

# Aston Clinton, Buckland & Drayton Beauchamp Horticultural Society

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President Mrs Lorna Price



Chairman Mrs Sue Lipscomb

Dear Members,

*This is the newsletter accompanying the schedule for the Summer Show. You will notice that we are back in our old venue, Aston Clinton School. Please do have a careful read through the schedule, to see what catches your eye as we would love even more entries this year. As the Show Secretary for this year I would love to see the hall and classrooms full to capacity, but that will be down to you all! Have you any neighbours, friends, grandchildren etc that you could entice to join us in the fun of entering the show?*

*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 photography class 142 within the handicrafts (Section 7) is entitled 'Capturing the Moment' and it is for those of us who often have not got our camera to hand but instead use a mobile phone to literally capture the moment. The subject of this picture is therefore up to you! (I see no reason why children should not enter this section too as it does not say it is just for adults!). Class 143 is entitled 'Water' and you will see the same title is given to the photograph in Section 6 for the older children.*
- For those of you who have never entered the Floral Art section of our show, do consider trying Class 70, by taking your favourite jug and arranging flowers and foliage in it. I must admit I am particularly looking forward to seeing the displays in Class 73 so select your hat for a 'Day at the Races'*
- Visitors always love to look at the children's sections in the show so please see what your powers of persuasion might do to encourage them!*

*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 Kew Gardens, she even selected the weather for us! Thank you so much Diane for your efforts on our behalf.*

*I look forward to seeing you at the Show and mini-Fete and please continue to support the Society's excellent monthly talks.*

*With very best wishes, Sue Lipscomb*

## Joan Double

It is with great sadness that we have to acknowledge the passing of Joan Double, a staunch supporter of our Society and indeed of many others. Joan was well known in the village of Buckland and far beyond for her jolly nature and enthusiasm for life. She simply loved people! She joined many organisations and was always a supportive and enthusiastic member. One such organisation was the local Gilbert and Sullivan Society where her acting and singing skills were in evidence and even towards the end of her life she was still determined to contribute. I shall particularly remember Joan as a regular customer at the St Michael's Christmas sale where she always purchased two pots of hyacinths which I planted up each year.

Her memorial service in Buckland Church was packed full of family and friends, so full in fact that many had to stand! Her son, daughter and three grandchildren helped the congregation to celebrate her remarkable life sharing many moving memories.

Ralph Weston

## 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 22nd August

**Entry night for the Annual Summer Show**  
Anthony Hall from to 6.00-7.45 pm

Saturday 25th August

**61st Annual Summer Show**

2pm in Aston Clinton School hall. Entry £1

**NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE AND DATE (4TH SATURDAY IN AUGUST)!!**

Wednesday 12th Sept

Colin Oaks — **Culpepper and Complete Herbal**

Wednesday 10th October **AGM** followed by

Peggy Verrall— **Botanical Painting with Audience participation**

Wednesday 14th November

Jackie Watson — **Christmas from the garden** — (Wreaths, Table Decorations etc)

12th December

Mr Syrot Smith — **Tudor Christmas Customs**. Includes Christmas Buffet plus Christmas Competition — **A table decoration using natural materials and including a candle.**

## Society Trip to Kew gardens

On the 5<sup>th</sup> July members of the Society met in the car park of the Bell for our coach to take us to Kew Gardens. After a smooth drive through the crowded streets we finally arrived at the main entrance where the driver dropped us as close as possible. I was surprised that there were many in our party that had never been to Kew before.

After a welcome drink at the entrance I headed for the newly refurbished 'Temperate house', walking across the grass in almost a direct line. One of the positives about Kew is that you can walk anywhere on the grass. Going this way I had good views of the Pagoda in the distance. The temperate House is full of Mediterranean temperate plants most of them young and accordingly relatively small, but it was easy to imagine it full with tall trees filling the space in 2 or 3 years' time. This house has a walkway up near the glass for visitors to look down on the planting. By contrast, the next large glasshouse, the Tropical House was full to the roof with tropical palms and other trees. It also has a walkway with a Victorian circular stair that made excellent photographic material. You will find a selection of my photos on page 4. Following a break to keep up my fluids! – yes it was that hot both inside and outside the tropical house – I made my way to the Princess of Wales glasshouse. More modern than the other glass houses, it is divided into a range of climate zones from dry cacti through to lush water environments. It is here that they grow the Giant waterlily that can support people on its leaf. Surprisingly, it is an annual and grown from seed by Kew staff each year. When we were there it had not yet grown to full size. It was here that we saw the iguana sitting so still that you wondered whether it was real or not.

