

RUISLIP CENTRAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



Contact the Committee

Chairman: John Ormshaw
Hon. Secretary: Pat White
Membership: Viv Ash,
Bulletin Editor: Bob Weeks



Summer Bulletin 2011

Welcome to the Summer Bulletin

Doesn't time fly or is it just me? It seems not that long ago I was putting together the last bulletin. So here we are again. I hope you are all feeling fit and getting out there in the garden/allotment. If you are not feeling that chipper, try to get out a bit more as it will make you feel better – Serotonins and all that, its not always the pills that make you feel better. Not that I am opposed to them myself at times you understand and you must continue to take medication if prescribed by your doctor of course.

May I take this opportunity to point out that the opinions and views made in any of the bulletins are not specifically endorsed nor necessarily represent those of the RCHS and if you do have an issue about any of the content, please contact the **editor**.

I have to apologise for omitting the cost of attending the Cactus section meetings from the last bulletin, this has since been rectified as you will see when you get to the programme.

We do have a lot to report in this issue to fulfil our obligations to you the members, so here we go.

AGM

What an AGM. Big Thanks go out to all those standing down and an even bigger THANKS to those again standing for election on the committee this year. But a big BOO to the rest of you for not wanting to volunteer. It's a real shame that the committee (normally the Chairman) have to chase people and ask if they would help out by joining the committee in some role or other. This seems to happen every year and it is not getting any easier as we all get older. See if you can volunteer for a position next year – it's not as onerous as you might think although it might seem to be a thankless task at times.

The Committee for 2011

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Chairman</i> | <i>John Ormshaw</i> |
| <i>Vice Chairman</i> | Vacant |
| <i>Hon Secretary</i> | <i>Pat White</i> |
| <i>Hon Treasurer</i> | <i>Chris Hoppett</i> |
| <i>Membership Secretary</i> | |
| <i>And Bulletin Distributor</i> | <i>Viv Ash</i> |
| <i>Lectures & Outings</i> | <i>Angela Porter</i> |
| <i>Show Secretary</i> | <i>David Minnion</i> |
| <i>Show Manager</i> | <i>Susan Kirk</i> |
| <i>Judges</i> | <i>Margaret McIntosh</i> |
| <i>Bulletin Editor</i> | <i>Bob Weeks</i> |
| <i>Refreshments</i> | <i>Pat Smith</i> |
| <i>Publicity Officer</i> | <i>Warren Reeves</i> |
| <i>Without portfolio</i> | <i>Ernie Smith</i> |

(If you are reading this electronically you may click on the name in italics and email that committee member).

As you can see, Viv has stood down this year, after 5 years as Chairman, Thanks Viv, and John now has stepped up into the role. Pat is continuing to carry out the Secretary role, even though she still has trouble with her arm/wrist but Viv is going to assist her for as long as is required. Viv mentioned in her outgoing speech that the Society was losing money each year and Chris (Treasurer for one more year) confirmed this in her accounts and said that at this rate the society is going to be in serious trouble in about 8 years unless we do something quickly. The new committee are to investigate this and see if this trend can be reversed.

David Minnion gave his report for the Cactus Section, informing the attending members just what they had missed in 2010 and what they are going to miss in 2011 if they don't come along. Are you aware that as members of the Society, you are entitled to attend any of the Cactus meetings and only pay £1 which includes refreshments. Check out the programme and come along.

Margaret McIntosh has kindly volunteered to arrange the judges for the shows in 2012, as Sue has already done so for 2011. Margaret is a staunch entrant at the shows as well as being a judge herself. Thanks Margaret.

The only other 'new boy' is Warren. Well not exactly new, as he was Show Manager for a short period, but he has now kindly volunteered to be our Publicity Officer. This was a post previously covered by Pat White which became a bit too challenging while carrying out the Secretarial post as well, not to mention all her other behind the scenes work. If you have any ideas or think you can assist with publicity please contact Warren - warren70@gmail.com. Good Luck to Warren.

Under AOB it was proposed by the floor that the membership fee be increased to £5 per household, but John declined to take it further at this point and stated that the committee are now committed to investigate and propose a plan to stem future losses if possible and it would be taken up at committee. It was also stated that (just like the state of the economy the country is currently in) we are going to have to make some changes if we are to survive.

