



Kew Horticultural Society

NEWSLETTER – October 2014

Dear Members

Welcome to the last newsletter of the year. We're still enjoying the last mild gasp of an Indian summer as I write this, but by the time you receive it --- I wonder? Meanwhile gardeners and allotment-holders alike are now reaping the less-welcome rewards of a spring and summer season of moisture followed by heat - in 40 years of allotmenting I've never seen such bindweed (20ft long) or fat hen (3ft high) or such carpets of dog's mercury.

However it really has been a great year for growing and the evidence was plain to see at the 70th KHS Show at the end of August – one of the best in recent years. Our Show Secretary, Harriet Enthoven, having weathered the storms (literally) of 2012 and 2013, conjured up a fine day and a terrific Show and our thanks go out to her and her numerous helpers, both at the planning stages and on the day.

Sadly Harriet will now be standing down, so the search is on for her successor. If anyone feels they would like to speak to Harriet about what is involved, with a view to taking on the role of Show Secretary please email her on Show@kewhorticulturalsociety.org or call our Chairman Mike Kidd on 0208 948 1184 or myself, David Collison, on 0208 940 9062. We are also on the lookout for a member with some skills in publicity. Can you help?

The Society is in good heart – please continue to give it all the support you can.

Membership

Membership Secretary Carole Brougham reports that the following have joined the Society since last July:-

Jane Carter

Amanda Morgan

Val Kiely

Tally Foster

Jane Skinner

Hilary Fitzhugh

Rodney Engen & Malcom Hillier

Matthew Neave

A sincere welcome to you all.

Please note that 2015 subscriptions are due on 1st January 2015. For details see at the end of this letter.

The Summer Show, 2014

The Show made a net profit this year, making up for the disappointments of the previous two years. The final figure is not yet available, but it looks as though we may be looking at a four-figure sum. The auction was well-attended and, bolstered by Colleen's generous donation of another of her original paintings of Short Lots allotments, took over one thousand pounds. The tea tent takings exceeded all previous records. And it didn't rain. A great day.

And the winners were.... Very well done to you all...

Banksian Medal, Presidents Cup, Newton Cup, Keene Cup and Sir Arthur Hill Cup all go to Michael Delf.

Men's Thresher Cup and the Association Cup - David Bell.

Ladies Thresher Cup - Jenny Kidd.

Diamond Jubilee Cup - Raj Patel.

Ian Mclean Cup – Chris Morley-Smith

Dr Sparkes Cup – Charlie Shelton.

Tinker Cup, National Dahlia Society certificate Best Exhibit and Best Bloom – Stuart Webb.

Kew Social Club Cup – Fiona Prior

K.E.W Cup – Catherine Bates & Jane Shelton

Thomas Cup – Charlotte Newlands

Burke Cup – Barbara Cook

Golden Jubilee Cup – Mandy Jochems

Scarborough Cup – Maxi Purewall

Caroline Fielding Cup and Dawson Cup – Fiona Laing

Pat Thomas Cup and Diamond Cup – Rudi Barrington

Floral Cup – Ruth Sandall

Welch Cup – Jessica May-Phillips

Queen Elizabeth Cup – Lelia Davis

The Cookery judges, Adrienne Cleasby and her colleagues, have kindly provided us with a detailed and extremely helpful critique of the entries in the various Cookery classes – something we might like to extend to Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables in future years. Adrienne writes – *A fabulous array of entries and many thanks to the stewards – Jenny, Jenny and Cecile who organized the entries and assisted efficiently making our task easy and enabled us to judge the many and varied entries in the allotted time.*

We are looking to see how we might use this report with an evening on 'How to show at the KHS Show' so watch this space!

Heritage seeds

This year the winner of the Ian Maclean cup, for vegetables grown from seed provided by Garden Organic's Heritage Seed Library, was Chris Morley-Smith, Chairman of Short Lots Users Group. So now the cup has been won by four different growers, suggesting that there's a healthy interest among KHS gardeners in building up the reserves of heritage and "heirloom" varieties – please do continue to support this national project. Seeds are available every year at the Annual General meeting.

Events - 2014

Report by Gareth James on visit to Hidcote Manor Gardens.

