



Kew Horticultural Society

NEWSLETTER – JULY 2015

From the Editor

Whether you have received this via our website (www.kewhorticulturalsociety.org) or via the letterbox, welcome to the newsletter and thrice welcome to the first contributions from our new Chairman, Ann Sandall. Thanks to all contributors and don't forget that ALL contributions are welcome – helpful, amusing, critical etc. Send your thoughts to davidcollison@tiscali.co.uk

Membership

Membership Secretary Carole Brougham reports that the following have joined the Society since last our last newsletter

Hector and Miranda Munro
Alison Armstrong
Lindie White
Alan Sandall
Simon Creed ... **A sincere welcome to you all.**

Please note for all that 2015 subscriptions were due on 1st January 2015. For details please see at the end of this letter where you will find a Subscriptions Form.

Message from the Chairman

Dear KHS members,

Our window boxes, patios, gardens and allotments will all have suffered to some extent in the heatwave. Today we are in for a cool day...what a blessing. Let us all pray for rain or perform a rain dance but, and we gardeners always have a but, we don't want any rain on 5th September on Kew Green when the 71st KHS Plant and Produce Show will be held.

Your show schedule, entry form and poster are enclosed with this newsletter. Please read every word and resolve to enter something in at least one category this year, a house plant, a flower arrangement, a plate of tomatoes, a bunch of dahlias, a cake, a pair of socks, there really is a class for everyone whether you are a gardener or a maker. Let's make this the best show ever.

The Society is still looking for some new members for the General Committee which runs the Society's affairs. This committee meets about three times a year and serving on it can hardly be said to be onerous. Indeed I would like to make it fun. Please think about serving your Society and if you would like to help contact me on chair@kewhorticulturalsociety.org.

Thank you to those generous members who have already volunteered to throw open their gardens for a private KHS members' afternoon in summer 2016. I know there are still some delightful gems of gardens tucked away that you are very modest about so please, don't be modest, volunteer to let other members see your garden. It doesn't have to be professionally designed or massive, but it will contain something of your green fingers and your gardening soul and that is what our fellow gardeners will appreciate and want to see. Please reflect again and let me know if you too would like to open your garden - on chair@kewhorticulturalsociety.org.

On a mild evening in May a group of new members gathered and met KHS Committee members in a Kew garden and it is hoped to continue this social event in future.

Finally, the Show poster enclosed in this mailing, is another beauty designed especially for KHS by Jane Shelton for which our thanks, please display it if you can, either on your gate, fence, window, friendly notice board, nearby tree, in your car, anywhere where it can be seen, so that the KHS Show is as widely and clearly advertised as possible. The Society depends on you its members for this as indeed for so much else so please keep the show on the road.

Ann Sandall

Chairman, Kew Horticultural Society

chair@kewhorticulturalsociety.org

The 71st KHS PLANT AND PRODUCE SHOW

While we still lack an "official" Show Secretary, we are fortunate in having a massive amount of Show experience to call on. Particular thanks to Philippa Hurman who is coordinating the preparatory work and to KHS member Chris Morley-Smith, Chairman of the Short Lots Users' Group (SLUG), who has joined us to supervise the physical setting up of the Show and its smooth running on the day

Philippa says -

I think the most important thing is a plea to members **to enter at least one class**, demonstrating support for the Show and the Society. You don't need to be hugely competitive - just have some fun!

We especially welcome entries from children, so please get your children or grandchildren to enter the children's classes. Entry this year will be £1 per exhibitor for as many classes as you like but that does include free entry to the Marquee.

And an urgent message from your Editor -

Once again I'll be running a pickles and preserves stall at the Show and once again I'm asking for any donations of pickles, chutneys, jam, marmalade etc – the more the merrier - and what's more we always sell out. Jams, jellies, marmalade and preserves such as lemon curd are particularly sought-after.

Please bring all contributions to the stall adjacent to the Show tent on the morning of the Show or deliver to 33 Gloucester Road, or call me on 0208 940 9062 and I'll pick up from you.

And a message from Emmeline with regard to the Tea tent...

There is a regular band of merry folk who help out both baking and helping with the tea tent on the day, some giving an hour of their time – others more – but always keen to hear from new recruits! If you are a bit of a Mary Berry or a Paul Hollywood and would like to bake or have a great smile and would like to serve, then please contact me at secretary@kewhorticulturalsociety.org to help with the rota or to cook up something delicious.

The Auction. Please make a note to this year attend the auction of produce immediately after the Show. The revenue it generates is vital to the well-being of the Show, the KHS bank-account and the local charities we want to support.

Events Review

June 2015. KHS trip to Harrogate and North Yorkshire Gardens

Gareth James reports-

After trips to Cornwall (2013) and Normandy (2014) a 4 day trip to Yorkshire was organised by KHS with the tour company Brightwater. The tour was based in Harrogate where the group stayed in the Cedar Court Hotel.

