

# Aston Clinton, Buckland & Drayton Beauchamp Horticultural Society

Volume 23 Issue 4  
President Mrs Lorna Price



October 2020  
Acting Chairman Diane Kolonko

## *Acting Chairman's Report*

*As you are all aware Sue Lipscomb decided that she wanted to stand down as Chairman after 21 years in the job!! I have agreed to take up the position as Acting Chairman until the Societies' officers can be formally elected at our next AGM. In this context a document is attached to this newsletter giving the nominations that we have so far received; obviously we are very happy to receive further nominations. In addition, some of our existing officers who are prepared to stand for another year, will be more than happy to be replaced (!) or mentor a replacement for 2022 - these positions are highlighted in the document. Our AGM is scheduled for January 2021, but given the current restrictions, we are anticipating that we will have to conduct a virtual AGM via Zoom. We are just looking at the practicalities of this and further details will follow in a further newsletter, probably in December.*

*We have a sub-committee who is actively looking at what events and social activities we can safely do as a Society over the coming months. This includes potentially holding our monthly meetings on-line (maybe via Zoom), looking at the possibility of additional garden visits, maybe regular plant sales and stepping up our Social media and on-line communications. We will report back to you all in due course.*

*And as always, it would be great to have more volunteers! If anyone is technically minded and able to either set-up on-line meetings or provide advice that would be really helpful at the moment. If anyone is up for organising garden visits we'd love to hear from you and if anyone is able to lead on Social Media that would be great! We will also need plants for plant sales, so if anyone is happy to pot-up and donate that would be appreciated. We're open to other suggestions or help you can offer.*

*A huge thank you to Sue Lipscomb, who's done a sterling job of chairing the Society and also John Seaton who is standing down as Deputy Chairman after 20 years, again he's been a stalwart of the Society for a long time. Hopefully John will still do the catering for us!*

*Stay safe everyone & hope to see you at some point soon*

Diane 🌻

## Online banking

Ken Halls our treasurer is investigating setting up online banking for the Society. Further information on this will be communicated when it has been activated. It is proving difficult to organise at the moment given the banks' reluctance 😞 to set up anything new during the COVID restrictions. This will mean members will be able to pay their subscriptions via BACS or a card reader if the Society can source an appropriate device.

## Subscriptions

Your committee has decided that 2021 will be a free year 😊 given all the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19. So, subscriptions will re-commence in January 2022. Members will obviously continue to get the full benefits of membership subject of course to the limitations of the current restrictions. ***This will only apply to members who have paid their subscription for 2020.*** It is not too late to pay your £5 membership. Why not pay via BACS using the following bank details. Cheques are still acceptable - please use the form in this newsletter.

Account name: **Aston Clinton Buckland & Drayton Beauchamp Horticultural Society**

Account number: **80118907**

Sort code: 20-03-18

Reference: ***please enter your Initials and surname so that we can identify the payee***

## ZOOM Meetings

With regard to the potential use of Zoom to hold virtual meetings, it is important that we know everyone's email address in order to communicate Zoom meeting details. So could members who do not currently receive our email communications, please email Ken on [kandjhalls@btinternet.com](mailto:kandjhalls@btinternet.com) so that our database can be updated. Also please let us know if you are happy to receive your newsletters via email. If you want to continue having your newsletters delivered, that is not a problem.

## Annual Seed Order

The Society does a one-off order every year for Seeds (Vegetable & Flower). We buy the seeds through DT Brown, and would usually expect to get around 50% discount on the bulk order. If you'd like to order some seeds, please get in touch with Maureen Ridler, 01296 633376, [maurid1@blackmoregate.co.uk](mailto:maurid1@blackmoregate.co.uk), and she'll explain how it all works (if you haven't ordered before). You will need to get your order to Maureen by 24 November latest. We would expect the order to be delivered by mid-December, all being well!

## New Elm Trees - Ulmus New Horizon.

As many of you already know from previous articles and from reading the latest Village life, the Horticultural Society has acquired five virus resistant Elm trees.

We have permission to plant them in the park. One tree will be planted by the other commemorative trees as a thank you to NHS for their work this year in combating the Coronavirus. Two more will be planted to the front of the new Pavilion and the last two will replace trees from our collection that have died.

