

SURREY HORTICULTURAL FEDERATION

Chairperson: Mrs. Joan Sones,
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WINTER NEWSLETTER 2011

Our first event next year will be our 2012 Spring Talk on

SUNDAY, 4th MARCH

Which will be a 'ONE-OFF' CHANCE IN THIS AREA to hear our speaker

STEVE BROOKES

BBC Midlands broadcaster, cruise lecturer and writer with his talk:

The Greatest Gardening Tips in the World!

2.30 start, at Cobham Village Hall,

Lushington Drive, off Oakdene Road, off Between Streets, Cobham.

From Junction 10 of the M25 go north onto A3 then take next exit. Then right, back over A3, then left towards Cobham. At second roundabout turn right into Between Streets, then first proper road left into Oakdene Road and first left again into Lushington Drive. Village Hall and Car Park are on the right about 50 yards up road.

Tickets £3 each for SHF club members, £5 for other visitors.

Please book a.s.a.p, making cheques to Surrey Horticultural Federation, and send to SHF Secretary, as above. Poster enclosed for your notice boards!

2011 AGM.

President Daphne Foulsham welcomed members to our 35th A.G.M, and explained that as Chairperson Joan Sones was ill, Brian Deaville would read the **Chairperson's report**, which has been slightly shortened as follows:-

Our first event in February (at very short notice) was Gardener's Question Time and thanks to great teamwork by the council members it was a resounding success. Two free tickets were sent to each club and the hall was full for the recording. I think club members came up with a really good range of questions, and the whole afternoon was amusing and entertaining. A few members then visited Wisley with Pippa Greenwood, and were recorded looking at a selection of plants.

The Spring talk in March was also given by Pippa Greenwood on 'Looks Good- Tastes Great' where she first talked about the range of vegetables now available then gave a slide show of some of the 'nasties' which gardeners have to contend with.

In May we arranged a unique visit to a magnificent garden at Snowdenham House Bramley, and this was the biggest event we have ever had with approx. 275 visitors. The gardens really were superb, and it was a most successful afternoon.

In October 10 teams took part in our Inter-Club quiz, which was won easily by Worplesdon with a fantastic score! Second place went to Thursley, and third place Tilford Ladies team. Many thanks to quizmaster Brian Deaville for setting his devilish questions. We had hoped to run the Inter Club Show classes at the same time, but due to lack of support they were cancelled.

Sadly Addlestone club has ceased to exist this year, but we welcome new members Claygate which keeps our membership to 84 clubs. It seems that more clubs now have websites, and I am pleased that some are using this to publicise our events. Please let us know of any events you are holding then we can advertise them in our Newsletters.

As usual I would like to say thank you to our Secretary Janet for all the work she does, and to our President, our Treasurer and all the rest of the Council for working so well together over the past year.

Treasurers Report. A copy of the audited accounts was circulated, and Treasurer Pam Lomax said she hoped they were self-explanatory. The Federation currently has £2,466.01 in hand, so no increase in subscriptions is proposed for 2012.

The Income for the past year was £2,487.63, made up of subscriptions and donations from clubs, entrance fees for lectures, raffles and refreshments. Expenditure was £2,643.49 so the net result was a deficit of £155.86 over the year, partly because the Federation had given a donation of £500 to Perennial after the Snowdenham House visit. The report was proposed by Dorothy Sims, seconded by Terry Cornell and approved by all.

The Treasurer recommended Peter Willman should be our Auditor again next year. This was proposed by Nadine Hunter, seconded by John Bayley, and approved.

Election of Officers and Council Members. Under the Constitution the Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer were all still within their terms of office. The other Council Members are elected yearly and Daphne called for these to be elected en-bloc. This was proposed by Mabel Skelsey, seconded by Barbara Boyce and all in favour.

There had been one volunteer to join the Council, Mrs. Nicky Cornell - who is a member of Thursley club and a Horticultural Judge. Janet proposed Nicky for election, which was approved, and Nicky was welcomed by Daphne.

