

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Christmas is behind us and we have welcomed in the New Year. This is a special year for the Eastcote Horticultural Society, being the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its inauguration. In 1940, the war years had led to an increased interest in growing fruit and vegetables for the table. There wasn't a selection of fresh produce in the local stores so families were tempted to try their hand at horticulture in garden plots and allotments.

There is now a resurgence in interest in "grow your own", with long waiting lists for allotments, and many gardening magazines and television programmes on the subject. Locally we have seen evidence of this with some of our largest shows in recent years. The number of exhibits and visitors to our shows has been increasing. Our thanks to those who exhibit, the visitors and the volunteers who all help to make the shows such a success.

We continue to have a successful calendar of social events and this will be expanded during our anniversary year. There will be a special programme of visits to local gardens. Please take a look at the social events page of this bulletin and watch our website for more details at: <a href="https://www.succulent-plant.com/eastcote">www.succulent-plant.com/eastcote</a>. I wish you a happy and successful gardening year and look forward to seeing you at the Trading Hut or at the Spring Show in March.

Gerry Edwards - Chairman

#### Committee Members:

President:	Catherine Dann	020 8868 9144
Chairman:	Gerry Edwards	020 8866 6434
General Secretary:	Colin Jones	020 8868 5568
<b>Trading Secretary:</b>	Alan Thomas	020 8429 0901
Show Secretary:	Fran Thomas	020 8429 0901
Social Secretary:	Sue Alexander	020 8866 1339
Membership Secry:	Brian Hill	01895 622250
Treasurer:	Wayne Hirst	n/a
<b>Bulletin Editor:</b>	<b>David Barlow</b>	020 8866 1762

## 2010 SHOW DATES

020 8868 9023

Spring Show Sat. 20th March Summer Show Sat. 19th June

Committee Member: Valerie Crowe

Autumn Show Sat. 11th September

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## News from the Trading Hut.

The Hut will re-open for sale of goods on Sunday 7th February 2010 at 11am.

#### Opening Times for 2010:

February, June, July, October and November: 11am to 12 noon March, April, May, and September: 10.30am to 12.15pm

Please note that the Trading Hut is closed during December, January and August and on Sunday 30th May 2010 (Spring Bank Holiday ).

Seed Potatoes. This year we have the following varieties:

First Early ACCENT Recommended by Southbourne Gardens Allotment members.

Early SWIFT Highly recommended.
Early CHARLOTTE Excellent flavour.

Main crop (red) DESIREE A tested variety on our type of soil.

Main crop (white) KESTREL An excellent eater with resistance to slugs.

Due to extra demand we will have an additional bag of Charlotte potatoes, which sold last spring within three weeks of opening. Come early as demand is expected to be heavy based on previous experience.

Onion Sets. Again they will be

Sturon & Red Braunschweiger plus Golden Gourmet Shallots and Garlic Cloves.

Lots of slug pellets in stock including a limited stock of organic pellets.

#### Wanted, Hut Volunteers.

**Rewards include:** good company plus **20%** discount on most purchases plus honorary membership. Contact me, Alan Thomas, if you can help one Sunday in four for light sales work. Rota swaps can be arranged when needed.

**Improvements:** With a team of volunteers we have been able to improve the area in front of the garage and the trading hut by removing the existing slabs and laying a new concrete base. This has made it neater and safer for pedestrian traffic.

**Thanks** - Finally may I thank all volunteers for their help and support during the year both in and around the Trading Hut.

#### **Summer Plant Sales:**

Dates for your Diary - Held over 4 Weekends!

Our plant sales have been provisionally scheduled for the following dates, from 10.30am to 12.30pm., Saturdays 24th April, 1st & 8th May and on Sundays 25th April, 2nd, 9th & 16th May.

Further details will be available nearer the dates shown.

There will be a sale in the Autumn - date to be notified.

**Surplus Plants** - Members are invited to sell their plants at the Trading Hut on Sundays by arrangement with Alan Thomas. 10% commission is payable to the Society.

Alan Thomas - Trading Secretary (tel: 020 8429 0901)

Renew your Membership in February, it's still only £2, and receive 10% discount on all products, (except plants, bulbs, tubers and sets), throughout that month.



