



Kew Horticultural Society

NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2014

From the Editor

Well, bulbs are poking through flowerbeds and allotments are showing garlic and early broad beans, so maybe Spring sunshine will arrive one day – let's hope so. Meanwhile I'm sure our thoughts are with our up-stream neighbours along the Thames, who are having such a tough time of it.

We also extend our sympathy to John Holt, whose partner John Lewis-Jones passed away recently. Both Johns have been members and supporters of the KHS for many years.

We're pleased to welcome three new members – Jean Monti, Patricia Crowley and Janet Bailey.

Our out-going Membership secretary Jenny Wakefield reports a recent surge in the payment of subscriptions – please keep up the good work; it's a bit unfair to expect the membership secretary to be constantly chasing the forgetful.

This year, (weather permitting!), will see the 70th anniversary of our famous Summer Show. The Show committee have introduced a few changes (see below).

Whether you're an active gardener or simply a lover of gardens, I wish everyone many successful and fulfilling garden days in the year ahead.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will take place at 7pm on Monday 3rd March in St Winefred's church hall. Light refreshments (and Garden Organic Heritage vegetable seeds) will be available and at 8pm approx there will be a talk by Kew Diploma student Suzanne Patman on:

Greening Tokyo: Urban Planting in one of the world's most populous cities

In the run-up to the 2020 Olympics, the neon and high-rise jungle of Tokyo City has been engaged in a concerted effort to improve the provision of urban greenspace and improve biodiversity. Suzanne Patman examines the green landscape of Tokyo, governmental greenspace management strategies, and the use of native species in the face of extreme population challenges.

The talk will be free to KHS members and £3.00 to non-members.

If you wish to be nominated or to nominate someone else for the posts of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer or Membership Secretary or for a position on the Committee, please contact Carole Brougham (carolebrougham.khs@gmail.com)

Events

Quiz Night

The first KHS Quiz Night was held at St Winefred's hall on Friday 7th February and proved to be a terrific success. Organised by Jenny Long, all tickets were sold and all tables filled well before the event. Many thanks to Jenny and Chris Long and especially to the question master, our Head of Events committee, Gareth James, who hosted the evening with great good humour and a firm hand. The questions, mainly concerning horticulture, gardening and food, were set by Philippa Hurman – a daunting task when faced with a hall full of self-appointed experts – a situation Philippa handled with flexible aplomb! Thanks also to the helpers who served the wine and the excellent ploughman's supper.

The Quiz was close-fought, resulting in a dead-heat between the Curious Kew table and the President's table. A tie-break question was announced. "How many plants carry the RHS Certificate of Merit?" (I think). Nobody knew. Everybody guessed. All eyes turned to Philippa – who didn't know the answer either !!! Out of the ensuing chaos emerged the captain of Curious Kew, none other than our Show Secretary Harriet Enthoven. Harriet announced, most nobly we thought, that she was certain her team had received one undeserved point during the contest. I don't believe a word of it, but thank you Harriet, on behalf of the winners – Celia Fisher, Andrew Turley, Nick and Sue McCarty, Sandy Collison and your Editor.

Thanks again to all those who contributed to the evening. It looks as though the Quiz will become an annual event!

Coming Events

Tour of Kew Gardens

MONDAY APRIL 7th 10.15 for 10.30am. With 2 Guides.

This event has proved very popular but there are still a few places left; if anyone would like to be included please leave your details with Carole Brougham as soon as possible.

Gareth James writes:-

The Events Committee have established a core programme of seven events per year. This does not exclude additional events such as the tour of Kew Gardens (see above) but, by keeping the core events at the same time each year this should help KHS members with their diaries. As follows -

FEBRUARY 7th- Quiz Night (see report above)

MARCH 3rd - AGM plus speaker

MAY - 4-day Garden Tour . (This year's trip to Normandy May 1st-5th is now sold out.)

**JULY 3rd - Garden day-trip, to Woolbeding Gardens near Midhurst.
organised by Mike Kidd.,**

Mike Kidd writes :-

This is a National Trust property, more information on the website.

We will have an introductory talk from the Head/Senior Gardener.

Coach journey: £20 for KHS members, £25 for non- KHS members.

Admission: Free to NT members, £ 6.40 to non-NT members.

Further details will be sent on receipt of an application form. Cheques should be made payable to "KHS ". Please also enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

Please include the usual application form (at the end of the newsletter).

Many thanks ! Michael.

PS our phone no. is 948 1184 (not "940 ")

AUGUST 30th - KHS SUMMER SHOW (see below)

SEPTEMBER 2nd – Garden day-trip to Hidcote Manor, organised by Gareth James.

Cost per person: Members £25; Non-Members £30.

This is a National Trust property and there will be an additional cost for people who do not belong to the National Trust.

NOVEMBER - Winter event – Speaker to be arranged

SUMMER SHOW

Show Secretary Harriet Enthoven writes:-

Please note that the date of the next Summer Show is 30th AUGUST - not the Bank Holiday Saturday. We have decided this in hopes of an enhanced turnout and more entries (although we can't unfortunately do any thing about the weather other than to keep our fingers firmly crossed!). We have also decided that this year stalls will be able to trade from 11am.

This will be our 70th Show - so has anyone any photos/memories of the 1945 show, as we would like to arrange a display? Many thanks. Harriet

David Collison, Editor KHS Newsletter

davidcollison@tiscali.co.uk

KHS WEB-SITE – www.kewhorticulturalsociety.org

Postscript. Chiswick Horticultural Society will be hosting a talk by Sue Bennett and Clare Gittings on **Five Centuries of Women and Gardens** on Saturday 22 February at 11am at the CHS trading Hut in Staveley Road, Chiswick. All welcome. The cost to KHS members will be £2.

Finally Mike Kidd writes: OLD PROVENCAL FARMHOUSE unexpectedly available to rent during JUNE. Sleeps 6 easily, small pool, garden and terrace, rustic but very charming. Near village of Roussillon , 84220. Rent £550 per week.

Contact Mike or Jenny Kidd [Tel:020 8948 2284](tel:02089482284)

****To: Michael Kidd, 14 Clarence Road, Kew, Richmond, TW9 3NL Tel: 020 8948-1184****

Woolbeding Gardens
Thursday 3rd July 2014

Leaving The Coach and Horses, Kew Green at 9:30am

@ £20 for NT members (coach), £31.40 for non members (coach plus admission)

Name (please print)		Phone number:	
---------------------	--	---------------	--

E-Mail Address:	
-----------------	--

No of tickets:		Amount:		Cheque number:	
----------------	--	---------	--	----------------	--

Cut off: WHEN ALL COACH SEATS ARE TAKEN

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope for confirmation of your booking and to receive further information about this event

Please make cheques payable to Kew Horticultural Society

PLEASE RESPOND TO THIS OFFER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

****To: Gareth James, 14 Bushwood Road, Kew, Richmond, TW9 3BQ Tel: 0208 948 1153****

Hidcote Manor
Tuesday September 2nd, 2014

Leaving The Coach and Horses, Kew Green (time to be confirmed)

@ £25 for KHS/NT members, £30 (plus Hidcote admission) for non-members

Name (please print)		Phone number:	
---------------------	--	---------------	--

E-Mail Address:	
-----------------	--

No of tickets:		Amount:		Cheque number:	
----------------	--	---------	--	----------------	--

Please Book Early

If you do not provide an email address you MUST enclose a stamped addressed envelope for confirmation of your booking and to receive further information about this event

Please make cheques payable to Kew Horticultural Society