Our September visit to Hidcote Manor Garden was a great success, with a group of about 40 members. One of the most influential Arts and Crafts gardens in Britain, with its linked "rooms" of hedges, rare trees, shrubs and a stunning red herbaceous border, Hidcote was originally created from a traditional Cotswold farm by the American Lawrence Johnston.

Johnston was influenced in creating his garden by the work of Gertrude Jekyll, among others. The effect is enchanting - successive gardens of hardy plants contained within sequences of outdoor "rooms". Around the lovely 17th century manor house, Hidcote's outdoor "rooms" have various characters and themes, achieved by the use of box hedges, hornbeam and yew, and stone walls. These spaces, such as the 'White Garden' and 'Fuchsia Garden' are linked, some by vistas, others furnished with topiary. Some have ponds and fountains, and all are planted with flowers in imaginative bedding schemes.

Talk on Monday 1st December 2014

Chiswick House Walled Garden.

St Winefride's Church Hall, Leyborne Park, Kew.

Time 7:30 – 8:30. Cost to include a glass of wine - £3.00 for KHS members, £5.00 for non-members

Community Gardener William Rallison will talk us through the fantastic transformation from decay to the productive success that the Walled Gardens are today. These spectacular 17th-century 2.5-acre gardens were created in 1682 by Sir Stephen Fox, Paymaster General of the Armed Forces and Samuel Pepys' employer. In the early 19th century the gardens were incorporated into the 6th Duke of Devonshire's estate at Chiswick House. What had begun as a fashionable 'wilderness' of shrubs and specimen plants evolved into a productive garden, but then into decay in the late 20th century.

Under the umbrella of Chiswick House and Gardens Trust, restoration works based on documentary research and archaeological evidence have recently transformed the gardens. The northern walled garden has been turned from an abandoned modern nursery into a cherry orchard. In the southern walled garden, lost paths have been reinstated and over 240 historic fruit trees and soft fruits planted by volunteers.

The appointment of a community gardener in June 2010 (funded by the Big Lottery Fund's local food scheme) has led to the recruitment of many more volunteers and on-going contact with local community groups and schools and the garden continues to develop. As well as the existing herb, flower, fruit and crop rotation a new fruit cage has been constructed with the help of volunteers. There is also a colony of bees, established through the London Mayor's Capital Bee initiative so come to this talk and hear all about it.

Events in 2015

Friday January 30th Gardening Quiz and Supper

Venue: St Winefrides Church Hall, Leyborne Park, Kew

Time: 7 pm for a welcome glass of wine. We aim to finish by 9.45 pm

Price: £10 a head includes a Ploughman's Supper (or £12 on the night).

Organiser Jenny Long writes –

After our very successful Quiz last February we have decided to repeat the evening with some exciting questions! Once again we will have a horticultural bias and it will be a very informal social evening. Most rounds will be general questions and we promise not to have so many literary ones this time.

Gareth our Events Chairman will be the Quiz Master.

We appreciate that this is an early announcement for the New Year but we all like to be cheered up in January and cram our diaries with jolly evenings out - so we want to make sure you don't double book. Wine will be available (we ask for a donation) to accompany the cold supper.

All are welcome, whether coming alone or with a ready-made team of six. Why not ask your friends who are not yet members? Get them organised and send us a cheque to secure your places.

Remember, last year we were over-subscribed.

Reminders will be sent out in early January to those who have booked, and your cheques acknowledged as soon as they are received. If you don't use e-mail please make sure you add your telephone number.

Apply on the form below and send your cheque to
Jenny Long, Maze Lodge, Forest Road, Kew, TW9 3BZ
Queries to Jenny at jenny@longstones.com or 8940 3636

Keep the date free or better still apply for tickets now!

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**BOOKING FORM for GARDENING QUIZ AND SUPPER Friday January 30th 2015
At St Winefrides Church Hall, Leyborne Park, Kew. 7 pm – 9.45 pm.**

NAME (please print) _____

E-Mail address _____ Phone No. _____

Number of tickets @ £10 each _____ Total £ _____
Cheques made payable to Kew Horticultural Society

Team name (if there are six of you) _____

Your cheques will be acknowledged immediately and reminders sent out in early January

KHS Trip – summer 2015

Private Gardens of Yorkshire and Harrogate **11 – 15 June 2015**

Cost will be £465.00

DRAFT Itinerary

Gareth James writes –

We have tweaked the itinerary beyond that submitted by our Travel Agents, but I should reiterate that this is a draft.