## Show Secretary's Report.

We have all been very encouraged by the continuing success of our shows. There have been a record number of entries throughout the year. The general buzz from the refreshment area is proof that it is a popular place to meet up for a chat and a cuppa whilst waiting for the well-earned presentations and that elusive raffle! I am very grateful to all those who made delicious cakes as these cut down the number that I personally have to make to maintain our "home-made" image!

My thanks to all visitors, exhibitors and the whole show team, with invaluable volunteers, who help to make the shows so successful.

The show schedule has now been completed for the next 2 years. We have added some new classes to give a wider scope of possible entries. Some useful guidelines have been added to the class lists to help members prepare their exhibits.

There is always help and advice available on exhibiting either before or at the shows. Any queries, please don't hesitate to contact me by phone or email.

In the Children's Section we have all 4 age groups with entries. Their enthusiasm and skills have been uplifting. An extra class has been added to challenge them further. I hope that the youngsters will find the classes tempting and fun to enter.

The Chocolatier – Ilze Van de Mere – has been a welcome guest. I am thrilled to announce that she hopes to be able to be at each of the shows in 2010, so plan your temptations in advance!

#### SETTING UP THE SHOW – THE NEED FOR PROMPT ENTRIES

Step 1 - Wednesday	Entry Cards to be written.	
Step 2 - Friday	All entries sorted for each section and entered into the results folder.	
Step 3 - Saturday 8am	Tables set out accordingly for each section.	
Step 4 - Saturday	Late entries written and added to the list. Space available is adjusted to	

allow for these entries.

In recent years there has been increase in the number of late entries on Saturday morning. The figures below illustrate the problem:

		Before 9pm Wed	Sat. 12 noon Approx
NUMBER OF ENTRIES -	SPRING =	120	203
	SUMMER =	183	260
	AUTUMN =	210	327

However, I appreciate that we have all discovered last minute "gems" that can be entered and hope that you will still continue to do this.

To help me with arranging suitable space for the exhibits in each section we have decided in future to accept entries right up to 7pm Friday. Unfortunately, after this time, all entries will be charged at 25p each and none accepted after 11am on the day of the show. Our increased entries show that we are indeed victims of our own success.

Finally can I thank all those who are able to submit entries by the Wednesday 9pm as this makes my job of planning the layout of the show much easier.

I hope that this will not discourage anyone from entering but it will make a much calmer and efficient settingup of the show.

I look forward to meeting you at our next show.

Fran Thomas - Show Secretary.

## Social Secretary's Corner.



#### THE ANNUAL QUIZ.....

The Annual Quiz has become a firm favourite for some of our members. We had 15 teams competing in March across a range of subjects - only one of which related to horticulture. The evening was a light hearted affair with a supper mid way through. The wine was flowing freely which I am sure helped to stimulate the grey matter.

Next year's 70th Anniversary Annual Quiz will be held on Saturday 17th April. Held in the usual place - The Eastcote Community

Centre - Main Hall. The cost remains at £7 per person including supper. You bring your own drinks and glasses and if you don't have a team of six don't worry we can put teams together. A great way to meet new friends.

#### The Annual Dinner......

The Annual Dinner was held at Meze Bar and Restaurant in Field End Road, Eastcote in November. The group chatted its way through the courses and enjoyed an evening with friends.

We hold a dinner each November, to fill one of the long dark evenings when you can't get out into the garden. 2010 is our 70th Anniversary dinner and we will be looking for ideas for something a little different. If you have any thoughts on this important social event in our calendar please send it on an email to us.

#### 70th Anniversary Social Events......

As the Chairman mentioned in his opening letter we are celebrating the Society's 70th anniversary in 2010. There will be some extra social activities relating to horticulture which may be, for example, a coach trip to Kew Gardens, Waddesdon Manor or Wisley RHS Gardens. Once the calendar has been decided these will be advertised at the Trading Hut, on the website and our members will receive email notification. If you have any ideas for the Anniversary please let us know by email or drop a note into the Trading Hut.