Even though the AGM is over for another year, the committee would still welcome more members to come forward and volunteer to assist the current group, especially those currently not standing for election next year. If you are in the least interested, please speak with a current committee member to find out more, without any obligation.

AGM - 21st February 2012. Please make a note in your diary now, in case you miss the Spring Bulletin.

Membership

It is not too late to renew/join. Send the form (at the bottom of the bulletin to Viv Ash, but you will need a self addressed envelope to receive your ticket. So why not come along to a meeting or show as it is almost cheaper to do so and will be more enjoyable than giving your cash to the Post Office.

At their March meeting the committee decided that the membership fee should be increased to £4 per household from 2012

As you can see from the AGM on the previous page, the Committee are concerned over the way forward for the Society and are constantly monitoring the spending and ways to cut expenditure. (Curse this economic crisis). At their March meeting the committee decided that the membership fee should be increased to £4 per household. The last increase was made in 2004, so should not really come as a surprise. This increase will take place in 2012. Speaking of value for money, are you aware that the membership fee is less than as a year's subscription to a magazine. I'm sure we can give you the same value for your money. Do you want gardening advice? – come along to any of the meetings/shows (or ask via the bulletin). Do you want quizzes? – come along to Tony & Jim's fish & chip night. Why not just come along to the meetings and shows anyway and enjoy like minded company. Speaking earlier of post, due to the increasing costs of postage, it was announced at the AGM to withdraw the posting of the bulletins to those outside the area or where there is no deliverer nearby. If you do still require a posted copy, please speak with the Membership Secretary who will advise you of the additional cost. Why not go down the library (I noticed that the Manor Library often provides a series of computer lessons for absolute beginners) if you do not have email at home and read it online for free. If you do want to print it off while there, the staff will assist but you will be charged 10p per sheet, so the last bulletin would have cost you 60p. Or why not collect a bulletin when you come along to the meetings or the shows. Please indicate on renewal.

From the meetings - or what you missed

22nd March - **Greenhouse at RHS Garden, Wisley**

Nicholas Morgan (M. Hort. RHS) gave us more of a story than a talk on the 18 years he has been the glasshouses supervisor at Wisley. He included points of interest in the history of the RHS, from 1805 to the present day. His talk was accompanied with a digital presentation of pictures of the different glasshouses that had been in use throughout this time, culminating in the present one. He told us of the development of the actual building and the landscaping within. Did you know the rocks are just veneers attached to a frame? This is to save weight on the base frame and to stop distortion of the glasshouse. As usual with our speakers, he was besieged with questions after the tea break.

12th April – **The Challenging Care of Lawns**

Nigel Timson from **Supagrass**, no, not a company snitching on fellow criminals but a lawn treatment service based in Maidenhead, presented this talk. He started by saying that lawns are his life. His talk was different to any we have previously experienced as it was accompanied by overhead slides. He gave the definition of a lawn and proceeded to take us through the different stages of a lawn from the positioning and design, maintenance, cutting, watering, feeding, top-dressing, scarifying, aeration, weed problems and solutions. Nigel ended by stating that the book - Lawn Expert by Dr. D.G. Hessayon is still considered to be the bible on lawn care.

Interested in my 8 Bladed Webb Witch? I still have it.

Spring Show

The early start of the growing season meant that the majority of daffodils and tulips were over by the time of the show, but there was still a grand display to be seen at the Great Barn. The new class of Handicrafts was readily accepted with a variety of entries. As this experiment was so successful it will now become a regular class for future shows. The floral classes, as usual were extremely colourful and many highly scented. With the cacti and succulents always a reliable display, the show was enjoyed by all those that attended.