I think it is quite fitting that these trees be planted in the park. Not only will they replace elm trees in this village that died of 'Dutch Elm disease', but as virus resistant trees they have been grown from stock that have been vaccinated. Whilst we are waiting for a vaccine for the Coronavirus, we can watch these trees grow. It has taken many years to develop a vaccine for elm trees and I remember whilst on a garden holiday in Holland in the 1970's reading about experiments to develop resistant trees. In the meantime, we must await a vaccine for the Coronavirus.

I have arranged to pick up the trees from the supplier in mid-November when they are fully dormant as they are 'bare-root' trees. Once back in Aston they will be heeled in the ground until they can be planted.

I am looking for volunteers to assist the planting of these 5 trees in November. This will include digging out a hole for each tree, preparing the soil, knocking in the supporting stakes as can be seen in the picture.

I am also looking for sponsors for the stakes themselves Each pair will cost approximately £10 per tree. Does anyone know the best place to get the stakes from? If you can help please contact Ralph on 01296 630456 or email [muchpottering@btinternet.com](mailto:muchpottering@btinternet.com)



### **In the garden**

What a year we are having; after the long hot summer we have now had a very wet October. It is the first time in many years that my back garden was under water. When we were first here the water table was so high that when we had a wet period strips of water would appear across the Rectory Garden and mine following the troughs of the original field system. At one time it was a sheep holding field for the Abattoir in Green End

Street. Anyway my rear garden is back to normal even though it took some time to stop squelching when you walked on it.

My harvest has been pretty good this year and I have a photo to show the range of produce. Since then, I have been harvesting apples and pears. Some of the apples are huge. I still have leeks, curly Kale and brussel sprouts growing. So the lockdown has done me some good.



### **Planting of bulbs in and around the Village.**

Some months ago Joanna Brown, who lives in the village proposed that the villagers planted daffodil bulbs as a thank you to the NHS for their efforts in supporting people suffering from the Coronavirus.

As a result, the Horticultural Society paid for 5 bags of Rainbow daffodils (as illustrated in the photo opposite). Joanna contacted many people and organisations in the village and, as a consequence, Graham Thirkettle ended up ordering some 10000 bulbs in sacks of 300 for the village to plant. Graham then went on to assist in their planting around the village and the Parish church. So, next April time the village, and especially the park, will be filled with the colour and beauty of Rainbow and other varieties of daffodil. Make sure you go out and see them. The picture on page 5 shows a guide leader using a long handled planter to make the hole for the Brownie to plant her bulbs.

I cannot thank or emphasise enough the contribution that Graham has made to this project because not only has he been involved in the ordering, delivery and distribution but has helped plant several thousand bulbs as well. Thank you, Graham.





### Joan Allen

It was with great sadness that we have heard of the passing of Joan Allen. She was a stalwart member and supporter of the Society for many years, attending the monthly meetings and the Spring and Summer shows. She was always heavily involved in setting up our shows, helping at entry nights, and stewarding on the day. Joan always entered a number of show classes, especially miniature daffodils and the handicrafts section, often gaining trophies for her efforts. She served on the Society committee for many years and contributed her knowledge and skill to its decisions. Joan was an inspiration to us all and will be sorely missed.

### Subscription Renewal Form for 2020

For those of you who have not paid their subscription for 2020 and do not want to renew via BACS, please complete this form and send 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:.....

<b>Office</b>	<b>Holder</b>	<b>Agreed to Stand</b>	<b>Nominated</b>	<b>Seconded</b>
<b>President</b>	Lorna Price		N/A	N/A
<b>Vice-Presidents</b>				
	Mr Sharp		N/A	N/A
	Professor Peile		N/A	N/A
<b>Chairman</b>	Diane Kolonko	Yes		
<b>Vice-Chairman</b>	Chris Dunbar	Yes		
<b>Secretary</b>	Maureen Ridler	Yes		
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ken Halls **	Yes		
<b>Summer Show Secretary</b>	Chris Dunbar	Yes		
<b>Spring Show Secretary</b>	Graham Thirkettle **	Yes		
<b>Programme Secretary</b>	Mary Flower	Yes		
<b>Newsletter</b>	Ralph Weston	Yes		
<b>Committee</b>	John Seaton	Yes		
	Janet Leech	Yes		
	Sue Lipscomb	Yes		
	Ros Needham	Yes		

\*\* Denotes officers prepared to be elected for 2021 but are very happy to stand down if other nominations are received.

