



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

THE CHS SHOP

The Crawley Horticultural Shop in Ifield Avenue, West Green, Crawley (tel. 01293 535585) is open in 2012 from;

- SUNDAY - From 8th January until 9th December 9.00 am until 12.00 noon
- SATURDAY - From 3rd March until 29th September 9.00 am until 12.00 noon
- WEDNESDAY - From 4th April until 27th June 6.30 pm until 8.00 pm

NEW MEMBERS

The CHS policy for recruiting new members is by word of mouth by you the members. Why not pass the word about the benefits of membership to like-minded friends and relations. A perfect present for a birthday or special occasion would be CHS gift voucher/token to be spent in the shop, or a membership enrolment for one or four years.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

The next Newsletter will be on the Society's website by early February with printed copies made available for Group Meetings and in the Shop. Contact Helen Bergin, email editorial@crawleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk

Enquiries about the Society should be addressed to the Society Secretary, email secretary@crawleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members are reminded that annual subscriptions, and four year subscriptions which expired on 31st December 2011, should be renewed as soon as possible. Renewals can be made in the Shop or direct to the Membership Secretary, Ray Bell, 26 Bancroft Road, Maidenbower, Crawley, RH10 7WS, email membership@crawleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk. Renewals can also be made online on the CHS website.

Crawley Horticultural Society



Newsletter - Summer 2012





LETS CELEBRATE 60 YEARS!!

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Hello Everybody

I am looking forward to seeing you all on 18 August at the Horticultural Hall when we celebrate our Diamond Jubilee, the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Society. A very important event for a club run by volunteers for its members. Let us hope the weather will be smiling for our big day.

From one gardener to many, I am sure we have all been waiting for better weather to give us a chance to enjoy what we planted and sowed in the Spring. We need more sun to improve all our plants but especially the vegetables.

Don't forget the two Autumn shows in September, the first on Saturday 8th and the second on Saturday 15th. Week one is Chrysanthemums, Dahlias, Flowers, Houseplants, Fuchsias, Alpines and Cacti classes. Week two we have the Vegetable, Fruit, Domestic, Photography, Wine, and Floral Art arrangements. The Floral art subjects are topical for 2012, - our 60th Anniversary and Sport - (Olympic Games perhaps?).

Once again I am pleased to have the opportunity to say thank you to all the helpers who make the shop and shows so successful and also my thanks to my fellow committee members for your support.

FRED SMITH

BULB SALE 2012

The annual bulb sale will be held in the hall over the weekend of 1st and 2nd September between the hours of 9.0am and 12 noon

PEAT: Sterile humus and long-lasting soil improver for all purposes, particularly in planting-out roses, shrubs, trees, and bulbs, etc.

POTASH: Essential plant food, particularly potatoes, tomatoes, tree and bush fruits Assists ripening and improves size and colour of flowers and crops; 2 oz per square yard in growing season.

ROSE FERTILISER. Balanced feed to sustain long flowering season; 4 oz per square yard in April.

SUPERPHOSPHATE: Promotes growth and strength; 1 - 3 ozs square yard in Spring.

COMMUNICATING WITH MEMBERS

Are you satisfied with the way the Society communicates with you.

At present we issue two Newsletters a year; one in January which is accompanied by the annual price guide and also acts as notification of the Annual General Meeting, and the other usually in Spring. This year, the January edition was sent to all Members. The Spring edition has been postponed until now but will be available on the CHS website, for collection at the Shop and Group meetings, as well as at Society events.

In addition to the Newsletters we have the website at www.crawleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk, and with this we try to keep you updated regularly with all the news and events throughout the year. All Newsletters from 2007 are available to read or download on the website.

In addition, you will have seen that we have opened a Facebook page and a Twitter account to add to the ways that you can keep in touch with the Society. For instance, if you have a query about a garden problem, you dont have to visit the shop, especially if the weather is bad(!), you can post on Facebook or Twitter and we will be able to contact you directly.

So, returning to the opening question, are you satisfied with the way that we communicate with you? If not, then please let us know, and we will try to meet your need.

Write to us, speak to us in the Shop, online or at Group meetings, or email us at editorial@crawleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk.

