

FEERING & KELVEDON GARDEN CLUB

SEPTEMBER 2024

WELCOME TO THE CHAIRMAN'S NEWSLETTER a special edition following the Annual Show last month

First of all thanks must go to Janet Edwards who kindly took over the setting up and running of the Show when Annie was no longer able to organise this or indeed enter the Show due to an operation and consequent recuperation. However, with the help of the Committee and other members of the Club this all went with aplomb, It was a disappointment, however that the entrants were very much down again from last year with a total of only 15 participating (8 females and 7 males) and two Junior entrants which obviously meant far fewer class entries. This meant that a different layout was required with there being so few entries but it all worked very well and congratulations to all who were involved with this under somewhat difficult circumstances.

Especial thanks also to Jean Yems who ran the tombola and to all those who donated prizes (there were no prizes left over so we need more for the members' raffle in October and November!) and also to Gill Read who organised the running of the Café with her team of helpers. Seven Seas Bespoke Kitchen Worktops had very kindly donated a sandstone table – which was extremely heavy and as the Centre had not been open at the time of delivery this was then taken to Janet Edward's house to then be transported back to the Centre for set up! In the end this meant dismantling the table before it could be moved so many thanks to Mark Roper for his invaluable help with that and also to Don Davies, David Curtis, Mark Roper and Ronda Howard for collecting

and returning the extra tables borrowed from the Institute and St Mary's Church with Terry Mays providing some of the transport.

It would be also not be possible to run the Show without stewards so thanks to those who kindly volunteered to take on this extremely important role. Following on from the judging thanks must go our collator of winners, Rob Evans who worked out the results followed then by our Treasurer, Doug Read with the help of Terry Mays filling the winners' envelopes with their prize money!

Even though the class entries were down overall the standard of those exhibits was really high and all entrants should be proud of this in what had been a difficult run up weatherwise.

Finally, thanks must go to all the Committee together with extra help from other members who helped to clear up the Hall alongside Gill Read in the Café with the Centre being cleared in record time.

Now for the results:

BEST IN DIVISION CERTIFICATES

Andy Smith Vegetables (Cabbage)
Roger Pitt Fruit (Eating Apples)
Roz Clarke Dahlias (Small decorative)
Ronda Howard – Flowers (Sunflowers)
Sue Pitt (Planted container)
Sue Bunting Floral Art (Autumn Beauty)
Peter Burt Photography (Single Theme)
Carol Taylor Art & Crafts (Jewellery)
Sue Bunting Cookery (Turkish Delight)
Carol Taylor Preserves & Drinks (Fruit Liquer)

CUP WINNERS

Ronda Howard The John Coote Memorial Cup
Andy Smith Stanley Langston Cup
Roger Pitt – Sybil Sherwood Cup
David Maclean Annual Challenge Cup
Roz Clarke Ron Hayward Memorial Cup
Doug Read Buckle Cup
Sue Pitt - Arthur Brown Cup
Sue Bunting - Dorothy Bacon Bowl
Carol Taylor– The Feering & Kelvedon WI Shield
Maureen Browning The Roberts Shield
Sue Bunting– Redman Cup
Ronda Howard - Joyce Brown Silver Plate for Best in Show (Sunflowers)

Janet Edwards RHS Banksian Medal
Andy Smith Member's Bronze Award
Carol Taylor Member's Bronze Award

Janet Edwards Chairman's Challenge



Now let's turn to jobs to do in the garden and allotment this month –

1. Plant up containers with winter bedding and evergreens
2. Raise patio pots onto bricks to avoid waterlogging
3. Mulch around borderline hardy plants
4. Trim hedges
5. Check for hedgehogs before lighting a bonfire especially on (5th November!)
6. Pot up chives and mint to bring indoors for winter use.
7. Rake up Autumn leaves and add them to the compost bin
8. Plant onions shallots & garlic

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

BIRTHDAY greetings to members with a birthday or anniversary this month.

SAD TIMES

As many of you already know Don Harris died recently and Lyn has asked for all members to be notified of the funeral arrangements. This will take place at Three Counties Crematorium on September 20th at 11.30. Family flowers only but donations can be made to Prostate Cancer Research. Our thoughts are with Lyn at this saddest of times.

POET'S CORNER

Poem of the month

An extract from "To Autumn"

By John Keats 1795 -1821

*Seasons of mists and mellow fruitfulness!
Close bosom friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-
eaves run;
To bend with apples, the mossed cottage-
trees.
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel
shells
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more.
And still more, later flowers for the bees.
Until they think warm days will never
cease,
For Summer has overbrimmed their
clammy cells.*

DID YOU KNOW? On the day after Michaelmas, every year agricultural labourers dressed up in their best clothes and offered themselves for hire for the coming year. A fair followed the hirings and these were called Mop Fairs. The custom remains today but is now a funfair and several towns in Warwickshire enjoy the spectacle and fun from holding the annual mop fair, with Stratford hosting one of the largest celebrations.

Please note Recipe of the Month will resume in the October Newsletter. Meanwhile enjoy the rest of the summer and look forward to seeing you at the members' meeting on 1st October when we welcome back Mike Abel talking about "Growing Vegetables".

"Life is the flower for which love is the honey" - Victor Hugo