Spring Show Results 2011

Section A. Daffodils

| | |
|---|----------------|
| The Daffodil Cup for the Highest Total points | Avril Thornton |
| The Daffodil Society Diploma for the Best Exhibit | John Ormshaw |
| The Daffodil Society Certificate for the Best Bloom | Viv Ash |

Section B. General Floral

| | |
|--|--------------|
| The H. Burden Cup for the Highest Total points | John Ormshaw |
| The Certificate of Merit for the Best Exhibit | John Ormshaw |

Section C. Pot Grown Plants

| | |
|---|--------------|
| The William Cup for the Highest Total points | John Ormshaw |
| The Certificate of Merit for the Best Exhibit | John Ormshaw |

Section D. Cacti & Succulents

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| The Arthur Boarder Award for the Best Exhibit | Tony Linton |
| The Mrs. Harley Cup for the Cacti Classes | David Minnion |
| The Harry Newland Cup for the Succulent Classes | Christine Weeks |

Section E. Floral Art

| | |
|--|-----------|
| The Muriel King Cup for the Highest Total points | Pat White |
| The Peggy Browne Salver & RCHS Gift Voucher | Pat White |

Section F. Handicrafts

| | |
|---|----------------|
| The Certificate of Merit for the Best Exhibit | Avril Thornton |
|---|----------------|

Section G. Domestic

| | |
|--|-----------|
| The Joyce Daniels Cup for the Highest Total points | Pat White |
| The Certificate of Merit for the Best Exhibit | Pat White |

Section H. Photographic.

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| The Geoff Ash Cup for the Best Exhibit | Michael Rawlinson |
|--|-------------------|

A reminder to the winners (and future budding show winners) that the society does not cover the insurance for trophies once they have been removed from the Barn. So if you are unlucky enough to damage or lose any, you would be required to claim under your own home contents insurance policy for repair or replacement.

LATEST NEWS

Bedding Plants

Research from the RHS has shown that a lot of gardeners are pampering their bedding and annual plants. It was found that if you water and feed too often, yes, you end up with big plants and lot of growth. But what you should be doing is water less. This will provide you with more flowers per shoot that will flower for a longer period. It is suggested that we water these plants carefully during the establishment period of 10-14 days which will actually make them tougher and develop a degree of drought resistance.

Request for back issues of the Bulletin

Have you any old issues of the bulletin? To keep the records straight I would like copies of the following issues;
1978 Spring and summer

1979 Spring to 1985 spring inclusive.
1999 Spring and autumn. 2003 Spring.
And if your parents have passed on earlier copies and you now need the space, anything prior to autumn 1977 would be gratefully received. I can copy and return them to you, if you care to loan them to me.

New Treasurer

We have had the great news that Neal Weiser has volunteered to shadow Chris Hoppett our outgoing Treasurer for the rest of the year and to takeover the role completely at next years AGM.

New Pest – Asian Fruit Fly

If you grow fruit such as cherry, raspberry, peach strawberry, apples, pears and grapes, then keep your eyes open for the latest pest expected to reach this country in the near future. It is a *spotted-wing drosophila* which is a type of fruit fly. These flies deposit their eggs into healthy fruit still on the plant, unlike the fairly harmless one we currently tolerate; thereby causing secondary damage to the plants, such as secondary rot and moulds. It currently is in Europe so it will probably not be long before reaching us.

Wisteria Scale is spreading

Yet another native Asian pest that is getting rather a stronghold on local gardeners is the sap sucking scale *Eulecanium excrescens*. It was first recorded in London way back in 2001 but has been slowly spreading across southeast England ever since it was introduced. Wisteria is the insects' favourite plant but it has also been reported to have been seen on several prunus species, sycamore, Virginia creeper and Zelkova serrata. Other scale insects are found on wisteria but this Asian species is much larger in size, up to ½inch (13mm). For more information on all these insects visit the RHS web site at www.rhs.org.uk

Top Pests in the Garden

According to the RHS list, slugs and snails have been knocked out of the top slot as the most hated garden pests. They have now been overtaken by the viburnum beetle which causes severe defoliation and even turns the leaf lace-like in April and May. The adults can do even more damage in the late summer. Varieties tinus and opulus are the worst effected.

- Top Pests for 2011
1. *Viburnum beetle*
 2. *Slugs and snails*
 3. *Cushion scale*
 4. *Chafer grubs in lawns*
 5. *Harlequin ladybird*
 6. *Vine weevil*
 7. *Lily beetle*
 8. *Horse chestnut scale*
 9. *Glasshouse red spider mite*
 10. *Ants*

Don't Buy

Do bother to use Miracle-Gro Organic Choice Peat Free Compost for sowing seeds and growing on plants especially in containers. According to Which? Gardening this product gave very poor results.

