



NEWSLETTER – OCTOBER 2017

Message from The Chairman

Dear Members,

After a most enjoyable and relaxed Flower and Produce Show at the end of August, the smooth running of which was due to the hard work of the three main organisers, Lyn Keay, Frances Goodwin and Chris Morley-Smith, your KHS Committee is turning its thoughts towards organising some more gardening themed events for the coming months. You can read about the house plant demonstration in November and the quiz in February 2018 in this newsletter.

Welcome to a newly co-opted member to the Committee, Sara Scott-Rivers, a brand new member, a first time exhibitor at the show and a cup winner, who has taken the plunge and offered her practical support to the KHS.

Have any members got in their possession any old press cuttings about KHS or pre-2014 committee minutes? Please let me know if you have. All the KHS old minute books are missing. This is sad, because they were a history of Kew as well as of the Society. On an optimistic note, Caroline Blomfield has kindly passed on some photos and documents, and we would like to find an archivist to give them a home and look after them. Any member interested please contact me on chair@kewhorticulturalsociety.org.

As regards the future of the show on Kew Green, most of you will already be aware that for the last few years it has been difficult to find volunteers to organise the show. It has now become apparent that the heavy workload has taken its toll on the small group of members who undertake it, and several people on the show team have stood down. After much discussion the Committee has accepted that a show on such a large scale has now become too difficult to manage. It has decided that next year the show will return to its early roots in a local hall and will be much smaller in size and scope. We will make plans for this in the New Year. In the meantime, if you would like to be involved in helping to organise this smaller “new look” show we would like to hear from you on chair@kewhorticulturalsociety.org. This is going to be an exciting departure for KHS but it will still be your show with your exhibits.

There are still one or two vacancies on the Committee...and you keep telling me you are all so busy...but you know that if nobody comes forward to organise these events they will not happen. Please consider whether you can make a space in a busy life for a bit more fun which I can promise you on the Committee as well as some shared work. You will be made welcome. Contact me on chair@kewhorticulturalsociety.org.

- Ann Sandall, KHS Chair



Judging Jams & Preserves at the KHS Show



Looking for a Bargain



Judging Fruit & Veg

2017 Show Report

Once again, the weather on Bank Holiday Saturday 26th August did not disappoint, and we all enjoyed a wonderful hot and sunny Show day.

This year we occupied a different and slightly smaller site on Kew Green, with a bigger Victorian fun fare. The Marquee too was smaller this year, but it was generally agreed that the Marquee, the ever-wonderful KHS stalls, the Jazz Band and the interesting variety of 'outside' stalls, all contributed to the busy, colourful and happy community atmosphere.

The Marquee itself looked spectacularly colourful, with exhibitor and exhibit numbers both showing an increase on last year. Sarah Olney presented the cups and awards to all the successful winners, to whom many congratulations are due, and she said how very impressed she was with the standard of the exhibits on display.

We have received a lot of positive feedback from stall-holders, members of the public who just came and enjoyed a happy family time, and from KHS members too, so as always, huge thanks go to everyone who worked so hard throughout the year and on the day to produce what was the 73rd KHS Annual Flower and Produce Show, and to make it such a successful one!

I think all of us would like to thank to add our special thanks to Lyn Key and Frances Goodwin who were the joint Show Coordinators and who worked so hard, with their band of supporters, to make the Show the success that it was.

The full list of Prize winners is given towards the end of this newsletter and is also available on the Kew Horticultural Society Website together with a gallery of select pictures of the 2017 Summer Show - with thanks to Brian Secrett.



2 Bunches of Grapes

All KHS 2017 Show Pictures © Brian Secrett



Sunflower - Wow!



Getting it just right

Show Lost Property

A pewter tankard used to show flowers. A number of photos that were exhibited were not collected at the end of the Show. If any of these items are yours please say, and if you want them returned please contact ann.scurfield@zen.co.uk

A Tale of a New Exhibitor

In the run up to the Show there were some KHS members and non members too, who were a little reluctant to enter an exhibit, principally on the grounds that they were fearful they would look foolish or not be up to the standard of other exhibitors and so we asked a first time exhibitor, Sara Scott-Rivers, to give her account of her experience:

I attended the 2017 KHS Summer show as I was a volunteer on one of the charity stalls on Kew Green (HAWS - Hounslow Animal Welfare).