During the four day trip the group visited many gardens beginning with the RHS northern flagship Harlow Carr.

On day two a one acre garden York Gate near Leeds and the Dove Cottage Nursery and Garden were on the itinerary.

The walled garden at Scampston, designed by the internationally acclaimed Piet Oudolf was the first stop on day three followed by the award winning gardens of Burton Agnes Hall.

Newby Hall was the first stop the next day - 25 acres of award winning gardens including the National Collection of Cornus, with a woodland discovery walk, contemporary sculpture park and plant centre.

Kipling Hall was the afternoon destination and on the final day there was time to visit the Holyland Plant Centre near Sheffield.

Once again the reliable Kitch was the tour driver and Cornishman Michael the guide.

I am reliably informed that after this tour most cafés in Yorkshire have had to restock their cakes!

and Ann Sandall adds -

I was on the tube deep in a new thriller when a woman slid into the seat next to me, greeted me warmly and proceeded to praise our recent garden visiting trip to the skies. She is a member from Chiswick, a connoisseur of garden visiting trips, and both she and her companion in Yorkshire thought this had been one of the best trips ever. So thank you Gareth James and Philippa Hurman for putting this trip for KHS together with Brightwater with local expertise from Catherine Durucan and help from Jenny Long. This is the third Brightwater trip Gareth has had tailor made for the KHS and long may such trips continue.

The choice of gardens was perfect-who can forget the roses at Jackson's Wold (or the cakes), the billowing poppies, billowing everything in the walled garden at Burton Agnes, our vivacious discussions about the highs and lows of Scampston? The hotel on the green "stray" in Harrogate was within easy walking distance of the centre and was more than adequate. We were collected and deposited outside the Coach and Horses in Kew, a most convenient way to travel. I can't wait till next year!

June 26th. Visit to Anglesey Abbey, nr Cambridge

Organiser Michael Kidd reports-

We were lucky to have a beautiful sunny day for this outing. KHS members had a Guided Tour of the Gardens and a visit to the House. Both were fascinating and there was a great deal to see. Over four decades, the gardens were transformed by the last owner, the first Lord Fairhaven, to

become one of the great 20th Century gardens . We were shown around by an excellent guide, who also took us to the restored water-mill.

The house was as it was when Lord Fairhaven died in 1966, and it passed to the National Trust. His superb collections of paintings, sculpture, books, clocks and furniture are on display. Everyone who came was most enthusiastic about Anglesey, certainly one of our best visits and the general opinion was that a return trip in the future would be well worthwhile.

Forthcoming Events

***** JULY 30th. Harold Petos Garden and Courts Garden**

This day trip to the Cotswolds will visit two gardens. If you are reading this before July 30th and would like to join the group there is still room on the coach. The trip leaves the Coach and Horses pub on Kew Green at 8.30 on July 30th. The cost to KHS members is £30 per person which covers the cost of the coach, entrance to the garden and a welcome cup of coffee. The second garden, Courts, which is nearby, has a cafe for lunch and is a N.T property so free to members but about £10 for non-members.

If you would like to join us please make out cheques to KHS and post or drop off to
Gareth James
14 Bushwood Rd
Richmond
Surrey
TW93BQ

N.B. KHS trips are open to members and non - members but non- members are charged an additional £5. Cost of joining KHS is £5!

Most day trips cost between £20- £30 depending on the garden visited. The longer trips are usually 4 nights and cost about £500 per person (rough guide price)

Autumn Lectures

On **October 29th**, 7.30pm, in St Winefride's Church Hall, Geraldine King will talk to us about the park and gardens at Chiswick House and the challenges such open spaces are facing.

On **November 26th**, same time and place, Fiona Crumley, originally the first Head Gardener at Chiswick, will talk to us about the work of the charity, Plant Heritage, and its National Collections.

www.kewtw9.org

This new website is being built and it is hoped that it will go live this summer. The idea is that you can find out everything you need to know about Kew whether you are new to the area or an existing resident. You will find listed the many local organisations in Kew like the KHS and a calendar of local events. Later, Kew businesses and a residents' discussion forum might be added.

The idea has come from a group of Kew residents and businesses active in the community who thought it would be a good idea to centralise skill sets, resources, volunteers and talent from the multifarious Kew voluntary organisations who are all speaking to the same Kew audience.

KHS will have a page on the new website. In the meantime do not forget to look at our existing website www.kewhorticulturalsociety.org

Good gardening, happy holidays at home or away – we look forward to seeing you at the Show on 5th September.

David Collison, Editor
davidcollison@tiscali.co.uk
www.kewhorticulturalsociety.org

SUBSCRIPTIONS FORM

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 5th 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 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: _____