Forthcoming talk by Fergus Garrett

If you have seen the Programme, Bulletin or Show Schedule you must be aware that Fergus Garrett is coming to talk to us in November.

Fergus has been the Head Gardener at Great Dixter near Hastings in East Sussex for over 18 years, featuring on many TV programmes. It was at Great Dixter that the late great Christopher (Christo) Lloyd lived until his death in 2006, challenging many ideas of gardening. Remember him ripping out his rose garden that had been there for years and planting a Tropical Garden in its place; this had traditionalists hopping about for a while, now he is being copied worldwide.

Fergus is now the chief executive of the Great Dixter Charitable Trust and is involved with all aspects of the garden's development. His talk will take us from the purchase of Great Dixter and bring us up to date with what the future holds for this wonderful house and garden.

To cover the cost for this talk we do have to ask you for an additional payment, but I guarantee you will be get excellent value for money if you come along. Angela has tickets at the very reasonable price of £4 each, so please purchase yours as soon as you can because there are only a limited amount available.

Tales from the Allotment – Walter Butt

When I started to write this, there was not much happening at that time, but things are really getting going as I finish off in time to go to print. A small amount of road removed, 3 huge casts of stone, the size of breeze blocks but much heavier which have since been used as door steps and in the path to the front of the shed. A good drop of water seeped into the compost trench dug for the beans during the wet part of the winter. This has since been filled in with plenty of home made compost and a nice frame erected from skip supplied wood. This is taking recycling to the edge for me and can be very satisfying when something someone is throwing away can still be put to good use.

We did lash out and purchase some old scaffold boards to go with the ones we scrounged and have since turned the plot into a series of raised beds with paths intersecting each plot. This is going to aid us to remember what goes where when we get the rotation method going. Oh, and an arch (from Ducks Hill) to grow an ornamental hop and some sweet peas up. We both think that an allotment should not just be a functional thing but it can look pretty too, not to mention the added attraction to draw in the pollinators to our plot.

Fruit bushes have been put in but it will be few years before getting any jam from them. Micro fleece was put over the overwintered onions to prevent the new onion pest that appears to be getting around eating them before I do. At the time of writing, these pests are in the West Midlands and are causing havoc, attacking leeks, onions, garlic, shallots and chives. In case you are not aware of these pests, they are *allium leaf miners* and the adult flies are greyish, brown about 1/8" (3mm) long. Their larvae are white headless and legless (not drunk) and around 3/16" (5mm) long. The pupae are red to brown in colour about the same size and will overwinter in the soil. Eggs are laid between March and June and then again between September and November. I have been told to look out for white lines of puncture marks in the leaves which are done by the feeding adults and damage to the stems and bulbs caused by the larvae. The plants will then rot from secondary infection and fungi attack. There is no effective insecticide available to us home gardeners/allotmenters. I mention gardeners because it is thought that they will also attack ornamental alliums.

Our local council (Green spaces) have been down and removed the trees which used to provide a nice bit of cover from the road, although they were pushing the fence out of shape. It is the intention of the site manager to plant a few shrubs along there now but from past experience this could actually be well into the future, so we may have to give him a helping hand and supply some spare seedlings from home when he is not looking.

Councils all over London are raising allotment rents by up to 3 times on last years. Fingers crossed and we were lucky that ours did not go up that much. If they had I could have ended up living in the shed to be there more often and get my moneys worth of recreational time.

Water has been a problem for some allotmenters over the winter. Not because the water has been turned off to the tanks, but flooding from the high water table and the fact that the plots are lower than the surrounding road. If we dig down two spits we have a pool but others around us have it over the surface. It is so bad that a couple have had to raise their paths just to gain access to their plots without using a boat.

Earlier my wife was busily planning what was going where and what needed doing to the soil. And the fridge was bursting to the seams with seeds to be sown, but that has all changed suddenly as it is time to sow and or plant. So, the plot is starting to look attractive again with all the expected produce doing something.