Day 1 – Thursday 11 June 2015

We depart by coach from our designated pick-up point and head for Yorkshire, stopping en route at a National Trust property **Hardwick Hall** for refreshments (not included).

On arrival we transfer to the **Cedar Court Hotel** in **Harrogate**. All rooms have private facilities. Dinner is served this evening in the hotel.

Day 2 – Friday 12 June 2015

This morning after breakfast we will visit **York Gate**, a one acre garden tucked behind the ancient church at **Adel** on the northern outskirts of Leeds. Created by the Spencer family during the second half of the twentieth century, this is a garden of immense style and craftsmanship, widely recognised as one of the most innovative small gardens of the period. The garden is divided by yew and beech hedges into a series of smaller gardens each with its own theme and style. The formal Herb Garden with its topiary to the Dell with its half-hidden pathways and stream, evergreens clipped into strong architectural shapes are used to spectacular effect throughout the garden.

In the afternoon we visit **Harlow Carr**, the **Royal Horticultural Society's** northern flagship, which continues to set the highest possible standards in the gardening world. Within this handsome and well-wooded site there are sections devoted to particular groups of plants, a rose garden, a bulb garden and an arboretum, along with three different kinds of rockeries. There are also displays of new cultivars in the trial gardens, which vary according to the season. Dinner is served in the evening.

Day 3 – Saturday 13 June 2015

We visit three gardens today. The walled garden at **Scampston**, was opened for the first time in 2004. This inspired contemporary garden of 4.5 acres was designed by the internationally acclaimed Piet Oudolf, winner of a gold medal and the “Best in Show” at Chelsea in 2000. His innovative and striking use of grasses and perennial meadow plantings provide a wealth of interest.

The award-winning gardens of **Burton Agnes Hall** offer something for everyone, from the walled garden containing over four thousand different plant species, herbaceous borders, a jungle garden and national collection of campanulas, to the woodland walk and maze.

At **Jackson's Wold** we find a walled garden with mixed borders and numerous old shrub roses underplanted with unusual perennials. Dinner is served in the hotel this evening.

Day 4 – Sunday 14 June 2015

Following breakfast this morning we travel a short distance north for our first visit, **Newby Hall** – 25 acres of award-winning gardens including the National Collection of Cornus, with a woodland discovery walk, contemporary Sculpture Park and plant centre. Newby's famous double herbaceous borders are among the longest in Europe and form the main axis, off which are numerous formal compartmented gardens, there is a species Rose Garden, a Water Garden, an Autumn Garden and even a Tropical Garden.

In the afternoon we visit **Kiplin Hall**, an ongoing restoration project run by volunteers, with a lake, walled garden and woodland area. Dinner is served in the hotel this evening.

Day 5 – Monday 15 June 2015

Following breakfast we check out of the hotel and on our journey home visit **Haddon Hall**, one of England's finest examples of a medieval manor on the River Wye at **Bakewell** in the Peak District. The Fountain Terrace was replanted by Chelsea Award winner Arne Maynard in 2011, and is splendid as it matures and fills the garden with all shades of pink and purple.

The replanting of the Bowling Green Terrace continues, with an Elizabethan inspired knot garden.

Following our visit we will return to our original departure point.

Included in the price

- 4 nights' dinner, bed and breakfast at the Cedar Court Hotel, Harrogate. All rooms have private facilities
- Services of a Brightwater Holidays representative, with comfortable coaching throughout
- Visits to the gardens as to be announced in the final itinerary.
- NOTE - This is a draft itinerary.

Not included (per person)

- Single room supplement £100.00
- Insurance

Those wishing to come on the trip should complete the attachment BW BOOK FORM (KHS) Yorkshire 2015 or the printed version if you are not on-line. The completed forms and deposits should be sent direct to Brightwater, not to me please.

Gareth

Thanks to everyone who contributed information to this mammoth newsletter!

Best wishes and safe bonfires

David Collison

Editor

davidcollison@tiscali.co.uk

SUBSCRIPTIONS — Annual membership for 2015 is £5.00 per adult, £10 per couple, per calendar year (children are members for free) is now due!

Either 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 5 th annually.

Or 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 or Manor Road 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 2015 membership plus any arrears I may owe

Name(s): _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Email: _____

Tel. _____

Date: _____