Contents

Celebrating 60 years

Email Addresses

Bulb Sale Dates

Secretary's Report

Facebook & Twitter

Trading Report

Show Reports & Dates

AGM Report

Group Secretaries

Calendar 2012

Group Programmes

Guide to Giving Talks

Fertilisers

Communicating with Members

Essential Information

FERTILISERS, Etc

AMMONIA: Nitrogenous food for leaf growth but unsuitable for acid soils. Do not mix with lime, organic manures or fertilisers Apply **1/2** oz per square yard in Spring and Summer.

BONE MEAL: Slow acting phosphatic for all plants, use any time but best in Autumn - Winter. 4-6 ozs per square yard.

DRIED BLOOD: Organic quick-acting stimulant for special purposes. **2** ozs per square yard in Spring and early Summer.

GAROTTA COMPOST MAKER: converts vegetables waste, leaves and lawn mowings into useful humus

GH5 Mixed blood fish and bone in a convenient pellet form for all purposes, up **4 oz** per square yard any time of year.

GROWMORE: Mixed organic fertiliser for gardens, lawns, trees and shrubs (rhododendrons or azaleas), **2** ozs per square yard in Spring.

HOOF and HORN: Phosphatic, 4 to 6 ozs per square yard any lime, preferably Autumn or early Winter, rather costly for general use.

JEYES FLUID: Soil fumigant. use as directed to discourage pests and virus diseases.

JOHN INNES COMPOSTS Sterilised enriched soil for all purposes available in grades: seed for sowing. No.1 for seedlings and soft cuttings. No 2 for small plants. No **3** for large plants like tomatoes. chrysanthemums, etc.

JOHN INNES BASE FERTILISER: A first class general fertiliser for all plants **2** oz per square yard before planting.

LIME Helps release of certain soil constituents,; it is not a fertiliser and. If used in excess, will waste plants food and exhaust the soil. Lime must not be applied at the same time as any other form of nitrogen or animal manures, it is best used in late Autumn 3-6 ozs per square yard in alternate years. There are simple means of testing

MAXICROP: Liquid plant food and foliar feed, mix one teaspoon to one tablespoon per gallon of water according m the size of plant.

NITROCHALK: Improves growth and quality of brassica, **1** oz per square yard.

2012 SHOW DATES

The dates for the Society's Shows are as follows:

4 August	Fuchsia Show
8 September	Autumn part 1
15 September	Autumn part 2
21 October	Orchid Autumn Show

All the shows are held in the hall and are open to members and general public from 1:30 pm, except the Cactus Show which is open from 10:00 am

EMAIL ADDRESSES

When you first join or when you renew your membership, we ask for your email address. As over 300 members have provided one, we have decided in future to keep you updated by email with news of events and activities taking place. Part of this new service is to help us to cut our costs on postage. For instance, we shall advise you when the Newsletter is available on the website, thereby saving 50p per copy sent by post.

To avoid errors and disappointment, we are checking we have correct addresses, so do not be alarmed if you are asked for verification.

If you want to receive Society updates by email and are not already in our records, please email a request to crawleyhorticulturalsociety@live.co.uk

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Well hello there again, already halfway through the year and patiently waiting for at least a week of continuous sunshine, but I suppose as Gardeners we do our best no matter what the weather. I am sure by now we all have a selection of drought resistant plants, bog plants and much in between so at least we have something for all our efforts.

On the allotment front, things have been very slow, with some plants hardly moving at all, certainly the beans and cabbages on my plot have stood still, but one question I would like to ask is "How come the weeds grow just as fast no matter what the weather throws at them"

My "Moving On" project which I started last year, unfortunately has been a little slow to take off, due to my having to work abroad a fair amount, especially this year, but work must take priority these days as we are all under constant pressure to save costs etc.

As most of you know Crawley Borough Council organise the Crawley festival which runs for about a month. Twice, in 2011 and in 2012 we have been invited to have a stand in Queens Square along with other clubs and societies, where we could showcase our society. Unfortunately, on both occasions it has had to be cancelled due to bad weather, which was very sad especially this year when it is our 60th Anniversary.

Members should be very proud to have run a society on a voluntary basis for all this time and all those people who have given up their time to help others with their joy of gardening. There are certainly not many clubs that have stood the test of time and are still going strong. We as a society are always looking at ways to provide you with a good service and keep you informed about what is going on. However, due to the high cost of postage we are increasingly working to provide information to our members by email.