I managed to retrieve some guttering from a local skip which was cut to into manageable lengths. The peas were started off in (in the greenhouse) before being transferred down to the allotment when ready. We now have a succession of these growing as they were planted a couple of weeks apart.

We had covered over several areas with plastic sheet to warm the soil up in readiness of all the stuff planned for it. Potatoes are in, as are a lot of other plants too numerous to mention right now. I just hope there is enough room for everything but if not it will be our turn to share our excess with neighbouring allotmenters.

Jobs to do in June - Cley Potts

Containers – Move your pots and hanging baskets outside now the risk of frost has past (hopefully). Unless you added a slow release fertiliser when planting, start feeding now with a liquid feed. And water them regularly.

Borders – To keep them moist and suppress weeds why not mulch them now but don't dig it in too much.

Cut back your oriental poppies to encourage more blooms. Take care when cutting back the euphorbias to their bases now as the sap can irritate the skin of some people.

Fill any gaps that appear now before they get more obvious as the summer progresses.

Lawn – Rake the lawn with a spring tine type to raise any creeping weeds so they get caught by the mower. Mow at least once a week, on a high setting if there is not much rain about. Did you know that long grass stays greener for longer. If it's a newish lawn give it plenty of water in its first year. If you don't have time to cut the grass, just do the edges as it will keep it looking tidy until you do get around to it.

Tomatoes - If you have not already done so remove side shoots, taking care not to damage any flowers, as they appear

on your cordon tomatoes and train the plants up canes/supports.

Garden Pests – Watch out for vine weevil larvae in your containers where they eat the roots and of course the dreaded slugs and snails.

Fruit/Vegetable Pests & Diseases – Net your plants before the birds, carrot fly and cabbage white butterflies get at your crops. Look out for the Black, red and yellow asparagus beetles. Remove yellowing leaves on the brassicas to stop the downy mildew spreading and check for tell-tale holes made by cabbage caterpillars and pick off any you find.

The red blisters found on your currants will probably be caused by the currant blister aphids. If your gooseberries have been stripped of their leaves this will be the sawfly doing is worst. Spray your raspberries when the first pink fruits appear to prevent maggoty fruits.

Ponds – Remove any duckweed and blanket weed before it blocks out too much light. Wash off the water lily aphids from pond plants with the garden hose.

Jobs to do in July/August - Cley Potts

Greenhouse - Dampen down the greenhouse floor to discourage the red spider mite (number 9 in the top pests).

Lawn – As the previous month

Patio – Give your containers a good watering when the soil feels dry. Touch the surface of the compost to check. In hot weather they will need it more than once a day. Give them a liquid feed to perk them up if they look like flagging.

Flowers – Deadhead the flowers as soon as they fade to stop the plant diverting its energy into seed production, and hopefully make it produce more blooms.

Wisteria – Even if you have been missed by the scale insect mentioned on page 3, it can start to look a little untidy around August. So, tie in any whippy bits that are needed to increase the coverage on its support and cut all of the remainder to two or three buds from their base. This will save you the job of having to do it in the winter when you might not like to be outside on a cold/wet day.

Earwigs – I quite like these little insects and they are not so much of a pest that they used to be but they can sure shred dahlia flowers. To avoid this, put a few flowerpots stuffed with straw or newspaper, upside down on a cane amongst your plants. Empty out the pots each morning and despatch the earwigs if you have to. Or don't grow dahlias and enjoy the insects as they do no other harm.

Pyracantha – Because these plants produce flowers and fruits on the wood from the previous year's growth, you need to prune the side shoots to two or three leaves from their base. Wear gloves to do this as the stems are thorny and you will get a great display next year.

Bulbs – Check out the garden centre for autumn crocus, nerine, stenbergia, colchicum and amaryllis bulbs, as they can be planted now for flowering in a month or two.

Hedging – Give your hedge its last shave in late summer as growing slows down in autumn, so it should stay neat and tidy until next year.

Cuttings – Why not take cuttings of your favourite half-hardy plants now as an insurance policy? They will take up less room than if you were to lift the original plant for the winter.

