



Kew Horticultural Society

NEWSLETTER – JULY 2010

Dear Members,

The Bank Holiday Saturday 28th August is the date of the KHS Summer Show, which will be our 66th, so I am concentrating on this in this newsletter.

THE KHS SUMMER SHOW

First and foremost we hope you will all come, and enter whichever competitions best suit your abilities – whether growing, making or cooking – and publicise the event. The schedule gives all the necessary details of the various classes. Everyone is welcome to enter, both members and non-members, so please encourage your friends to join in. Each section includes tips for exhibitors, including cooks, and beginners are most welcome. All entries are free.

The schedule and entry forms are available to download on this website.

<http://www.kewhorticulturalsociety.org/downloads/schedule2009.pdf>

The Show officially opens at 1.30, although activities around the many stalls start up earlier. There will as usual be a large and varied number of stalls around the Green selling refreshments, bric a brac, books and plants. The competition displays inside the marquee are the heart of the Show, and at 4.30 the prizes will be presented by Dr Paul Smith, the Director of Kew's Millennium Seed Bank. After which there will be an auction of the produce, cakes, preserves, and craft items which have been donated, and which for many is the most entertaining part of the day.

Publicity

We have also made an arrangement with Antony Roberts to create large publicity signs for the KHS show. This is an excellent opportunity, but it depends on people who are willing to place the signs in their front gardens. We are still short of places to put them, so if you are willing to host a sign please email kew.show@yahoo.co.uk

Stalls and Refreshments

As well as adding to the attractions of the day, the stalls run by KHS provide the funds necessary to hire the marquee and run the Show each year. Usually the Show makes a profit which is then distributed to local charities. This involves the generosity of our members in donating items and offering to help, so here are some specific appeals where your contribution is needed.....

The Tea Tent is being run by Jenny Kidd and her team of volunteers. The home made cakes provided by KHS members were a huge success last year – except when they ran out! All types of cake are popular, their appeal makes such a difference to the tea tent, and this year even more are needed. Please contribute, delivery can be at any of the following times and places;

- the day before at 14 Clarence Road or
- on the Friday evening at the tea tent or marquee or
- during the morning before the show or even during the afternoon.

If you are going to be away over the bank holiday your cake could be delivered earlier, because Jenny Kidd can arrange for it to be stored in a freezer. It would help Jenny very much if she had an idea of contributions in advance, so please contact her at jennyakidd@yahoo.co.uk or 020 8948 1184. The tea tent is particularly labour intensive, so any offers of help on the day are also welcome, please contact Jenny.

The Bric a Brac stall is being run by Janie and Robert Locke. This is a popular and high-earning stall but it depends entirely on your donations. However storage has become an increasing problem in recent years, so we are asking you, please, to bring bric a brac to the marquee, either on the evening before or early in the morning of the show, before the judges arrive at 9.30, or as the stall is being set up from 12 onwards. If you will be away that weekend please could you make arrangements with a friend or a member of the KHS committee to deliver it for you?

The Book Stall, which rivals the bric a brac stall in size and popularity, is being run by Alan Sandall. Since the family car is already heavily in use for plants (see below) it will not be possible to receive contributions of books in advance of the show, so the same requests apply regarding delivery as they do to bric a brac.

The Plant Stall will be run by Ann Sandall who provides the majority of the plants with the work of her own green fingers, but your contributions add to the variety and success of the stall provided they are in good condition. Please could they be in proper flower pots, and it is really too late by then for tomato or bedding plants. However we can sell trendy winter salads that members might be sowing now, ready to prick out in time for the show. It is easiest if the plants are brought to the marquee on the evening before, or in the morning before 9.30, or brought to the stall early in the afternoon. If this is not possible please deliver to Ann at 38 Leyborne Park, or Celia at 7 Maze Road.

The Pickle Stall will, as ever, be run by the Collison family and friends. Contributions of pickles, preserves, jams, jellies and marmalades are all welcome. These can be delivered to David at 33 Gloucester Road or brought on the day of the show.

Many other attractions are listed on the poster, and we also, for the first time, have a display of **Birds of Prey**. These include owls, hawks, kestrels and a buzzard and they are tended by the inmates of Latchmere House Prison in Ham, who have to receive considerable training and subsequently gain a qualification. This will enable them to seek employment with their skills in handling the birds. The fun part of their training is taking the birds to shows – most weekends during the summer months –and introducing them to the public and explaining the project.

And finally - there is an urgent request for someone who can come and make tea or coffee for the thirsty and hard-worked show judges at 10.30 on the morning of the show.

Other reminders and items of interest

The second KHS trips this year is on 21 September to Great Dixter. There are a still a few spaces available - an application form is attached.

For those interested in other horticultural shows, Chiswick Horticultural Society has two, on 31st July and 12th September - see the website for details www.chsw4.org

KHS has received a request for cut flowers to decorate a ball to be held on 23rd July for children and young people with disabilities. Their budget does not extend to flowers and they would be most grateful for donations. The contact is k.Donovan@richmond.gov.uk

David Collison (020 8940 9062 or 07736 237701) has asked all members who have successfully raised produce from Garden Organic Heritage seed to get in touch with him by middle of August. He plans to put together an interesting Seed Library display at the Show and also have plenty of contenders for the Maclean Cup.

We have received the sad news that Verity Schneerson died in June. She battled bravely with emphysema for many years and finally had to go into a home about a year ago. But KHS members will remember her as a vivid personality, who was a key figure in our gardening community for many years. She was always ready to support events and she helped to organise many of our past summer shows.

We are hoping this year's Show will combine all the usual attractions with and hopefully participation from you all – and of course the right weather. See you there!

Carole Brougham

Editor, KHS Newsletter

July 2010

www.kewhorticulturalsociety.org

COACH TRIP TO GREAT DIXTER, TUESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2010

Please complete the slip and return to Gareth James, 14 Bushwood Road, Kew TW9 3BQ (8948 1153), with your £5.00 nonreturnable deposit per person and a stamped address envelope.

I would like to reserve _____ places on the coach. I enclose _____ deposit and a sae.

Name: _____ Tel No. _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

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SUBSCRIPTIONS — please complete and return this slip to Jenny Wakefield, 77 Gloucester Road, Kew TW9 3BT (Tel. 8940 5141) (Annual membership £5.00 per person/family)

I enclose _____ in payment for my 2010 KHS membership plus any arrears I may owe.

Name _____ Tel. No. _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like a receipt