A week before the show, I decided to check out the KHS website, and was intrigued to find that anyone could enter (vegetables, artwork, flowers). As an enthusiastic amateur flower arranger, who had never entered a show before, I decided to give it a go. I had studied the basics at just six evening classes, so was not confident of making an impact, but I was very keen to participate. I entered two of the three Floral Art categories: a miniature arrangement in an egg cup, and a larger piece in the category “Mood Indigo”.

My egg cup entry featured a tiny pink rabbit (in tribute to HAWS), and all the contents were from my own garden. The larger entry was more of a challenge, as blue flowers are hard to come by. I chose a tall blue glass vase from my own collection, and used Sea Holly (that looks like blue thistles), ivy, lavender and Veronica.

I was overwhelmed to win a first prize for the egg cup arrangement, and a third prize for the blue arrangement. The flowers for my “Mood Indigo” entry were from Fortnum & Mason, so I take pride in the fact that the flowers from my own garden – which cost nothing – scored higher than those from the posh shop in SW1!

The message is: all amateurs have to start somewhere, so be bold, and enter the show. I came home with the Kew Floral Cup, and I still cannot believe it.



Floral Art Entry - “Eggstra Small”

All KHS 2017 Show Pictures © Brian Secrett



Sara and Sarah Olney



Floral Art Entry - “Mood Indigo”

Membership Report

At the Show we ran a small KHS Members’ Stall and I am happy to say that the following joined the KHS as new members:

**Barbara and Andy Cook - Mhairi and Steven Lowry - Anne Dembowski - Tessa Maclean - Marjorie Evans
Siobhan McCammon - Lynda Anne Fox - Lance McCormack and Louise Holland - Simon Greenall - Rosanda
and Simon McGrath - Mark and Alice Grol-Linell - Cressida Robson - Peter Jefferson - Sara Scott-Rivers -
Julia Jones - Chris Sumner - Robin Jowit - Stuart Webb**

We offer a sincere and warm welcome to you all and look forward to seeing you at one, two or hopefully all of the future events that are being planned for the year ahead. Membership subscription renewal falls due on 1 January 2018. If your renewal is not received by 31 March, it will be assumed that your membership has lapsed. It is still £5 per member or £10 per couple, a snip I think you will agree and is the same as last year (you will find the Subscription Form towards the end of this newsletter).

Finally, some sad news. A longstanding member of the KHS, Paddy Wollen, died earlier this month. She will be much missed in Kew and we send our sympathy and thoughts to her family including particularly our friend and fellow KHS Committee member, her daughter Frances Goodwin.

Trip to Cliveden & Chenies

On 7th September there was a coach trip to Chenies Manor and Cliveden which was a great success. There were 33 people on the trip. The choice of gardens was very well balanced. Cliveden's gardens are large and formal with a huge parterre leading to magnificent views out over the Buckinghamshire countryside. In addition there is a highly attractive water garden and colourful herbaceous borders. The gardens were designed to complement the Astor family's huge house, reflect their wealth and enhance their enthusiastic entertaining.

By contrast Chenies is a small and intimate jewel and the house is still used as a family home. The exquisite gardens were designed by the present owner's mother. This was done on the principle of garden rooms, the one leading to the other. There is a white garden, one full of jewel coloured dahlias and another containing a mixture of palest pink dahlias and white cosmos. For those who could not join us on the trip, please go and see Chenies Manor for yourself, you will love it and our thanks to Richard Ward for recommending the garden to us. Meanwhile thought is already being given to coach trips next year and another short garden holiday is being planned, about which more below.



Chenies Manor



Dahlias & Cosmos at Chenies Manor



Cliveden Water Garden

KHS Events Planned for 2017 & 2018

There are several events planned in the immediate and more distant future and we hope they will tempt members to attend and take part.

Friday 10th November 2017 - All about Houseplants: This event was suggested with those KHS members and non members in mind who live in flats or have only pot plant gardens. Of course most of us have pot plants, some of which may not look their best, so this evening should have something for everyone.

It will be presented by past Kew Gardens student and local Landscape Contractor Richard Ward, whom many of you will know, at St. Winefride's Church Hall, 1, Leyborne Park, Kew TW9 3HB. The Hall will open at 6.30 pm and the demonstration will start at 7.00pm. Richard will be showing how to propagate and pot up plants and will also discuss staking, tying, pests and diseases, choices of plants, growing aspects, watering and feeding etc. So there is something for everyone here with opportunities for hands-on practice and practical advice with a Question and Answer session as part of the evening. So bring your tired and ailing old specimens along and let's see if they can be revived! Entry for KHS members, to be paid at the door, will be £5 entry. Entry for non-members will be £6 BUT with the attractive option of coming in for free if they join the KHS on the night. Annual KHS membership is £5. Look out for the posters for this event which will appear locally.