Perhaps this is a dreaded word to a few, but it is the way forward and we presently have a third of our members that we know have email addresses and to whom we are sending information, but I am sure there are other members who have email addresses of which we are unaware. If this is the case and you don't mind supplying it to us, it would be most helpful.

A GUIDE FOR GIVING TALKS

With the recession, clubs and organisations of all types are struggling. When quest speakers can be found, the cost is frequently beyond them. Most have to resort to members for entertainment. I've visited a variety of clubs where the speaker was either not heard by everyone or had poor presentation. If you are called to speak to an audience here are a few guidelines.

- 1) There will always be people in the audience who have hearing problems. At all times speak loud and clear.
- 2) If you have a soft voice use a microphone.
- 3) Don't drop your voice to speak from the stomach.
- 4) Don't mumble asides.
- 5) If you are reading text, speak slowly. You know the story but it takes time for a stranger to absorb the words by ear.
- 6) Don't concentrate on looking at just one person. Encompass everyone in turn.
- 7) Don't speak to the screen or with your back to the audience.
- 8) If you have equipment, check everything in advance.
- 9) Check the venue beforehand if possible. I once arrived to give a film show only to find the hall had no plug sockets!
- 10) Plan your talk and have a crib sheet with odd phrases or words as a reminder.
KEEP SMILING!
BERYL ARMSTRONG

OFFER TO GROUP SPEAKERS

I have a compact, lightweight PA system anyone can borrow for free, including microphone, amplifier and speaker.

I also have large film screens and slide projector.

FLORAL GROUP PROGRAMME

Group meets at the CHS Hall on the second Thursday each month (except November and December). Doors open 7:30 pm for 8:00 pm.

August 9th	Members names will be taken for this workshop Gillian Sadler SHOW STOPPERS, Summer flowers come into their own – a galaxy of colours
September 13th	Julie Brownlee ISN'T IT LOVELY, We are all sure it will be lovely as Julie always makes it a fun event
October 11th	A.G.M. (T.B.A), Doors open 7 pm for 7.30 pm start
November 8th	Open Meeting, Nick Grounds CHRISTMAS CAROLS FLORAL DEMONSTRATION to be held at The BAPTIST CHURCH, Crabtree Road, West Green, Crawley
December 13th	NO MEETING

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Please use the following to contact any member of the Management Committee or for any other enquiry. General enquiries should be addressed to the Secretary.

Chairman Fred Smith	chairman@crawleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk
Treasurer Peter Armstrong	treasurer@crawleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk
Secretary Trevor Figg	secretary@crawleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk
Membership Ray Bell	membeship@crawleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk
Shows Christine Martin	shows@crawleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk
Editorial Helen Bergin	editorial@crawleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk
Trading John Green	trading@crawleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk
Groups	groups@crawleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk
Hall Bookings Sheila Jones	hallbookings@crawleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk
Website John Crippen	webmaster@crawleyhorticulturalsociety.org.uk

We are very lucky to have a co – opted member Katy Green who is presently going through all the email addresses, and setting up a database,. Unfortunately we have a number of incorrect email addresses which we need to resolve.

We are still very fortunate to have a very good website, and this is monitored frequently to see how many people are accessing it. Please check this website out for the latest news and information, and as always if there is anything you would like added to it please let us know.

One last thing, the society belongs to you the member please let us know how we can serve you better. Sorry can't do anything about the weather.

TREVOR FIGG

FACEBOOK AND TWITTER



Follow us on Twitter! Find us on Facebook We see the symbols everywhere.— Well now you can Find and Follow the Society as well.

Let us know what is happening in your garden and on the allotment please. Keep us up to date about problems such as blight or pigeons or the plight of our bees, and get answers to troubles you may have. We want our members to be able to make their views and feelings known so that we can meet your needs and wishes.

Also, in addition to individual communication, we shall be using the pages to tell you events that are happening on a more immediate and personal timescale.

The more you Like us on Facebook and Tweet and Retweet on Twitter, the better service we can give everybody.

Thank you.
HELEN BERGIN

TRADING SECRETARY REPORT

Well, that's the first half of the year gone! (Must be old age).

Shop sales have not been quite as good as last year; the weather has not helped but there may also be other reasons.

