



RAYLEIGH HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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Newsletter AUGUST 2018



ALL SHAPES AND SIZES



This is it, the last show of the year on the September 2nd (and another year gone).

Do look through your year book to put any entry in to support your Society help will be given to anyone who has not entered before (don't forget entry is free to members) and to anyone who needs it.

Or come along to see what the other members have worked hard to show. The Autumn show is always a riot of colour with dahlias of all shapes and sizes with Fruit, Vegetables, crafts and cookery making a stunning display.

And the usual plea for help to set up the show 7.30 am at the store 8.00 am at Mill Hall.

p.s. Please return cups & trophies to the store or show

Peter Noble *Show Manager*

from the chairman



Hi All,

Well, at the time of writing, we are in the middle of the hottest weather ever, when it seems like you just can't do enough watering, so although I have done pretty well with soft fruits, sweet peas, courgettes, tomatoes, and lettuces, the runner beans, cucumbers, carrots and potatoes were not what they should be! So I hope everyone else is managing to grow some good crops ready to display at the Autumn Show on 2nd September.

Do try and support Club Nights if you can - numbers have been well down this year despite some very interesting speakers arranged by Ann. The next one is Tuesday, 28th August at 8 pm, so make a note in your diary, although there is a change to the advertised speaker in September so check the website or posters at the Store for a great night with Badger Price & Geoff Blower.

Important news is that during the month of August, the Store is only open on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday mornings - see page 4.

I hear that the coach trip to Folkestone in July was a great success - thanks to Ann for organising such an enjoyable day.

We still need your help on Show Day - unfortunately, the setting up and breaking down of the shows is now left to a small few - so if you are fit enough and can help, Show Manager Peter would really appreciate you phoning him on 01268 745925.

Even if you don't have anything to show on 2nd September, please come along to the Mill Hall after 2 pm to support us, and I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

Colin Andrews

SUNDAY 2nd SEPT AUTUMN SHOW

Mill Hall, Rayleigh

*Every member welcome to exhibit
Flowers, Fruit, Vegetables, Craft & Cookery*

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 2 p.m.

(Not shown before? - now is the time, if you need help phone a committee member, call in the store or just turn up on show day, we are only too pleased to help)

Make a Flowerpot person

see page 11 of your yearbook
FOR ALL AGES UP TO 16 YEARS

1st PRIZE £5.00 2nd PRIZE £3.00 3rd PRIZE £2.00

Class sponsored by Ron Coutts

Bring to the Mill Hall on the morning of the show before 11.30



28th AUGUST COLIN BANKS

You may remember Colin from 2016 when he talked about his Life in Hats which was very funny. This visit he will be asking us **When Were You Born?** Anecdotes, music and memories with lots of audience participation.



25th SEPTEMBER BADGER PRICE & GEOFF BLOWER

There is a change to the published programme for the September Members' Club Evening. We now have the pleasure of listening to 'Badger' Price talking about '**something relevant to the time of year**'. together with a short Q & A session, ably assisted by Geoff Blower. Members will have another opportunity to put a horticultural question to either of our two presenters on the evening. Either bring your questions with you or you could let me have them beforehand on the usual number, 01702 527456.

23rd OCTOBER BILL BUTCHER

His talk is entitled **Adam was a Gardener** - Bill is an experienced speaker and broadcaster with a background in horticulture and has worked for what he terms 'the good, the bad and the barking mad' in his time. His talk links the Royal Horticultural Society and the church in many ways, not least being the fact that one reverend gentleman actually saved the RHS from extinction in the 19th century.

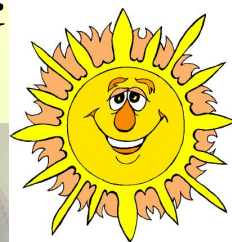
Everybody welcome — Members £1.50—Visitors £2.50

All meetings are held at

St Michael's Church, Sir Walter Raleigh Drive, Rayleigh. SS6 9JB Starting at 8p.m.



THE 2018 SUMMER SHOW



(not as schedule)

I don't think anyone would have wished to be in Ann's shoes prior to June Club Night. She returned from holiday a few days beforehand to find an urgent answer phone message from the planned speaker. He was awaiting an operation and had received 'the call' to attend on the day of his talk. We all know you don't say 'sorry, that's not convenient' to the NHS so at very short notice Bob Wiseman kindly stepped in to save the day with a talk on his experiences of being a registered horticultural judge. He said he tries to avoid marking entries as NAS (not as schedule) and will often look the other way while a show manager removes the 13th item on a plate as yet another competitor shows they can't count up to 12. Also the reason raspberries must be shown with the calix and stalk still on is to stop people putting in shop bought ones - as the wife of one club chairman regularly used to do! Definitely not ours! *(I should think not! - ed.)*

Kingsmill Bread!!!!