The Society will be joining in the official opening of the newly restored Walled Garden at Eastcote House and a "Celebration of Eastcote". This is being planned for Saturday 17th July. Make a date in your diary now and more details will follow.

Sue Alexander - Social Secretary.

# **ANNUAL GENERAL** MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 12th May 2010 at the Eastcote Community Centre Southbourne Gardens, Eastcote at 7.45pm in the Cedar Hall Room 4

> Wine and nibbles will be available following the meeting.

## Annual Award Winners 2009

To be awarded at the Annual General Meeting in May 2010.

Banksian Medal Valerie Crowe TG Cross Cup Valerie Crowe Alan Cup John Gay **Bertram Park Rose Bowl** Colin Jones Cross Cup Ivy Grove

Highmead Cup Gerry Edwards Philip Stagg Award Gerry Edwards

John Marshall Children's' Cup Elliott Castle

Popular Gardening Rose Bowl Pat White

St Catherine's Cup Ann Harry

TG Morris

Memorial Challenge Cup Gerry Edwards

Woodman Cup Kewal Seedher

Maureen Pidgeon **EHS Photographic Cup** 

**EHS Handicraft Cup** Tessa Dawton



# Pharmacy

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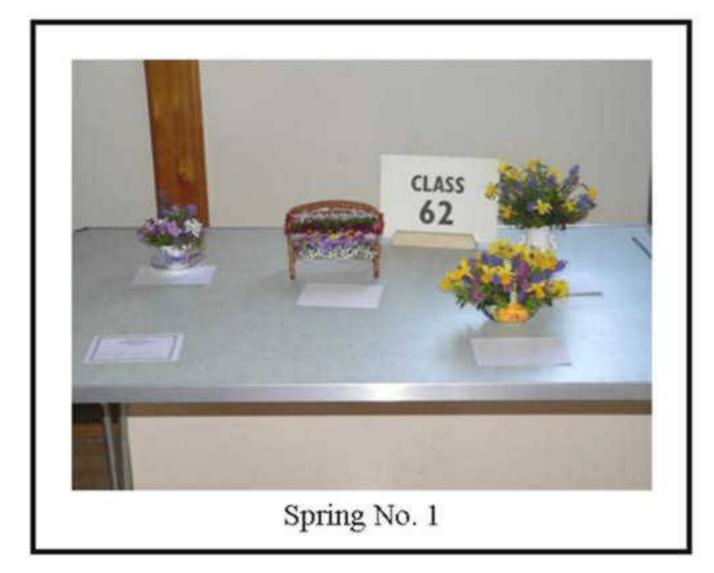
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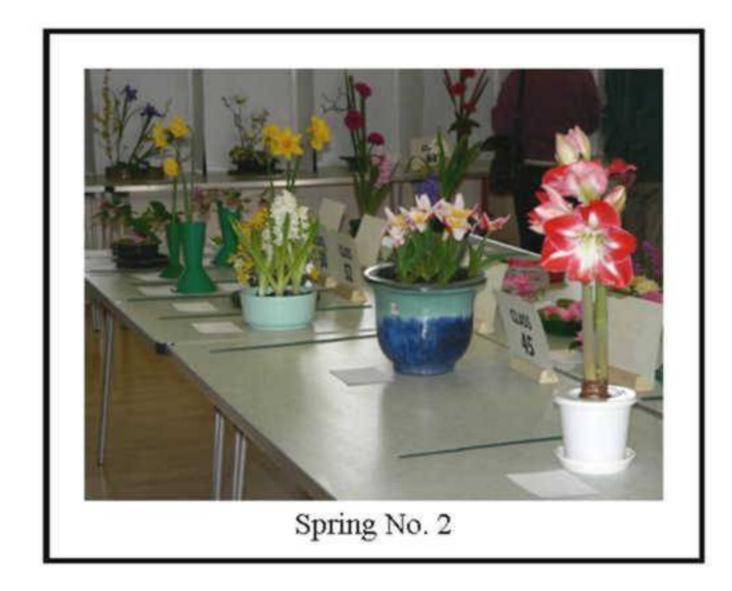
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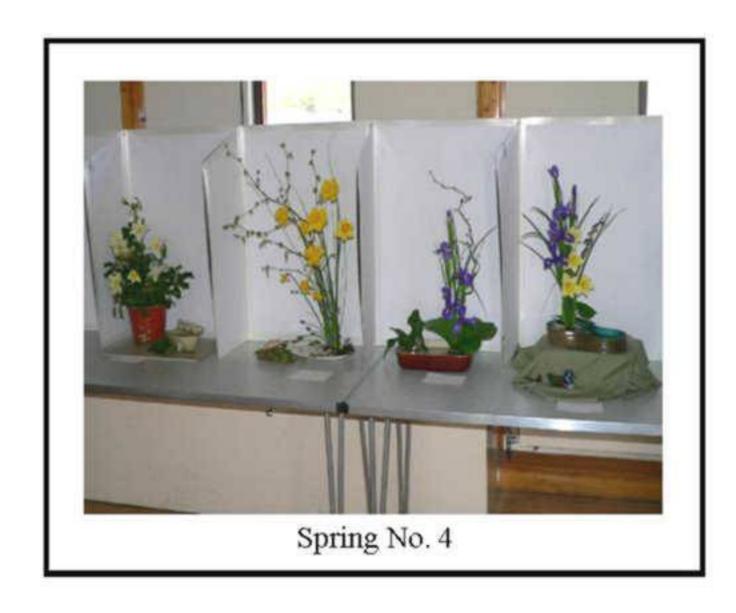