Future Events. Janet spoke briefly about the forthcoming Spring Talk, and asked whether any members had some good ideas about a summer event. The Council is looking into some possibilities, but it is rather difficult to follow the visit to such a superb garden as Snowdenham House! The Inter-Club quiz will be held on Sunday 16th September 2012. **

The meeting closed at 3.10 pm, followed by tea then a powerpoint presentation by Joanne Everson from Kew, on 'A Trip to New Zealand', which was a fascinating insight into the work involved in organising a seed collection expedition.

Brian thanked Joanne on behalf of all present.

**** GATTON PARK, REIGATE.**

Have any of you been to this place and seen the newly constructed rock garden? Would it be a good place for a visit?

CLUB EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES – Contact secretaries direct for further details.

I know that at this time of year most clubs are still organizing their 2012 event schedules, but these are some we have so far:

Dec.	Club	Event	Contact
1 st	Fernhurst	AGM then talk by Simon Richard on London Parks	B. Pennnington 01428-652212
4 th	Jacobs Well	Bulb, corms and tubers, by Mark Saunders	Pam Lomax 01483-767225
6 th	Lightwater	My Lords, Ladies and Gentleman. Tony Forward.	S. Coleman 01276-472228
6 th	Wonersh	Zimbabwe, Botswana & Namibia, by Miss J. Tubb	Val. Brockman 01483-893808
12 th	Elstead	Corms, bulbs and Tubers, by Brian Deaville	Joanna Manches 01252-702752
14 th	Grayshott	Plants for Shade, by Irene Bowron	Karen Flood 01428-605032
Jan.			
9 th	Plant Heritage	Species conservation by Mercy Morris	Wendy Bentall 01276-858256
11 th	Virginia Water	Propagation of Climbing Plants. M. Gibbison	Linda Gillham 01932-564834
18 th	Onslow Village	Wisley Glasshouse, by Nick Morgan	Joe Pais 01483-573107
24 th	West End	Oaklore, by Chris Howkins	Judy Douch 01483-475133
26 th	Claygate	Secret Gardens of London, by Colin Jones	Linda Elkins 01372-460765
26 th	Frensham	Weatherlore, fact or fiction, by Ian Currie	Caroline Tonkin 01252-793991
February			
2 nd	Fernhurst	Talk by Paul Galivari	B. Pennnington 01428-652212
7 th	Jacobs Well	Pyrenees, land of the Lammergeure. Nigel Choat	Pam Lomax 01483-767225
8 th	Farnham	Allotments, Soils, Manures & Fertilisers. Guy Barter	Valerie Pyne 01252-726933
13 th	Plant Heritage	Prediction of Iconic Plants, by A. Fisher Tomlin	Wendy Bentall 01276-858256
March			
1 st	Fernhurst	Talk by Rose Hardy from Hardy's Cottage Garden	B. Pennnington 01428-652212
6 th	Jacobs Well	Lesser known Gardens to Visit. P. Leichi Clarke	Pam Lomax 01483-767225
8 th	Tilford	A sub tropical garden in Chiddingfold. Dr. J. Salway	Julie Woodall 01252-781503
12 th	Plant Heritage	Hedychiums by Andrew Gaunt	Wendy Bentall 01276-858256
22 nd	Frensham	Tales from the Potting Shed, by Jean Griffin	Caroline Tonkin 01252-793991
27 th	Puttenham/Wanborough	SPRING SHOW, 8 pm at Markwick Hall Puttenham.	M. Forwood 01483-813855
29 th	Claygate	Vegetable Growing, with Matt. Biggs	Linda Elkins 01372-460765
29 th	Fernhurst	SPRING SHOW 6.30 pm	B. Pennnington 01428-652212
31 st	Churt	SPRING SHOW 2.30 pm	Sandra Probert 01428-608583
31 st	Frensham	SPRING SHOW 2.30 PM Marindin Hall	Caroline Tonkin 01252-793991
31 st	Headley	SPRING SHOW 2.00 pm	J. Howard-Duff 01428-714073
31 st	Milford	SPRING SHOW 2.00 – 4.00	S. Miskimmin 01483-421509
April			
1 st	Tilford	SPRING SHOW 2.30-4 pm (Sunday)	Julie Woodall 01252-781503
3 rd	Jacobs Well	Soft Fruits, by Peter Barwick	Pam Lomax 01483-767225
7 th	Elstead	SPRING SHOW 2.00 – 4.00	Joanna Manches 01252-702752
7 th	Grayshott	SPRING SHOW 2.00 – 4.00	Karen Flood 01428-605032
14 th	Thursley	SPRING SHOW 2.30 pm	Mrs. Pat Clarke 01252-706869
14 th	Witley	SPRING SHOW 2.30 pm Chichester Hall	Nadine Hunter 01428-682719
14 th	Banstead	SPRING SHOW 2 pm	David Peterken 01737-351224
16 th	Plant Heritage	Early Flowering Perennials, by Rose Hardy	Wendy Bentall 01276-858256
26 th	Frensham	Photography in the garden, by Liz Espinosa	Caroline Tonkin 01252-793991
26 th	Claygate	Victorian Travels of Marianne North. Laura Ponsonby	Linda Elkin 01372-460765

