

# Aston Clinton, Buckland & Drayton Beauchamp Horticultural Society

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President Mrs Lorna Price



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Chairman Mrs Sue Lipscomb

Dear Members,

Once again, this is the time of the year when the Summer Show Schedule accompanies the newsletter. This year our Summer Show, unbelievably our 60<sup>th</sup>, is on the same day as the Parish Council's new venture 'ASTONBURY.' As the 19<sup>th</sup> August approaches I'm sure you will learn more about this and find much to interest you. However I will focus now on our Show.

Once again Nick at the Cafe in the Park is kindly sponsoring our event. We shall be using the hall alongside the Cafe and also The Churchill Hall. We hope to erect our Marquee and gazebos and will have our usual stalls. Maureen Ridler (3, Blackmore Gate) is happy to receive donations for the raffle, tombola, books and our usual plant and produce stall (including cakes and jams). Alternatively these items can be brought on the morning of the event.

When you look at the schedule you will notice that the dahlia section has been enhanced and we hope to attract more entries this year. All in all we hope this year's show will be a tremendous success but that really will depend upon all our members. Do please try to encourage friends and family to enter. There truly is something for everyone in this year's schedule and a bumper crop of entries will make a great display for all those people who are encouraged to find out what 'Astonbury' has to offer! I look forward to seeing you at the Show and also our forthcoming Society events.

With very best wishes,  
Sue Lipscomb

## The Summer Show

This year's Summer Show has come around again. The schedule that accompanies this newsletter is very similar to last year. The major change is the expansion of the Dahlia Section. This is because the local Dahlia club closed down and asked to compete in our show rather than mount one of their own. With the show now in the park, the dahlia exhibitors will be able display their skills to a much wider audience. The same goes for the rest of the show because the "**Astonbury Music Festival**" is being held at the same time in the Park.

I hope that this should be an encouragement for members and their families to show what you can grow or make. There are now more people with small gardens using pots. There are 4 or 5 classes where all you have to do is to enter your favourite pot plant. Last year there were some excellent specimens.

The principle class in the Floral Art is an arrangement entitled "**Diamond Wedding**" (thus linking with our 60<sup>th</sup> Show), whilst the photographic class is titled "**A Garden Scene**" and for children the subject is "**Sport**" (that means not just football).

There is a competition for the **Best Aston Clinton Allotment**. Now that they have been fenced and have water onsite there should be some good ones, and the winner gets a rent free year. Another interesting class is called the "**Village Basket**". This is a collection of fruit and vegetables displayed in a basket. There are no restrictions on the products displayed apart from the size of the basket (see schedule)

There are several classes open to novices living within the 3 villages. One example is a "**MINI COLLECTION FOR NOVICES (Class 31)**". The challenge is to enter one of each of three kinds of vegetables from the following:- small beetroot, carrot, pod of peas, french bean, runner bean, radish, cherry tomato, onion, potato. They should be displayed in a seed tray. These will be judged for 'kitchen quality' and uniformity, not size.

Do have a go and enter and persuade your friends and family to join in too. Entry is free and it is just the challenge to grow or make something better than anyone else. We do not have an accompanying fete but we are running a **raffle and tombola stall** for which prizes are wanted. We will also have a second-hand book stall.

## In your Garden

How is your garden growing this year? Whilst I have just planted out my courgettes and marrows and still have brussels sprouts and leeks to plant (these traditionally go in where the first early potatoes are lifted), I am also harvesting several crops. These include sweet peas that I have been cutting for 2 weeks now, mange tout peas, broad beans and early potatoes. The sunny heat wave has brought on the soft fruit which needs picking. I will have cherries if I can get to them before the pigeons and the rest of the fruit is looking good too.

Ralph Weston