# EHS Spring Show 2009











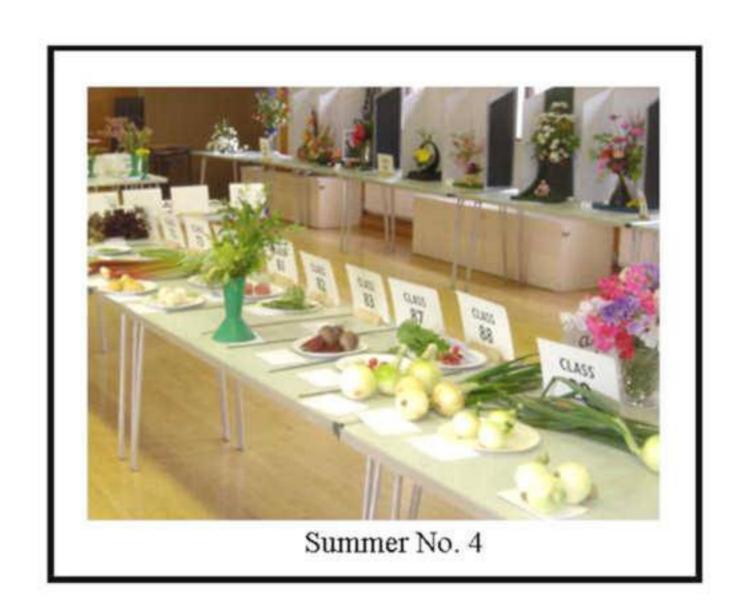


# EHS Summer Show 2009













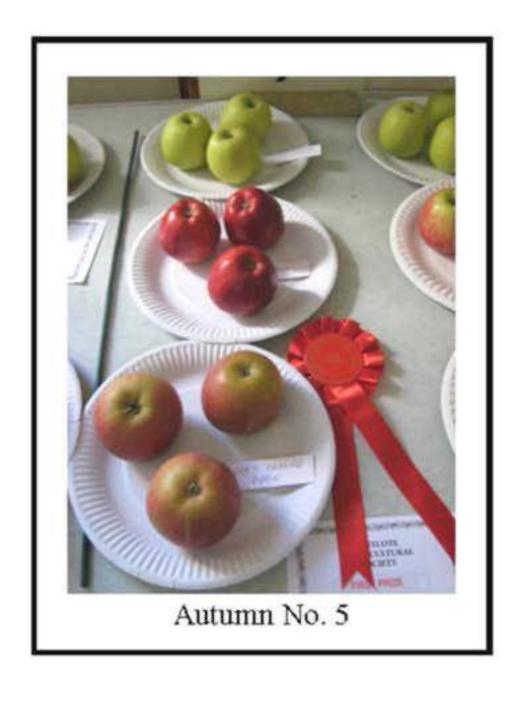
# EHS Autumn Show 2009





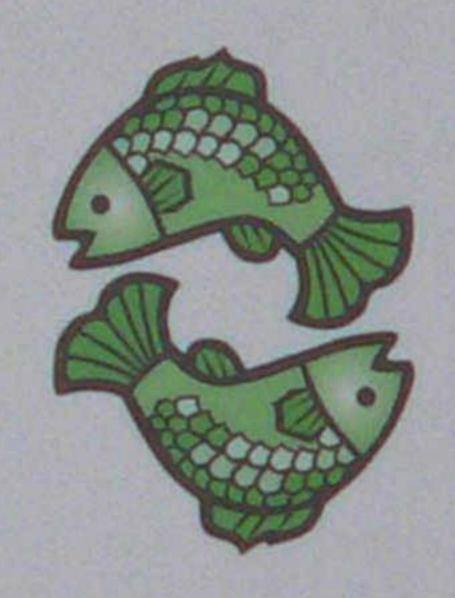








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#### EASTCOTE HOUSE GARDENS

After many years of neglect, a great many enthusiastic people are working together to make Eastcote House Gardens shine!

The Walled Garden is undergoing restoration, the herb beds laid out to commemorate the Queen's Silver Jubilee, [1977], will be completely replanted, as will the surrounding borders.

The flower beds in front of the walls will be fully renovated at a later date as wall restoration Work

needs to be carried out. Temporary planting will keep these beds looking good.

The Rockery, just out side the Walled garden will be replanted this Autumn, a donation was received from Taylor Wimpey, and Giles Hayward of Haste Hill Nurseries is helping with the planting plan and sourcing the plants for us.

An area of wild flower meadow will be sown this Autumn, just in front of the woodland area leading to the allotments and the River Pinn. It is planned that the woodland area, will be planted with English bluebells and native primroses. Also a Rose Garden to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012.