We have had a slight problem with Sinclair compost but rest assured the growth potential has not been affected. The suppliers hope to have this rectified for next season. Most other composts are still available.

We always have a good range of pesticides in stock including some for use by organic gardeners.

Autumn bulbs have been ordered as usual for sale on 1st and 2nd September, and we have managed to order a good selection at reasonable prices.

My thanks to all the helpers in the shop and compound, without whom we could not manage.

JOHN GREEN

SHOW REPORTS 2012

SPRING

This show was almost the opposite of last year's in that we had some unseasonably warm weather in March, which meant that this year a lot of the daffodils had finished early. This was also the effect for many of the other Spring plants and sadly one of the victims was the Camellias as we didn't have nearly as many entries in this class as last year.

The Alpine classes and Cacti classes seemed to be well supported but the Domestic classes were less than usual. I hope this is a temporary glitch and that entries will be back to normal next year.

SUMMER SHOW

This was our first show since we split from Pelargonium Group. On the whole I think it was well supported but again entries were down due to the peculiar weather. The roses were well down on previous years, although I know that two of our regular exhibitors have had to give up due to failing health. The same applies to the sweet peas but I hope that in both cases things will improve next year.

All the other classes were well supported especially the Fruit and Vegetable Section with the number of exhibitors increasing. Let's hope that this trend continues. Finally let me say a big thank you to everyone who participated, whether by showing, visiting or helping at the shows.

CHRISTINE MARTIN

COTTAGE GARDEN GROUP

The Group meets on the first Wednesday of each month except October.

THE FUCHSIA & PELAGONIUM GROUP

The Fuchsia and Pelagonium Group meet on the third Wednesday of each month except August and December. See Calendar for dates.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GROUP

This is an update on the programme for the second half of 2012.

We meet on the second Monday of each month, but although we are still finding it very difficult to find speakers at reasonable rates we discuss how we are managing on the allotment and in the garden and share ideas.

The weather has made it a very difficult year for the insects and especially the bees which are essential for the success of our labours. Birds have also made life difficult, especially the pigeons. They seem to be becoming more of a problem, stripping leaves off my runner beans for instance, and now I have to net them. That's a first. Sparrows have had the beet and there is something having a go at the carrots as well!!.

We are all hoping to have a good choice of vegetables to exhibit at the Autumn show - so we hope to SEE YOU THERE!.

JOHN GREEN

THE ORCHID GROUP

The Group meets on the 3rd Sunday of the Month at 14.30, unless otherwise stated.

August 19	Visit to Ratcliffe Orchids (no meeting at Hall)
September 16	To be advised
October 21	Autumn Show at 13.30
November 18	To be advised
December 16	Xmas get-together

GROUP PROGRAMMES FOR 2012

Except where otherwise stated, the Groups meet throughout the year in the Hall on weekday evenings at 8 pm.

THE ALPINE GROUP

The Group meets on the third Monday of each month at 8 pm. See Calendar for details.

THE BONSAI GROUP

Meetings are held every third Thursday of each month in the hall at 8pm.

August 16	Re-style Demonstration.
September 20	A.G.M., plus chat and refreshments.
October 18	Workshop.
November 15	Bonsai Group's Supper in the CHS Hall.
December	No Meeting.

Note : The subject of some meetings may change.

THE BRIDGE GROUP

We meet every Monday at 1.30 pm for beginners and every Friday at 7.15 pm for regular players. For further information contact the Chairman, John Lake, telephone. 01293 527325.

THE CACTUS AND SUCCULENT GROUP

The Cactus Group meets on the first Monday of the month; please note that the start time is—doors open at 7 pm and the meeting starts at 7.30pm

August 6	No meeting
September 3	Dave Clark, Crassulaceae, Part 1, Strombocactus Group, Adromischus, Plant in Flower
October 1	Graham Evans, Marvellous Mammillarias Mammillaria Group Lithops, Plant in flower
November 5	David Neville Travels in Southern Mexico Espostoa Group, Stapeliad, Plant in flower
December 3	AGM, Social and sales table.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Crawley Horticultural Society held its 59th AGM on Thursday 23rd February 2012

Twenty two people attended the meeting. All officers stood again except for Peter Nash [Membership Secretary]there being no other nominations for the posts.