MID SOUTHERN DAFFODIL GROUP

The Spring Show will be on Sunday March 25th at Cobham Village Hall 2.30-4 pm. There are both Open classes (which any SHF Club member may enter) and Members classes - no entry fees – and if you haven't shown before, there are also Novice Classes. Schedules are available from Show Secretary Vic Coe on 01494-71689 - At least go and have a look!

PLANT HERITAGE PLANT FAIRS - Advance notice of 2012 dates.

Please put these dates in your diaries: Sunday 6th May at Denbies Vineyard Dorking 11 am – 4 pm,
Sunday 27th May, at Ripley Village Hall, 10 am – 3 pm, and Sunday 16th September also at Denbies, 11am – 4 pm

RECENT R.H.S. MEETING.

In early November the RHS held a second meeting of Specialist Societies and other clubs to which the Surrey Federation had been invited. Anne Bradbeer and Brian Deaville attended, but were disappointed to find that the speakers still did not seem to know what Federations were (despite there being a list on their own website) and were also not interested in the connections we can make from the RHS down to the smallest clubs. The greatest number of participants at the event actually seemed to be members of RHS judging committees.

The RHS President Elizabeth Banks said that she was keen to put horticultural back at the forefront, as she felt that the RHS had become rather detached from gardeners, however she really only seemed to want to get clubs to encourage their own members to join the RHS. Other specialist societies felt that the Hillside Centre was not signposted clearly, so that when they held their own events in the centre members of the public did not find them, and their own members were no longer allowed free entry to attend these events.

The Surrey Federation was asked to provide a list of the educational visits we had enjoyed in previous years, which has now been sent to them. We were also informed that they were too short staffed to offer these at the moment, so this doesn't really look very promising for the future. This is such a shame as it was so interesting to see just how much work at Wisley goes on 'behind the scenes' in order to put on the trials and display such a huge range of plants.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND JUDGES AND LECTURERS LISTS

The invoice for your 2012 subscriptions is enclosed with this newsletter, and the NEW Judges lists and Lecturers Lists will be sent out to you as soon as club subscriptions are received.

Please note that the Surrey Federation does not actually compile these lists, but they are bought by us and distributed to member clubs as a benefit of belonging to the Federation. Any queries or suggested new speakers/judges should be sent to Mr. Morris at the address on your lists.

INTER CLUB QUIZ.

In 2012 the Quiz will be held on **Sunday, 16th September** 2.30 pm at Cobham Village Hall – please make a note of this in your diaries now! Why not go to the Plant Heritage Plant Fair in the morning, and then come on to the Quiz?

Don't forget, this is a chance for your club to win back your subscription, as the Council will again be awarding prizes to the winning teams: First Place £30 for the team, and a small prize for each team member. Second Place £20, Third Place £10. There is a line on the subscription invoice asking whether your club would like to take part – please could you fill this in.

PERENNIAL – NEW GREETING CARD OFFER.

Please see enclosed leaflet – here is a chance for your club to make some money and give to charity at the same time!

COUNCIL MEETING DATES 2012:

Onslow Village Hall: 17th February, 18th May, 7th September and 16th November

If you have a matter you would like to raise with the Council, please contact Secretary Janet Arm before these meetings.

**The Council of the Surrey Federation would like
to wish you all a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a
HAPPY NEW YEAR!**