The Friends of Eastcote House Gardens and the Green Spaces Officer Damien Searle, are working towards achieving a Green Flag status for Eastcote House Gardens.

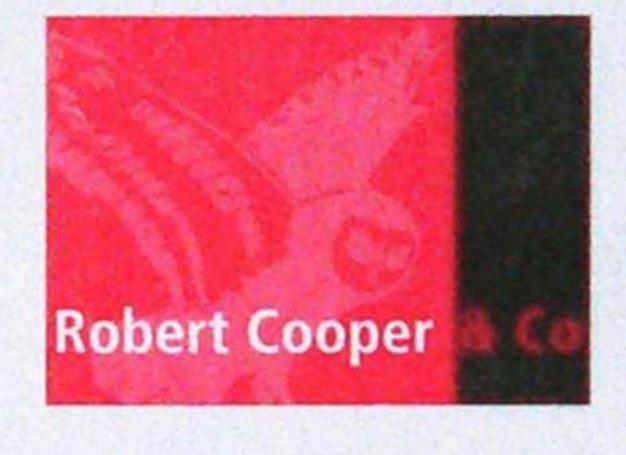
Many thanks to all who are awakening Eastcote's sleeping beauty.

Lesley Crowcroft: Chairman - Friends of Eastcote House Gardens.









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## RUISLIP PELARGONIUM AND GERANIUM CLUB:

#### Events for 2010

<u>Date</u>	Event	<u>Presenter</u>
22 January	Pelargonium's from Seed	Tony Tonks
26 February	Sea to Sierra	Doug Donaldson
26 March	Grand Union Canal	Ken Moore
23 April	Smelly Pele's	Derek Lloyd Dean
21 May	3 Musketeers Pelargoniums	Martin, Teddy & Ken
11 June	Club Show	Woodford Hall, Ruislip.
25 June	Influence of Man	Andrew Sands
23 July	Quiz Night	
27 August	Plant Medicines from your Doctor	Mike Watts
24 September	Autumn Colour & Berries	Teddy Cakebread
22October	AGM	
26 November	Christmas - Flower Arrangements	Jill Morgan

Meetings at the 'Stables' Manor Farm Complex, Bury Street, Ruislip. Start time 8pm

Free Entry -Widen your gardening experience!