Apples and pears – Trained fruit should be pruned in summer to keep them in their place, especially cordons. If the growth has become woody at the base, cut back any side shoots coming directly from the main stems to three leaves from the base. And cut back any others coming from the spurs or side shoots, to one leaf from the base.

Mildew – the powdery kind is found during dry weather which is the perfect conditions for its growth. It is a fungal disease showing up as a white coating on your plants. It can cause fruits to split and crack. Use an appropriate fungicide if you find any and keep plants well watered but avoid getting the water on the leaves.

Vegetables – You could be sowing dwarf French beans, late runner bean and spring cabbage for the longer term. Of for a quick crop try beetroot, carrots, lettuce, salad leaves, spring onions, radish and turnips. If you had been really busy you could be harvesting broad beans, dwarf climbing and runner beans, baby beets, baby carrots, radish, spring onions, shallots and courgettes to name but a few.

Jobs to do in September - Cley Potts

Vine weevil – Mid September is the best time to apply a biological control for these blighters which eat the roots of your plants. By now any eggs that have been laid this past summer will have hatched out but hopefully not done much damage yet.

Weeds – Try to keep on top of the tougher weeds, such as bindweed and dandelions with whichever method you like best. Although at this time of year they will take weedkiller in much easier than normal be careful not to spray surrounding plants.

Containers – The slow release fertiliser that you put in your pots and baskets will have been used up by, now so give them a little liquid food to keep them going until the frosts. Don't forget to remove the faded flowers and keep the compost watered when it feels dry to the touch.

Lavender – Time to trim them now to keep them looking neat. Cut the old woody stems back to a couple of inches above the bare wood and hopefully this will encourage new growth lower down.

Lawns – Why not brighten them up for next spring? crocus and snake's head fritillaries look nice. For the natural looking effect, just chuck the bulbs in the air across the lawn and plant where they fall.

Now is the time to a little maintenance to the lawn after the summers wear on it. So, don't forget to rake any dead grass and moss off. Spike it with your fork to aerate it. Sow any bare patches with seed. Top dress with compost and sand and fill in any hollows. Don't bother with autumn lawn feed. A Which? Gardening (magazine) test found that lawn

sand was the best way to treat the lawn at this time of year and usually cheaper too.

Ponds – Net them now to prevent debris falling in and spoiling the water, not to mention the unwanted attention of the heron.

Pear trees – Watch out for the bright orange spots on the upper leaves. This is a fungal disease that appears in late summer/autumn. If possible, remove any infected leaves or spray with something suitable like Westland Plant Rescue Fungus Control concentrate.

Apples – Check your apples now to see if they are ripe by gently lifting them and twisting. If resistance is felt, try in a few days time.

Vegetables – As it is mainly harvesting time now and the fact that I am short for space this issue I shall have to leave you with a list of a few things to do.

Lift potatoes. Same for onions and garlic but leave them to dry before storing. Keep picking courgettes, sweetcorn, tomatoes and carrots etc. Put pumpkins and squashes in a sunny position to ripen.

You can now sow your winter salads, plant out spring greens and any bare soil left should be sown with green manure.

Stake the Brussel sprouts and sprouting broccoli, net any other brassicas to keep the pigeons off and pick the beans for drying.

Tomato Ketchup Recipe - Jennifer Evans.

As promised in the Spring Bulletin

This recipe will make approx 3½ lbs (1.6kg) and the taste will be less sweet and thinner than the 57 varieties type. It will also tend to be on the watery side if you use tomatoes from the supermarket. So ensure you purchase non-forced toms from the local market (cherry toms are good) or better still grow your own. Whichever you use, they need to be ripe and sweet.

Ingredients

6¾ lb (3kg) chopped tomatoes
¼ pint (150ml) of cider vinegar
10 cloves
4 cardamom pods
4 cloves of chopped garlic
2 tsps of salt
½ tsp of white pepper
½ tsp of ground mace
½ tsp of ground allspice
½ tsp of cinnamon
2 tsps of paprika (medium heat)
3 oz (75g) of white sugar
1oz (25g) of chopped sun-dried tomatoes

Process

- Put all the ingredients into a large saucepan and bring to the boil. Reduce the heat and boil gently until the ketchup has reduced in volume by a third. This should take about 2 hours.
- Pass the mixture through a food mill, and then test it for thickness. If it isn't of the desired consistency, reduce it further still or thicken it with a little corn flour.
- Pour the liquid into sterilised storage jars and unopened it will keep for about 8 – 10 months. Once opened keep it in the fridge.