I did not try to see it all in one go but I could, as many did, have taken the motorised train on (cont. on Page 4)

## IN THE GARDEN THIS SUMMER

Life is never straight forward for us gardeners. First, we had the cold, courtesy of “The Beast from The East” that delayed spring and now we have a real “heat Wave”, the temperature in Aston Clinton as I write is 28<sup>o</sup> C. and likely to get higher. The weird thing about this weather is that despite the cold in the early part of the year, the slugs and snails not only survived but we have been inundated by snails in Biblical proportions. On the other hand, many of my last year’s Dahlias that I left in the ground, are shooting and growing well when I expected they would have rotted away and consequently I need not have bought so many new ones. The effect of this long dry spell, the first since the summer of 1976, is to restrict growth and affect the size of crops. For instance, my early potatoes are woefully small as will be the onions (I shall not have any for show in the large category). I will not have any beetroot or suitable sized parsnips. I am picking peas but suspect that they will be over by the time the show comes around. I have harvested my shallots but again they are not as large as usual. I am picking sweet peas, but I feel they also may be over and gone to seed. I have flower on my runner beans and some beans ready to pick but it will be anyone’s guess whether I get enough, long enough to show. I cannot water everything so concentrate on the greenhouse. My French beans are doing much better, especially my climbing ones, so there is hope for this class. Elsewhere, I have been harvesting soft fruit including raspberries and blackcurrants but have not seen a blackberry yet. Many of my border flowers are dying including hardy ferns and other perennials and my contorted willow has not produced any leaves. Hay-ho, lets hope next year will be better.

### **The Society’s Summer Show.**

It is time to prepare for the Society’s Summer Show. This year it is a week later than usual on Saturday 25th August 2018, at Aston Clinton School in Twitchell Lane. It opens at 2.00pm. Trophies will be presented by long-time supporters of the Society, Mr & Mrs Peter Sharp at 4. 00pm.

The show exhibits the efforts of everyone in our villages to grow flowers, fruit and vegetables but is more than just this because there are classes to display your skills at flower arranging, growing plants in pots, and cacti. The main floral art subject for class 73 is an arrangement entitled “**A Day at the Races – A Decorated Hat**”.

There also domestic and handicraft classes and the ever-popular photographic competition. These classes are a little different this year. Class 142 is specially a mobile phone photograph “**Capturing the Moment**”, mounted but not framed, and not to exceed 8” x 6”. The standard class 143: Digital/Non-digital photograph is titled “**Water**”, again mounted but not framed and not to exceed 8” x 6”

In the flowers section we concentrate on dahlias as they are at their best at this time of the year. In every section there are opportunities for everybody to have a go because of the novice classes which are open to all.

Finally, we want to encourage the children in the village to join in. There a total of 21 classes for children divided between 2 sections, those under 8 and those aged 8 to 14 years. Please encourage your children or grandchildren to enter.

The full schedule accompanies this newsletter or can be downloaded from our website

[www.astonclintonhorticulturalsociety.co.uk](http://www.astonclintonhorticulturalsociety.co.uk) , and go to Summer show 2018. I may be short on material to enter but I’m sure others are better placed so make every effort to make it a show worthy of our society.

We also need volunteers to put up the show tables and prepare the show. Come to the school at 2pm. Donations to the raffle, tombola, books and plant stalls will all be gratefully received. Pleas contact Maureen Ridler on 633376.

*It is with great sadness that we report that Margery Stanbridge died on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July aged 104.*

a conducted tour around the whole garden. Neither did I manage to get to Kew Palace, the original house on the site.

After a lot of photographs and walking the coach picked us up again for a pleasant run home. Thank you, Diane for organising such an excellent visit.



Remember that your Horticultural Society aims to encourage the residents of Aston Clinton, Buckland and Drayton Beauchamp and friends in the surrounding community to look after and develop their gardens and allotments, however small, and to enhance and preserve our environment for future generations.

### Annual Subscription Renewal Form

Your annual Subscription for 2019 is due in October. If you are unable to attend the October meeting, please complete the form below. - £5 per member (£6 if your newsletter is delivered by Royal Mail). Please send your subscription to

Ken Halls, 10 Thorne Way, Buckland, Aylesbury, HP22 5TL

I enclose a total of £..... to cover the cost of my/our annual Subscription.

PLEASE MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO:- **ACB&DB Horticultural Society**

Name:..... Tel No:.....

Address: .....

Email:.....

### Member's contacts within the Society

Secretary	Chairman	Vice Chairman	Treasurer
Maureen Ridler	Sue Lipscomb	John Seaton	Ken Halls
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