#### EASTCOTE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Eastcote Residents' Association (ERA) has been in existence for nearly 80 years and today still tries to keep local residents informed of matters which may affect their lives on subjects as diverse as planning applications, conservation, police matters, road safety, health and a whole host of local matters. When required committee members advise local residents, or when asked, represent them in discussion with local authorities or at public meetings and provide an ongoing liaison role with other local organizations.

The committee generally meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Elsie Fisher Room in the bungalow at the rear of St Lawrence Church, Bridle Road. Local residents are entitled to attend the meetings and find out more. Or they may contact the Chairman, Chris Groom on 0208 866 0985 if they need our help to solve a problem. The ERA is here to serve the community.



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# RUISLIP CENTRAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY EVENTS / SPEAKERS FOR 2010

All talks at St. Lawrence Church Hall, Bridle Road, Eastcote. Doors open 7.30pm. Talks start at 8pm

Members £1, Guests £2, includes tea and biscuits.

23rd February AGM / Cheese & Wine Social

23rd March "Design of the Herbaceous Border" - Yiva Bild-MacKenzie

of Madrona Nursery in Kent

10th April Spring Show at The Great Barn, Bury Street, Ruislip.

20th April "Good in Bed" - Ann Godfrey.

Nursery Owner. - Plants with a long season of interest.

23rd May RCHS trip to Ashwood

25th May "The Challenging Care of Lawns" - Nigel Timpson

from Super Grass Lawn Treatment Service.

26th June Summer Show - The Great Barn, Ruislip.

11th September Autumn Show - The Great Barn, Ruislip.

21st September "Gardens Open for Charity"- Derek Leary

16th October Fun Quiz and Supper

26th October "Guerrilla Gardening" - Richard Reynolds

Gardening without boundaries.

23rd November "World Gardening - Lullingstone Castle" - Jim Buttress

from the Two TV Series.

Tickets from Tony McDonnell - 01895 677925

www.succulent-plant.com/ruislip.html

#### CACTUS SOCIETY MEETINGS

Meetings are held in the Manor Farm Hall, Ruislip at 8pm All members and visitors welcome. £1 entrance, includes tea and biscuits.

15th February AGM and members evening

Plants - slides - discussion

Further details from David Minion. tel: 0208 868 7927

# EHS Summer Plant Sale — Dates for your diary

Our plant sales are held at the Trading Hut and are provisionally scheduled for both Saturdays and Sundays, from 10.30am to 12.30pm on the 24th and 25th April, 1st, 2nd, 8th, 9th and 16th May 2010. Further details will be available nearer the dates.





#### Middlesex County Show.

The Eastcote Horticultural Society gained third place in a new competition at the Middlesex County Show in September. This was an inter-society competition and each society had to enter five classes. Well done to our members who were successful on the day with their produce:-

Gerry Edwards - Apples Bob Beale - Onions

Francis Thomas - Cake and Jams

Valerie Crowe - Vase of mixed flowers

This was a great effort for the first time this competition has been run and we understand it will be repeated at the County Show.

#### Eastcote Christmas Fair.

On Saturday 5th December the Society took part in the Eastcote Christmas Fair. We had tables on the high street from 12 noon until the rain drove us home at 5pm.

The event was organised by the Eastcote Association, which is a group of traders keen to encourage business into Eastcote. Our local MP, Nick Hurd took part in our raffle. The Mayor of Hillingdon, Councillor Shirley Harper-O'Neill was present to switch the Christmas lights on at 4pm. She visited our stall along with Councillors Michael White, David Payne, Bruce Baker and our very own President Catherine Dann. We had a colourful stall with pot plants which make ideal Christmas gifts such as Christmas cherry, cyclamen, azalea, miniature rose. There were also trays of pansies, pots of daffodils, hyacinths and some Christmas trees. The most popular table was the homemade cakes and preserves - dare I say they "sold like hot cakes".







