert
7. A spoiler of good things
10. To lie down like this
13. Toned mixed and written down
16. You should stay on the right side of it
17. Hear all about it
18. Put the carpet down again
20. Anger- a short one
21. A full stop
23. Free
24. For one voice
25. The top dog in a wolf's world

Down

1. A bee pad
2. The French refuse
3. A time lapse
4. Fisherman's catch
5. The earth as a whole
8. I eat, less an 'e'
9. A policeman's is not a 'nappy one'
11. Ash of a burnt tyre e.g.
12. The first of the twelve
14. A nugget to dig
15. Well, it's not dark
18. Splendidly Royal
19. Fat free
22. Fee fi foh fum, he says

Crossword Answers

Across

1. Hinder
6. Camel
7. Vandal
10. Lamb
13. Noted
16. Law
17. Aural
18. Relay
20. Fuse
21. Dot
23. Gratis
24. Aria
25. Leader

Down

1. Hive
2. Non
3. Era
4. Haul
5. Global
8. Din
9. Lot
11. Acrid
12. January
14. Ore
15. Daytime
18. Regal
19. Lean
22. Ogre

Seed Potatoes

HOT OFF THE PRESS!

Just in time for inclusion in this Gazette is a list of the potato varieties to be ordered for the coming season. Availability will be around late January to early February depending on the weather.

First Earlies:

Arran Pilot - Foremost - Winston.

Second Earlies:

Charlotte - Kestrel - Marfona.

Main Crop:

Desiree - Maris Piper - Valor.

These will be delivered in ready-packed 2kg bags.

Brian

For our New Members

For those of you reading this magazine for the first time, you may be interested to know what takes place at our Monthly Meetings.

We meet at the Deverell Hall on the first Thursday of every month excluding January. Doors are open at 7pm and the meeting commences at 7.30pm. Illustrated talks are presented by local personalities; these programmes are mainly of a horticultural nature, although at times other topics of interest are presented.

An interval is usually taken at about 8.30pm when coffee/tea and biscuits are served (at no charge). This is then followed by the drawing of the Raffle and the winner of the Show Table. The speaker then concludes the evening talk and the meeting closes at about 9.30pm.

Do come and join us, you will be made most welcome. In addition to enjoying the talk you can also

- participate in the Show Table
- buy plants from the Plant Stall
- book a seat on one of our outings
- pay your Membership Fees
- catch up with other Members and Officers of the Society

Trading Store Opening Hours

Every Saturday 9.30am - 11.30am

The Trading Store is situated on the London Road, Widley, adjacent to Purbrook East Allotments.

Items for inclusion in the Spring Gazette, should be with the Editor by 1st January 2021, for distribution at the start of February 2021.

Magazines, Cards and Equipment Loans

There is a selection of Society Magazines, Privilege Cards and garden equipment available for loan to Members against a signature at the Membership Desk in the Store.

Magazines:

The Garden - Journal of the RHS
National Dahlia Society Bulletin
Chrysanthemum Society
National Vegetable Society
Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies - Monthly Bulletin - available online only

Cards:

RHS Reduced Garden Entry (+ 1 guest) - not Sundays at Wisley
National Vegetable Society
National Chrysanthemum Society
National Dahlia Society

Equipment:

£2 non-refundable charge per item towards replacement costs
Lawn Spreaders
Leaf Vacuum/Blowers
Lawn Rakes and Leads
Folding Tables (for indoor use only)

Anyone borrowing an item is required to return it within two weeks so that other Members may have the opportunity to use it.

Please use RCDs when using electrical equipment outdoors for your own safety.