



Sanderstead Horticultural Society



OCTOBER 2011 NEWSLETTER

Oh the frustration! I was invited to a 'must attend' wedding on the same day as the Autumn Show, which meant I had to rush away from the show just before judging started; during the setting-up it was obvious that your usual high standards had been maintained. Brenda has written the report that follows.

I was visiting Richmond Park recently and came upon King Henry's Mound, close to Pembroke Lodge; the mound is the highest point in the park and where it is alleged that Henry watched for a rocket signal from the Tower to say Anne Boleyn had been executed. Today there is a free telescope to view St Paul's ten miles away and an alley has been cut through a nearby wood to frame the view. Building around Liverpool Street was restricted so as not to block the view as this is one of 13 protected views in London; others are from Blackheath, Parliament Hill Fields and Greenwich. I do find it rather encouraging that with all the building that is going on there are laws to protect the iconic views of the Capital.

Colin Jones, Chairman

The Autumn Show was a great success. All Saints Church Hall looked really wonderful with the displays of flowers, vegetables, fruits, photographs and a wide array of cakes and pies, all looking very tempting. The judges had their work cut out to decide between them all, as the standard was so high. We had 66 exhibitors and 397 exhibits, slightly down on last year when we had 77 exhibitors and 401 exhibits. Well done to everyone for making the show the great show it was. A big 'thank you' to the committee who were able to be at the show and, especially, to Brian Goodman and Michele Bertone-Walker for their hard work to make it the show that it was. Another big 'thank you' to Val Burley and her team for the delicious teas and cakes.

Congratulations to our cup winners: William Lockyer had the highest points overall in both shows and, also, the highest points for flowers in both shows. Paul Mayhew had the highest points for vegetables in both shows and Dennis Everatt had the highest points for fruit in both shows. We were very pleased to welcome Ken and Maureen Weston who both exhibited fantastic chrysanthemum blooms. Maureen won the award for the highest points for her chrysanthemums and, also, the National Chrysanthemum Society Bronze Medal. Jackie Paine won the British Fuchsia Society Blue Ribbon for her fuchsias and also the cup for the highest points in pot plants. The Sanderstead Challenge for best pelargonium was won by Valerie Burley.

In the domestic classes Priscilla de Souza won the SHS Cake Stand for the highest domestic class points, and Katie Durrell won the award for the best exhibit in the young people's domestic classes. The voucher for the highest points for craft in both shows was won by Chris Giles, and Colin Jones won the voucher for the highest points in the photography classes in both shows.

We were very sad to learn of the death of Ken Letts who had been the winner in the dahlia classes for many years.

We had seven pots of orchids in the orchid class but one was left behind. If you left your white orchid behind and would like to be reunited with it, please ring **Simon on 8657 8324**.

Brenda Bateman

COACH OUTING TO WISLEY - THURSDAY 6TH OCTOBER There are still a few places on the coach and if you have not booked and would like to go, please complete the form on last month's circular or telephone **Brenda Bateman on 8657 5280**

Christine Webb

HOME NEEDED FOR BIRD OF PARADISE PLANT David has recently moved house and now finds he has nowhere for his Strelitzia (Bird of Paradise) plant. The plant has not yet flowered but as it is now 4½ft tall, it would seem it should not be much longer now. If you would like to give a home to this plant, please call **David on 020 8395 3239**.

THURSDAY EVENING TALKS

The first talk of our winter season will be on Thursday 13th October at 8 pm. It will be given by Mr Brian Deaville and will be on the subject - "Plants For Chalk". This should be relevant for many of us, but Mr Deaville speaks on other subjects, too, so should be able to answer questions on other plants if there are any pressing ones.

The meeting will be held at All Saints Church smaller hall, Onslow Gardens, Sanderstead, and the doors are open from 7.30 p.m.

KEW, "MELLOW FRUITFULNESS WALK" 6TH SEPTEMBER - 30TH NOVEMBER 12 NOON DAILY. Free, but register 15 minutes before start at Guides' desk, Victoria entrance. Also Tree Identification Tour Wed. and Sat. 1 p.m. £5, book 020 8332 5604.

WAKEHURST PLACE - AUTUMN COLOUR WEEKENDS 22-23 & 29-30 OCTOBER. Free guided walks available 11.30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

For other events phone for programme Adult Education - 020 8332 5626, or e-mail adulthood@kew.org.

CHELSEA PHYSIC GARDEN OPEN UNTIL 31ST OCTOBER. For talks and other events phone 020 7349 6458, or e-mail www.chelseaphysicgarden.co.uk/events

Mary Early

RAINFALL Kathleen Davies recorded 51mm (2 ins.) of rain for the month of August, 18mm (0.7 ins.) of which fell on 3rd. John Morris recorded average temperatures for August as follows: 2011 - high 69.6F (20.8C) and low 57.1F (13.9C). 2010 - high 68.7F (20.4C) and low 56.8F (13.8C).

LONDON RHS AUTUMN HARVEST SHOW Tues 4th & Wed 5th Oct at RHS Halls, Greycoat St, Westminster. Further details www.rhs.org.uk/londonshows

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thurs 6th Oct SHS Outing to RHS Garden Wisley

Thurs 13th October 8pm SHS Talk 'Plants for Chalk' All Saints Church Hall, Onslow Gardens

NEXT CIRCULAR: 1st November (notes by 21st October) to Brenda Bateman (8657 5280) 32 Lime Meadow Avenue, Sanderstead, CR2 9AR. Email bateman456@btinternet.com

Delivered by your Road Steward: Tel:.....

Discounted tickets for RHS Wisley - please book in advance with: Colin Whitfield (8657 1972) or Valerie Burley (8651 5837). To hire equipment, call Elizabeth Moran (8657 6828)