Looking further ahead the following events are being planned:

December Flowers for Christmas: Plans are underway for Sara Scott-Rivers, the Floral Cup winner at this summer's KHS Summer Show, to lead a workshop on Christmas floral table decorations. Details will be sent out shortly.

Friday 9th February 2018 - Quiz Night at St Winefride's, Leyborne Park, 7.30pm sharp, Ploughman's supper, wine, £60 for a table of six or £10 per person: This seems to be the popular formula for our Quiz night which is becoming a popular fixed point in the dark winter months. Save the date in your 2018 diaries, persuade your friends and families to do the same and make up a winning team. You can also come on your own or with a friend and we will find a table for you. The questions will not be too hard... or too easy... or too obscure. There will be something for everyone whether a gardener or not. There is a booking form towards the end of this newsletter so please book early because the Hall has a limit on numbers. Join us for a fun evening.

March 2018 Annual General Meeting : on a date yet to be fixed the KHS Annual General Meeting will be held in St Winefride's Hall.

Spring 2018 Visit to the Allotments: Richard Ward will conduct an allotment visit on a Saturday in the Spring on a date yet to be fixed. This event is to be designed particularly with young children and families in mind as an introduction to the joys of growing plants and particularly fruit and vegetables.

1 May 2018 - Kew Garden Market Stall: We will be at the Kew Market again, selling plants and meeting KHS members and signing up new members. We are also planning to arrange a children's seed growing competition so they can join in and exhibit the results at the Summer Show 2018.

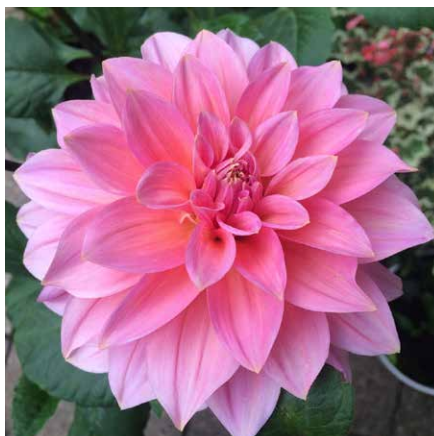
June 2018 Summer Trip: This year we will be visiting several fascinating gardens in Dorset and Somerset. We are hoping to include the following gardens: Kingston Lacy, Forde Abbey, Abbotsbury, Mapperton, and East Lambrook Manor in the itinerary. We will be staying at The Best Western Royal Chase Hotel, Shaftesbury, which looks good and even has a pool! The trip will take place in the second half of June (exact dates tbc). We hope that as many of you as possible will be able to join us. Full details including the price and an application form will be available shortly and emailed to all members.

KHS Online Activity

You may recall that KHS has developed a Facebook and Instagram presence, and we are gradually building up our followers. There are currently 217 followers on Instagram, and the KHS Show Poster reached 100 people on Facebook. Plans are underway that will allow all members that so wish to post their own entries and photographs on both sites, so watch out for news on this. Here are links to the KHS accounts: [f KHS Facebook](#) [KHS Instagram](#)



Instagram Post - Stanley & The Cherry Harvest
With thanks to Emmeline Johnston



Instagram Post - Dahlia Jersey Beauty



Facebook Post - Allotment Harvest!
With thanks to Jenny Fenhalls

Additionally, both KewTW9 enews and the Kew Society would like to take regular news items from the KHS for them to put on their websites.

One question that has been raised is that of having a Q&A section on our website for members and others who have gardening enquiries. It was felt, however, that this was probably a duplication of the excellent advice that is already available on line from the Royal Horticultural Society. So for your gardening questions why not go to <https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice> or to find a plant that suits a particularly tricky place in your garden try <https://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/search>.

Now an apology. Our gmail account had a short but irritating nervous breakdown earlier in the year which meant that a small number of our members did not receive our emails. We think we have fixed this glitch and that now all is well. Nevertheless it is upsetting to think that any of our members had felt neglected and so for that we apologise.

And finally....