Still to come in 2011

Main Society

Meetings take place at St. Lawrence Church Hall, 2a Bridle Road, Eastcote. HA5 2SJ Doors open at 7.30pm – Lectures start at 8pm.

Members £1.50, non-members £2.50, includes tea & biscuits.

- 17th May 'Making a Garden for BBC Gardener of the Year'
Talk by Edwin Rye who will be bringing plants for sale.
- 25th June **Summer Show (Saturday)**
- 3rd September **Autumn Show (Saturday)**
- 20th September 'They think it's all over' – autumn in the garden
Talk by Stuart Dixon, CPSE. MI Hort.
Horticultural Lecturer, Writer and Broadcaster
- 15th October Fun Quiz and Supper (Saturday)
- 25th October 'My World of Roses in colour – Rose Breeding for Amateurs'
Talk by Bill Bossom, rose breeder
- 22nd November 'Great Dixter, Past, Present and Future'
Fergus Garrett – Head Gardener.
Fergus is an excellent speaker and this lecture will have to be by ticket.
Ticket price: £4.00 from Angela.
Fergus is bringing plants for sale

Open Gardens for Charity weekend Saturday/Sunday 25th/26th JUNE 2011
Tickets will be available from mid April/May and can be obtained from:
Ducks Hill Nursery and Warren

Cactus Section

Meetings are held in the Manor Farm Hall, HA4 7QL. This is in the Main Car Park at Ruislip, on the 3rd Monday of each Month. Start time is 8pm. Entrance is still only £1 and includes refreshments.

Visit the RCHS web site for more information including show pictures and full programme.

<http://www.succulent-plant.com/ruislip/index.htm>

Gardening makes us happier – Continued

I mentioned in the last bulletin about gardening making our children feel better. Well I have had a response to this and I quote.

“Re the well being engendered in children by gardening, another benefit is getting them outside. A recent shocking report states that childhood rickets is making a comeback, irrespective of ethnicity or income. It emerges that our children are just not getting enough vitamin D which we can get for free from being outside in the light (it does not need to be sunny). So, prising the little dears away from their X boxes, not taking them to school by car, even wearing short trousers is going to get them healthy and what better way to do it than gardening.”

Why not enter the next Show

Take look at the show schedule and see if you can give the usual winners a run for their money by entering something at the forthcoming shows. It gets a bit boring for all if there is no competition, so please see what you can do. Wouldn't it be nice to see the Great Barn stuffed full of entries and what a grand sight it would make for the visitors?

Phil Simpson is once again opening his garden, for charity under the NGS scheme. This year the dates are 5th and 19th June, between 1 and 6pm at the cost of £2.50. His address is 46 Lincoln Road, Northwood Hills. The garden is also being featured in House Beautiful, the June issue is published in May.

Thanks for reading that's all for this edition.

✂-----Please detach and bring along to a meeting, Show or post to Membership Secretary with SAE-----

R.C.H.S.

Annual membership application form 2011. Fee: £3.00 per household

Name: _____

Please make cheque payable to R.C.H.S. (or cash) and bring to a monthly meeting, any show or send with SAE to Membership Secretary.

Address: _____

Inc. Postcode _____

Are you willing to collect your bulletin? Y / N
If Yes, from where? Meeting [] or Show []

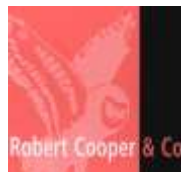
Tel: _____

(For RCHS Registrar use only)
(Membership No.....)

E-Mail: _____

✂-----

The Society wishes to thank Robert Cooper and Co. for their help and support in the printing of this bulletin



202 Field End Road, Eastcote, Pinner,
Middlesex HA5 1RD. Tel. 020 8429 1444
www.robertcooperandco.com