We again have the pleasure of Mr Bill Gunning, standing as President and Mr Ron Spraget as Vice President. Two committee members stood down this year, Gerry Wareing and our Webmaster. John Crippen. John has kindly stayed as a co-opted member for the time being. Ray Bell has taken over as Membership Secretary.

In the Presidents address at the end of the meeting it gave the committee great pleasure to honour Mr Peter Nash with a Life Membership. Peter has been Membership Secretary for 17 yrs and has contributed greatly to the society over this time.

The date of the 2013 AGM is expected to be on Thursday 28th February. Items to be raised as Any Other Business must be in writing and received by the Secretary by noon on 1st January 2013.

Your Committee for 2012 – 2013

President

Mr Bill Gunning

Vice President

Mr Ron Spragett

Officers

Mr Fred Smith Chairman & Trustee

Mr Henry Miller Vice Chairman & Trustee

Mr Trevor Figg Secretary & Trustee

Mr Peter Armstrong Treasurer & Trustee

Mr John Green Trading Secretary

Mr Ray Bell Membership Secretary

Mrs Christine Martin Show Secretary

Committee Members

Mrs Helen Bergin - Editorial

Mr Graham Jones

Mrs Sheila Jones

Mr Barry Morton

Mrs Pauline Chiappori

Mrs Kim Ashton

Mr Shaun Dalton

GROUP SECRETARIES

Here is a list of contacts for each of the affiliated Groups. They will be happy to respond to your interest and answer any queries.

Alpine Group

John Green
Telephone 01293 421441

Bridge Group

Miss Beryl Makinson
01293 402868

Bonsai Group

Barbara Elliott
Tel: 01293 542312
bfpelliott@yahoo.co.uk

Cactus Group

Mrs Julie Carey
01293 783866

Cottage Garden Group

Henry Miller
Telephone 01293 889390

Floral Group

Mrs Ruth Sayers
01293 4443574
email ed_andruth@hotmail.com

Orchid Group

Sally Mill
01293 547896
sally.mill@genzyme.com

Fuchsia and Pelargonium

Ivan Budgen
Telephone 01737 244533

Fruit and Veg Group

John Green
As above

CHS CALENDAR 2012

August	Wednesday 1	Cottage Garden Group	8.00pm	
	Saturday 4	Fuchsia Show	1.30pm	
	Monday 13	Fruit & Veg Group	8.00pm	
	Thursday 16	Bonsai Group	8.00pm	
	Sunday 19	Orchid Group, no meeting in hall	2.30pm	
September	Monday 20	Alpine Group	8.00pm	
	Sat/Sunday 1 & 2 Bulb Sale in Shop hours			
	Monday 3	Cactus Group	7.30pm	
	Wednesday 5	Cottage Garden Group	8.00pm	
	Saturday 8	1st CHS Autumn Show	1.30pm	
	Monday 10	Fruit & Veg Group	8.00pm	
	Saturday 15	CHS 2nd Autumn Show	1.30pm	
	Sunday 16	Orchid Group	2.30pm	
	Monday 17	Alpine Group	8.00pm	
	Wednesday 19	Fuchsia Group	8.00pm	
October	Thursday 20	Bonsai Group AGM	8.00pm	
	Saturday 29	Saturday shop last day		
	Monday 1	Cactus Group	7.30pm	
	Monday 8	Fruit & Veg Group	8.00pm	
	Monday 15	Alpine Group	8.00pm	
	Wednesday 17	Fuchsia Group	8.00pm	
	Thursday 18	Bonsai Group	8.00pm	
	Sunday 21	Orchid Group , Autumn Show	1.30pm	
	November	Monday 5	Cactus Group	7.30pm
		Wednesday 7	Cottage Garden Group	8.00pm
Monday 12		Fruit & Veg Group	8.00pm	
Thursday 15		Bonsai Group	8.00pm	
Sunday 18		Orchid Group	2.30pm	
December	Monday 19	Alpine Group	8.00pm	
	Wednesday 21	Fuchsia Group	8.00pm	
	Monday 3	Cactus Group AGM	7.30pm	
	Wednesday 5	Cottage Garden Group	9.00pm	
	Sunday 9	Shop last day trading 2012	9.00am	
	Sunday 16	Orchid Christmas get-together	2.30pm	

Some of the Groups do not meet in December. Check with the Group Secretaries