

## Summer Show Report 2014

There was a great deal on the calendar for 14 June 2014 - RAF Northolt Open Day, Ickenham Festival, Her Majesty the Queen's official birthday and that's before sport is mentioned, with key tournaments in rugby, cricket, golf and football. We at the Eastcote Horticultural Society knew 14 June meant "Summer Show", but this wasn't the case for everyone and so we knew we had a challenge ahead of us

The other attractions led to the Show not being as crowded as usual in the afternoon but we still had all the tea tables full with folks enjoying the homemade cakes.

Our exhibitors did a great job in the morning and filled the show benches with some lovely entries. There were over 250 in total. The roses usually dominate the summer show and this was no exception. I hadn't appreciated the beauty of the Old English rose until I studied these exhibits.

The children did an excellent job, particularly with their gardens in a tray and the collages. We hope these young people are the horticulturalists of the future.

There was a table with our friend Russell from Fifth Dimension chocolates displaying an amazing array of colourful chocolates. His seasonal special is a favourite of mine - strawberries dipped in plain chocolate. I brought away a box of these but couldn't resist a couple during the afternoon.

We missed our President, Catherine Dann, presenting the prizes at this Show. She had another engagement in her role as Mayor of Hillingdon but this gave us the opportunity to hear from one of our Vice Presidents, Colin Spires. Colin had kindly offered to present the awards and also shared some stories from his early days in the Society. He has been involved since the mid- 1970s.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the Show a great success. There is the team who setup from early morning, the judges, the stewards, through to the kitchen team and other helpers in the afternoon.

Please mark 6 September in your diaries for the Autumn Show and look forward to seeing you there.