I hope the heatwave is over by the time this newsletter reaches you, but well done to the members and visitors who came to July Club Night. Luckily we managed to get a bit of a through-draught at St Michael's Church Hall and everyone seemed impressed by the haul of prizes Ian Davidson's has won, demonstrated by a large number of photo's of him and his family at various events, on holidays and with goodies he has bagged. His message was 'enter every competition you see advertised' - someone has to win! He subscribes to a couple of 'Compers' magazines and websites and although some of these cost between £20 and £50 per year he has won prizes totalling many thousands of pounds. Not all were useful to him, such as a state of the art coffee making machine and quad bike (two items, not one!) but he sold these for roughly half their value so both he and the buyers were happy. His dedication does sometimes involve late evening trips to Tesco to buy up to 20 'reduced to 15p' loaves of Kingsmill Bread to obtain competition entry codes but it seems to be worth it. All of these wins were on a purely random basis with no need for tie-breaking slogans, so maybe we should all pay more attention to those little adverts.

Club Night Reports by Page 3 Reporter Pat Hill



Hugh Fenton-Anwyll
Volunteer Manager

East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH)

are looking for volunteers in the Great Bentley Area. Could you spend a couple of hours a week or two helping a family with a child who accesses our hospice in Ipswich in their own home?

Caring for a seriously ill child or young person can put a lot of extra demand on a family. We are looking for an individual with gardening experience to support a local family. We provide you with all the necessary support and training, all you need to do is provide some of your precious time. If you would like any more information or to apply then please contact Hugh at hugh.fenton-anwyll@each.org.uk or call 07714737139. Thank You.

LOST & FOUND

Found at show/store
Camera Lens Cap
Shoulder Bag Strap Pad
Door key
Phone Colin on 07 572 360 795

Mark Wilson
(Hospitality Officer), would like to thank all those who helped at the Summer Show. A special thanks to Shaun Cox for giving his

time - yet again - and another thanks to Mr. & Mrs. Rodrigues along with many others, who also helped clear up after the show.

A belated 80th Birthday congratulations to Geoff Blower - his birthday coincides with the same day as the Great Train Robbery in 1963. May all your blooms and veggies be wonderful!



TOMATO FRITTATAS

SERVES 6

Preparation time: 15 minutes

Cooking time: 20 minutes

4 eggs

8 small (cherry) tomatoes, sliced

half a red pepper, finely diced

half a small red onion, finely diced

1 bunch of basil to taste, chopped

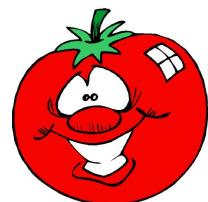
half a tsp salt

half a tsp black pepper

Preheat oven to 180C/fan 160C/gas mark 4. - Whisk the eggs together, then add the vegetables and basil leaves -

Season with salt and pepper - Pour the mixture into greased cupcake moulds - Place in the oven for 20-25 minutes until golden and risen.

Serve with a salad or take them on a picnic.



NEWS

FROM THE

TRADING
STORE



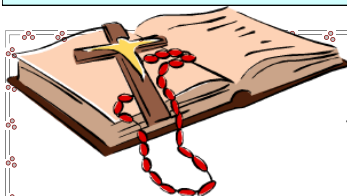
By the time you read this newsletter, hopefully we will have in store a supply of Spring-flowering bulbs ie daffodils - Unsurpassable, Rainbow, Sealing Wax, Sir Winston Churchill, Delnashaugh and Tahiti - also garden hyacinths and species crocus showcases.

We will also have Tete-a-tete daffodils (miniature). Tulips will include American Dream, Golden Apeldoorn, Queen of Night and Red Impression. I have also ordered parrot tulips

and, new for this year, dwarf tulips - Albion Star, Red Riding Hood and The First.

Don't forget for August **only**, the store opening times will change to Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 10 -12.30 and Sunday 10 - 12 noon.

The Team look forward to seeing you in the store soon.
David Baughen, *Trading Store Manager*



*Gone – but not
forgotten.....*

DEREK JOLLY

We are sorry to hear that long time member Derek passed away on 19th June 2018 and our sympathy goes to his wife and family.



Gordon & Beryl Sibson after many years living in Rayleigh are upping sticks and moving north to be nearer family, we wish them all the best in their new home. Gordon for those who don't know has had just about every job on the committee and ending up store manager for many a long year. Thanks Gordon