

Aston Clinton, Buckland & Drayton Beauchamp Horticultural Society

Volume 18 Issue 2

March 2015

President Mrs Lorna Price



Chairman Mrs Sue Lipscomb

Dear Members,

It was great to see so many of our members at the Annual Social Supper at the very end of February; and what a thoroughly enjoyable evening it was. The hall looked great thanks to the efforts of a group of members who set the tables with their 'designer' serviettes and beautiful flower arrangements, the latter assembled by Janet Leech and Frances Farley. As usual, the food was provided by John and Evelyn Seaton, ably assisted by Clare and it was delicious. Thanks to member's generosity, the raffle table was groaning under the weight of the prizes and we particularly thank our President, Lorna Price for her generous contribution of a potted Rhododendron. Finally thanks goes to Hilary Weston whose illustrated talk about the wildlife of Kenya was fascinating and surely there were others, apart from me, who decided that was a destination they would love to visit on a future holiday.

Now thanks must go to Diane Kolonko for her informative emails with their links to our own and other websites. This time it was the 'Mid Shires Orchard Group's 7th Annual Scionwood Exchange' that caught my attention! I had been worrying for some time about leaving my very old Lanes Prince Albert apple tree when I move. Once I had researched 'scionwood' and realised that I could cut some from my tree I was fired with enthusiasm and went to Little Horwood to meet up with the group. There they grafted one of my pieces onto an M27 rootstock and I chose to have one of their pieces of Queen Cox grafted onto another rootstock. All in all it was a successful and enjoyable afternoon.

Finally, how are your daffodils, tulips and Spring Flowers in general progressing towards the deadline of April 11th, our Spring Show? For those of us who grow some of our daffs in pots for the show, now is the time when we are considering which to bring on and which to hold back; hoping for perfection on the day of course! Do have a good look at the Spring Schedule that will accompany this newsletter. I really do hope that it will inspire many of our members to enter this year. It is not just a show full of daffodils so why not consider entering a photograph this year or a cookery exhibit, flower arrangement or one of the handicraft classes. And, are there any children who you could encourage to enter too? They are, after all, the gardeners of the future.

And finally, why not consider joining us on our coach trip to Hyde Hall, the RHS garden. Sadly we cannot guarantee the brilliant weather we had last year when we visited Barnsdale, but we could cross our fingers and hope!

With very best wishes,
Sue Lipscomb

Plant and Produce Stall at School's 'Village Market'

This year it will be held on Sunday 10th May from 11am at the Aston Clinton School. This is a village market organised by the school association. It is well supported by a range of stall holders and public from the village. It is a good opportunity for the Society to raise funds to support our Spring and Summer shows and also enable us to purchase items such as additional tables. Since this Village Market has been running our Society has always managed to sell a wide range of plants. By May many young plants grown from seed are saleable. We would be grateful if members would grow plants from seed this spring for us to sell. Examples are tomato plants; lettuces, cabbages, Brussel sprouts, Marrows and courgettes and bedding plants. Please bring as many plants as possible.

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.

Wednesday 11th March

Talk with slides: '**Making Space for Wildlife**' by John Tyler

Wednesday 8th April

Talk with slides '**May West—West Country Gardens**' by John Cornwall

Thursday 9th April

Entry night for the Spring Show

Anthony Hall time 6.00 -7.45 pm

Saturday 11th April

19th Annual Spring Show and Plant Sale

2 pm in the Aston Clinton School Hall. Entry £1

Please bring plants for us to sell

Wed 24th June **Evening Garden Visit to Montana, Cholesbury**

Thursday 9th July

'Coach trip to RHS Hyde Hall' tickets £15

Depart the bell at 0845am ***

*** contact Diane Kolonko on 01296 631122 for details

Spring Show 2015

Our Spring Show and Plant Sale is on Saturday 11th April at 2.00pm in the school hall. Entry night is the previous Thursday 9th April 6.00 - 7.45pm at the Anthony Hall. Those of you who have trophies, please return them to Ken Halls by entry night at the latest. Full details of the classes are in the schedule delivered with this newsletter but the show includes all the regular features and classes including a section for daffodils, children, floral art, spring flowers, handicrafts and domestic. There are plenty of challenges for everyone to have a go and enter something. There are also teas and a raffle to help defray costs. The Browns will be selling their plants and Phoenix Cards will be having a stall. Also Diane Kolonko and Dawn Watson will be having a stall entitled - *Gardenalia* - a mixture of new and vintage gardening related items for home and garden - sounds intriguing!

We need help to set up the show on the Friday afternoon from 4pm. Perhaps more importantly we need as many people as possible to clear away the tables etc. after the show closes at about 5pm. Contributions to the raffle would be much appreciated. Anyone who would like to learn to be a steward on the Saturday morning would also be most welcome; you will get one of John and Evelyn's superb lunches!! Please contact either myself or a member of the committee.

Remember that there is also the Societies' plant sale as well. We will be selling trailing geraniums, fuchsias, sweet peas, a range of perennials, primulas and other early pot and bedding plants.

Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Ken Halls Spring Show Secretary 01296 631636

Annual Subscriptions

Annual Subscriptions are now overdue. This is a reminder that our annual subscription is £5 per person. (£6 if your newsletter is delivered by Royal Mail). It is a big and sometimes embarrassing chore to ask members to pay up so if you have not yet subscribed, please do so now by sending your subscription to Ken Halls, 10 Thorne Way, Buckland, Aylesbury, HP22 5TL.