

Aston Clinton, Buckland & Drayton Beauchamp Horticultural Society

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President Mrs Lorna Price



July 2014

Chairman Mrs Sue Lipscomb

57th Summer Show and Fete

Saturday 16th August 2014 at 2.00 pm

Our summer Show and Fete is very much a traditional village event. The show is held in the Old School Hall, plus some classrooms. The Fete has stalls and fete games and many local organisations also have stalls. This is in addition to The Great Horwood Silver Band who regularly play for us at our show. Teas and refreshments are available. For those not away on holiday it makes a pleasant break in the summer holidays. Admission is £1 with children free.

We want you to join in and there are plenty of classes – 143 in total – so there is something for everyone to have a go. All the classes are open, that is anybody may enter, except for 2 classes that are restricted to those who live in our three villages. The title for the main floral art class this year is “**My Garden**”; for the photograph the subject is “**My Village**”, and the children’s photograph is “**My Favourite Place**”.

Please encourage your family, friends and neighbours, children and grandchildren to have a go. Entry is free but there is no prize money, just the joy of winning a certificate and perhaps a cup or shield. We do of course give prize money and a rosette to the children. The Show Schedule is available from Ralph Weston and Maureen Ridler. It is also on the society website together with the entry form.

Wednesday 13th August is entry night for the Summer Show, so do come to the Anthony Hall between 6.00 and 7.45pm.

If you cannot make the entry night, please send or deliver your entry to Sue Lipscomb at The Surprise, Buckland Wharf, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP22 5LQ before or on Wednesday 13th August.

The show, and particularly the Fete, takes a lot of manpower to make it run smoothly. We need lots of helpers to set up, act as stewards, man stalls and to clear up afterwards. The Fete helps the society raise funds to defray the cost of putting on the show; the major cost being the hiring of the school premises. Therefore, our society stalls, such as the Raffle and Tombola, are very important to us and donations of prizes for these stalls would be much appreciated. We are looking for cakes and preserves for the cake stall. If you can help in anyway please contact Maureen Ridler on 633 376 or Ralph Weston on 630 456 and thank you.

We also run stalls for books, plants and produce (such as fruit and flowers and divided plants) and bric-a-brac, so please let us recycle your books. Donations of plants, flowers and produce from your gardens and bric-a-brac will be gratefully received. Finally, if you won a cup last year, please will you return it to Sue Lipscomb on or before Wednesday 13th August.

Glasshouse Whitefly

Recently a member reported a severe attack of **whitefly** on her tomatoes in the greenhouse. One should be wary of spraying insecticides on tomato fruit that you are going to eat. The following advice comes from a RHS website.

Glasshouse whitefly is a sap-sucking insect pest that reduces the vigour of plants and excretes a sticky, sugary substance, called honeydew, on the leaves, stems and fruits of its host plants.

It attacks many vegetables and ornamental plants grown in greenhouses as well as houseplants. These include: cucumber, melon, tomato, peppers, *Chrysanthemum*, *Gerbera*, *Pelargonium*, *Fuchsia*, *Lantana*, poinsettia and *Verbena*. Outdoor plants can also be attacked but not to such a damaging degree. Note that whiteflies seen on brassicas, *Viburnum tinus*, honeysuckle, evergreen azalea and rhododendron are other species of whitefly specific to those plants.

It thrives in warm conditions, which is why it is not usually a problem on outdoor plants. Glasshouse whitefly is active all year round on houseplants and in greenhouses.

Control

Due to this pest's rapid reproductive rate and the widespread occurrence of pesticide-resistant strains, biological control often gives better results than insecticides on greenhouse plants.

Biological control

This involves introducing tiny parasitic wasps, *Encarsia formosa*, which attack the whitefly nymphs. The parasite is available by mail order from the suppliers of biological controls. It is important to introduce the parasite before plants are heavily infested as it cannot give instant control. Parasitised nymphs turn black so it is easy to monitor the progress of the control. As *Encarsia* is killed by most insecticides, avoid spraying with products other than fatty acids, urea/mineral lattice, plant extracts or plant oils prior to its introduction.

Society Diary

All talks are held in the Anthony Hall, Aston Clinton and start at 8 pm. They are all free to members, but there will be a raffle and produce & plant stall to defray costs. Non-members are charged at £2. Coffee and tea are served in the interval.

Wed 23rd July, **Garden Visit, Sue Lipscomb's garden; The Surprise, London Road, Buckland Wharf, 7pm** Entry £2: glass of wine, raffle

Wednesday 13th August
Entry night for the Annual Summer Show
Anthony Hall from to 6.00-7.45 pm

Saturday 16th August
57th Annual Show and Fete
Aston Clinton School 2 pm: Entry £1

Wednesday 10th September
Talk with slides '**Fungi**' by John Cornwall

Wednesday 8th October
Talk with slides: '**Rothchilds, Aston Clinton House Gardens**' by Rosemary Storr: Daffodil and tulip bulb sale.

Our Horticultural Society website

Our website, under the auspices of Diane Kolonko, has grown considerably. The number of 'hits'; that is number of times people are using the website for information is growing steadily. Many of these come from members who have received email news from Diane and then go on to find out more.

Diane's electronic newsletters go out to approximately 75 recipients or just over half our membership. With electronic newsletters coming out several times a month, members are kept well up to date. This is all good news and we want to encourage members to sign up to Diane's 'E-news'. Having an active website necessitates a lot of hard work and considerable time and we are grateful for Diane's efforts.

We appreciate that not all of you have broadband or email and that is why the society continues to produce a paper newsletter about 4 times per year. However if you are connected but have not yet let us know your email address, then we can provide much more interesting and up-to-date information.