Pinner

Middlesex

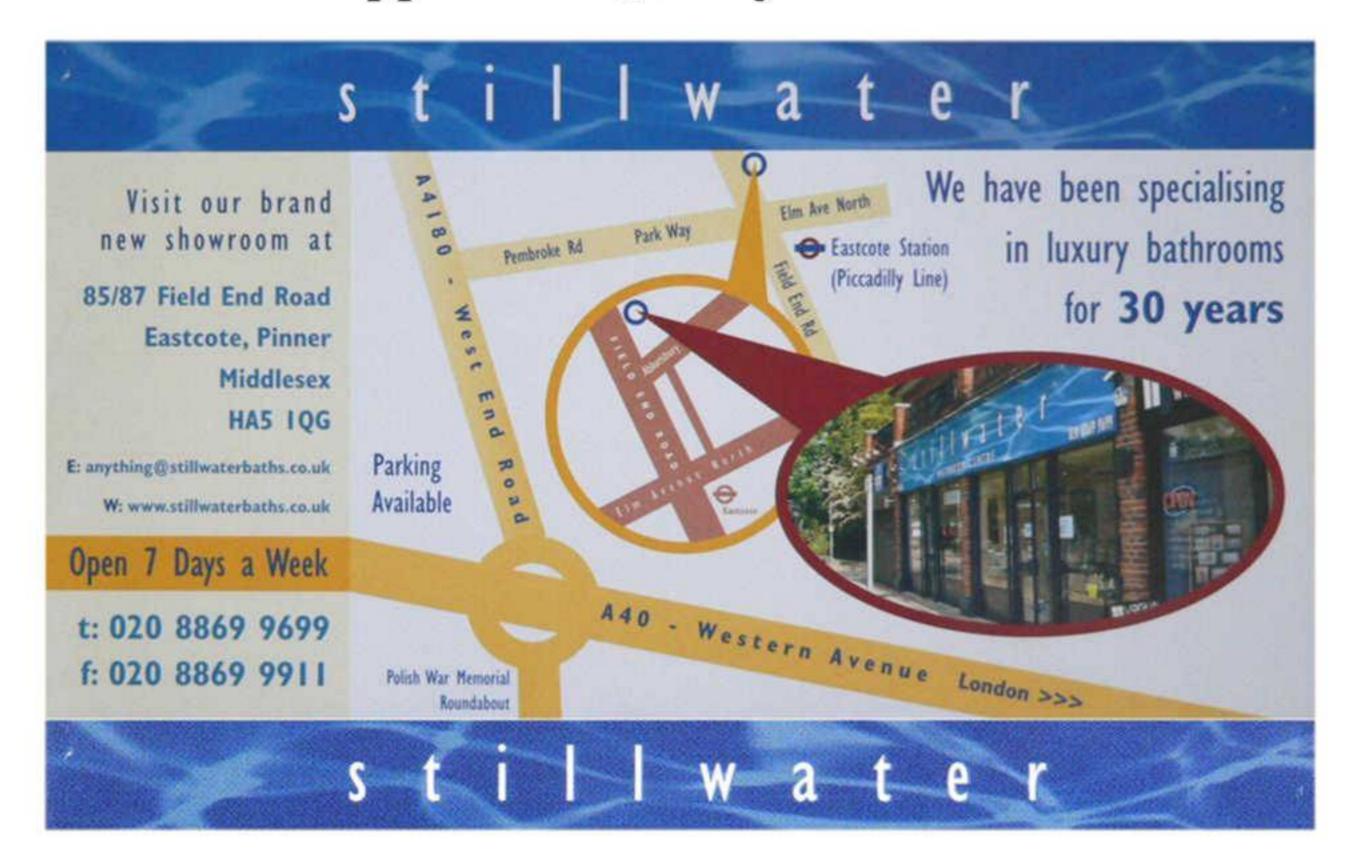
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# EASTCOTE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY ANNUAL QUIZ



We are holding a quiz on Saturday 17th April 2010 at 7.45pm in the

Main Hall ofEastcote Community Centre. Teams should comprise tables of six contestants.

Tickets are £7.00 pp (with buffet meal). Contact Sue Alexander on 020 8866 1339.

Tickets will also be on sale in the Trading Hut on Sundays. Book early!!

Please bring your own drinks and glasses.