I do not know if any of you heard the interview with the wife of the man who had been the senior horticulturalist for the Greater London Council. She was 86 and her husband a few years older. She said that when she first became engaged to her husband a friend warned her that it was all a terrible mistake. The marriage would fail because the pair had nothing in common. The interviewer said 'And do you have nothing in common?' . 'Well,' she replied ' I am afraid it is the case that he loves succulents and I love roses. So I suppose there is that.' They have been married for over 60 years.



Photo credit: Flower Duet

Happy gardening to you all from the editorial team.

Winners' Table

CUP/MEDAL	WINNER	CATEGORY
Banksian Medal	Chris Morley-Smith	Horticulture
Ladies Thresher Cup	Ann Sandall	Horticulture
Men's Thresher Cup	Charlie Shelton	Horticulture
Diamond Jubilee Cup	Finnuala Fowles	Horticulture
President's Cup	Chris Morley-Smith	Vegetables
Association Cup	Richard Ward	Vegetables
Newton Cup	Phillip Smith	Most Meritorious Vegetable
Keene Cup	David Collison	Vegetable Collection
Ian Mclean Cup	Chris Morley-Smith	Vegetables from Organic Seeds
Dr Sparkes Cup	Chris Morley-Smith	Best Fruit Exhibit
Tinker Cup	Ailsa West	Dahlias
Kew Social Club Cup	Ann Sandall	Flowers and Plants
Nat. Dahlia Soc. Cert. – Best Exhibit	Ann Sandall	Best Exhibit of Dahlias
Nat. Dahlia Soc. Cert. – Best Exhibit	Ailsa West	Best Dahlia Bloom
Diamond Cup	Katy Thomas	Best New Exhibitor
K.E.W. Cup	Catherine Bates	Cookery
Thomas Cup	Catherine Bates	Best Exhibit in Jams etc
Burke Cup	Catherine Bates	Arts and Crafts
Golden Jubilee Cup	Barbara Cook	Best Craft Exhibit
Scarborough Cup	Maxi Purewal	Best Art Exhibit
Caroline Fielding Cup	Fiona Laing	Best Photograph
Welch Cup	Lily Webber	Children's classes
Queen Elizabeth Cup	Jessica May-Phillips & Joanna Webber	Children's classes
Pat Thomas Cup	Emily Boddington	Children's Photography
Floral Cup	Sara Scott-Rivers	Floral Art
Dawson Cup	Jane Shelton	Best Exhibit in Floral Art
Sir Arthur Hill Cup	Catherine Bates	Most points in the Show

Kew Horticultural Society Membership Subscription Form

SUBSCRIPTIONS — Subs are due 1 January 2018. Annual membership is still £5.00 per adult, £10 per couple, per calendar year (children are members for free).

CHOICE A: If you would like to pay by standing order, please complete the form below and take it to your own bank or building society. (Our bank account is a Community Account which does not accept direct debits).

KHS Account address Barclays Bank, 8 George Street, Richmond TW9 1JU,
Bank branch sort code 20 72 17
Payee Kew Horticultural Society, account number 13756440
Payment amount £5.00 or £10 (please delete as appropriate)
Date due first payment immediately (unless you've already paid for this year) then January 5th annually.

CHOICE B: If you prefer to pay by cheque or cash, please complete and return the slip below with the payment, to our membership secretary Carole Brougham, 58 Bushwood Road, Kew, Richmond TW9 3BQ (Tel. 8948-7254, email: kewhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com)

If you would like a membership card, for your own record or to show at Chiswick allotments to buy garden supplies at a discount, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Otherwise, Carole will acknowledge by email or if you don't have email, she will take the clearance of the cheque as being the legal receipt.

I enclose _____ in payment for my 2018 membership plus any arrears I may owe

Name(s): _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Email: _____

Tel. _____

Date: _____

Kew Horticultural Society Quiz Booking Form

Friday 9th February 2018

St Winefride's Hall, Leyborne Park, at 7.30pm SHARP, doors open at 7pm.

Cost £60 per table of six or £10 per person. This includes a ploughman's supper and a welcome glass of wine.

Please send your payment with booking form to:

Ann Sandall
38 Leyborne Park
TW9 3HA
Phone 0208 948 2806.

Please make cheques payable to Kew Horticultural Society. Bookings accompanied by payment will be acknowledged.

Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____

I would like a table of six (£60) (please tick)

OR

I would like _____ (number of tickets at £10 each)

I enclose a cheque/cash for _____ (amount)

Team name (optional) _____