

# Aston Clinton, Buckland & Drayton Beauchamp Horticultural Society

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July 2015

President Mrs Lorna Price



Chairman Mrs Sue Lipscomb

Dear Members,

*This is the newsletter accompanying the schedule for the Summer Show and Fete. I do hope you enjoy browsing through it and that it entices you to come and to enter this year. Even if you have never entered before, you may have walked around the show and noticed a class where you feel you could 'have a go'. Well this is your chance; we would love to see new exhibitors and even more exhibits this year.*

*As always, we have made a few changes within the Show Schedule for this year. I thought it might be useful to run through a few of these so you can check them out in the schedule itself.....*

- The adult photography classes (C142 & C143) are entitled 'Clouds' so see what you can do between now and the Show. In the children's section the title is Animal(s) i.e. one animal or several. These can be wild animals or even your pet at home. Do encourage them to have a go.*
- If you are a total novice where flower arranging is concerned, why not try the novice class (C70) which is an arrangement in a jug.*
- We have decided to include a section where soft fruit can be entered so take a look at C24.*
- We are not including the Top Vase and Top Tray categories this year but instead have included our own Best Vase and Best Tray - see p12 for details.*
- A new class in the younger children's section involves them using a paper plate to illustrate their favourite meal!*

*Maureen Ridler (3, Blackmore Gate) would love to receive donations of tombola and raffle prizes and books and plants ready for the stall at the Summer Show.*

*Finally I must thank Diane Kolonko for masterminding the superb coach trip to Hyde Hall. For all those who supported this outing it made a 'great day out!' Thank you so much Diane for your efforts on our behalf.*

*I look forward to seeing you at the Show and Fete or at the forthcoming Society talks.*

*With very best wishes,  
Sue Lipscomb*

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

The annual plant and produce stall was again very successful. The weather was good and we sold out of nearly everything.

We raised £381 on plants and we were given £50 from a company called Airbnb to take a video of our stall

Thank to everyone who contributed or helped on the stall on the day.



## 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 12<sup>th</sup> August

**Entry night for the Annual Summer Show**

Anthony Hall from to 6.00-7.45 pm

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August

**58th Annual Show and Fete**

Aston Clinton School 2 pm: Entry £1

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September

Talk with slides '**Orchids & Owls—Not Concrete Cows**'  
by Chris Ward

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October

Sandy Primrose has had to cancel his Talk. An alternative speaker is being sourced.

Daffodil and tulip bulb sale.

Wednesday 28<sup>nd</sup> October

**Annual General Meeting** followed by a Quiz and social time

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November

Talk with slides: '**The Swiss garden—A Regency Gem (Old Warden)**' by Phillipa Pearson

## Visit to RHS Hyde Hall

On Thursday 9th July many of our members went on a coach trip to RHS Hyde Hall which was organised by Diane Kolonko. Some of us learnt quite a bit about the development of the garden from an excellent guide who explained that back in 1955 Dr and Mrs Robinson bought the farmland and soon discovered that they had chosen a very cold and windy hilltop site. For centuries it had been a working farm and it was Mrs Robinson who started to create a garden by clearing and planting the area around the house. She established herbaceous borders and vegetable areas and then planted 60 young trees bought at a local auction which established the framework for the next stages in the development of the garden.

When Mr & Mrs Robinson died they bequeathed their estate to the RHS. It was too large for the RHS to manage, so much of the surrounding farmland was sold to tenant farmers. The RHS still retains 320 acres and they have begun to develop a beautiful garden. They obviously consider the views from this stunning hilltop site are something to be valued and contrast with the other three RHS gardens. Particularly in the areas where vast beds of plants suited to dry conditions have been created, the views of the countryside beyond add to the experience of the visitor by creating amazing vistas. Because it is situated in a part of the UK which has very low rainfall it has given the RHS the opportunity to show how to develop, grow and maintain dry gardens.

Following the example of Mrs Robinson, many trees are being planted each year to create woodlands to encourage wildlife and for members to enjoy. There are also areas near to the original garden that display the more traditional planting such as roses, day lilies and many other beautiful perennials. There are three ponds, one at the top which is more traditional, a second in a swampy natural environment with Gunnera and a third lake down at the bottom which will be connected by a walkway to the main entrance. It is an exciting garden to visit and one that is very much 'work in progress' as the RHS have plans aplenty for its future development.

## Our Horticultural Show

We cannot match the quality of a Chelsea Flower Show but our Village Show is always has a high standard whether it is in Floral Art, flowers, particularly dahlias, or in the vegetable sections. We do not have 'show gardens' but we always have a children's section that display the skills of our younger members of the village. Our show is a **traditional village show and fete** similar to many others that have been put on all over the country for years and years. In its present form our show has been going for over 50 years, in fact this will be our 58th and will take place during the Summer holidays on the third Saturday in August. We do not have Gold medals but we have plenty of cups, medals and rosettes to compete for in every section, so please come along and see what the village can do or better still enter a class. There is something for everyone. Our website has the full schedule and printed copies are available from Maureen Ridler and Ralph Weston(630456).

The Show and Fete will take place in the Aston Clinton School and on the playground on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August at 2pm. Entry night is on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August in the Anthony Hall from 6.00 to 7.45pm. Most of the classes are similar to last year, however the schedule should be consulted for detailed changes. This year, the adult photographic subject is '**Clouds**' and the children's is '**Animal(s)**'. The main floral art subject is '**A Day at the Seaside**'. As explained by our Chairman, we have changed the name of our Top Vase and Top Tray has been changed and there are other minor changes this year.

Entry to the Show & fete is just £1 and free to children. There will be a range of traditional stalls and side shows such as Tombola, cake and produce stall, plant stall, books, raffle and teas to help defray our costs. A number of stalls have been invited, including St Michael's Church, Royal British Legion, WI and RNLI. Rosemary and Graham Brown will also be bringing their plants again. We will be entertained by the Great Horwood Silver Band, who will play throughout the afternoon.

As always we need additional support to set up the show on the Friday afternoon, to help man the stalls and to help clear up afterwards as we have to be clear of the school that evening. If you can help, even in a small way, please contact Maureen Ridler or Frances Farley.

Please will you make cakes, scones, jam tarts and biscuits for the Society cake stall.

Apart from the shows, the society provides monthly talks and occasional visits to gardens. Recent talks have included an interesting talk on Home Composting and a photographic journey through Cornwall with John Cornwall. In June we also had an evening Garden Visit to Montana, Shire Lane, Cholesbury, and in July we made a garden visit to RHS Hyde Hall in Essex. There are no talks in July and August and they start again Wed 9<sup>th</sup> September with a talk about wildlife around Milton Keynes titled **Orchids and Owls – not Concrete Cows**. Visitors are always welcome but there is a charge of £2. We meet at the Anthony Hall at 8pm.

Our website is constantly being updated and includes advice and guidance, gardens to visit as well as our latest programme of events.

We are always looking for new members, so do consider joining us. Membership costs £5 per year if you live locally so our volunteers can deliver your newsletter easily or indeed if you live outside our villages and are happy to receive it by email. The cost is £6 if we have to post your newsletter using the Royal Mail.



**An early Aerial view of Hyde Hall**

Showing the main pond and the “Swampy Pond” in its early days



**The main Pond as it is Today**

**Some of our members enjoying a well earned rest**



### **Annual Subscriptions**

Annual Subscriptions are now well 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.

### **Member's contacts within the Society**

<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Vice Chairman</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
Maureen Ridler	Sue Lipscomb	John Seaton	Ken Halls
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