

THACS
TEWIN HORTICULTURAL ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY

**Minutes of the thirteenth Annual General Meeting held at
Tewin Memorial Hall on Monday 13th January 2014**

The meeting was preceded by the presentation of the Tewin Society Award to Mr Patrick Holden. Approximately 41 members and 2 non-members were present.

1 Apologies

Tom and Janet Gladwin, Jean Watts, Mary Gregg, Joanne Allen, Rod Frayne, Mike Clark, David Porter and Mavis Haggard.

2 Minutes of 2013 AGM

The minutes of the last AGM were accepted without objection. Proposed by Kate Stott and seconded by Terry Brand. There were no matters arising.

3 Chairman's Report

Ray Keppler presented the Chairman's report for 2013.

A copy of the report is appended.

4 Treasurer's Report

Malcolm Allen presented the Treasurer's report for the financial year 1st November 2012 to 31st October 2013. A copy of the report is appended.

Linda Adams proposed that the report and accounts be accepted and this was seconded by Lynne Burgess. This proposal was accepted.

5 Election of Officers and Committee for 2014

The following officers were elected without opposition.

Chairman	Ray Keppler (for sixth year)	Proposed by Mike Cates Seconded by Terry Brand
Treasurer	Malcolm Allen (for third year)	Proposed by Ray Keppler Seconded by Patrick Holden.
Secretary	Nick Whiting (for fourth year)	Proposed by Ray Keppler Seconded by Gay Cates.

For the remaining members of the committee, Terry Brand, Lynne Burgess and Jim Hall were proposed by Audrey Walters and seconded by Mike Cates and were duly re-elected by the members.

The motion that Graham Spring should remain as Independent Examiner of the accounts was proposed by Geoff Whitbourn and seconded by Linda Adams. The motion was carried.

6 Events for 2014

Jim Hall began by explaining what had occurred with the proposed trip to see the Lowry exhibition last year. Despite a good indication of interest in the visit early in the year, not enough people signed up to it at the time and there was no alternative but to cancel the trip.

For this year there are quite a few events to choose from. He indicated that there was a full list at the back of the hall which could be examined during the break in the proceedings. There was space for entering ideas for other events and members were encouraged to add their thoughts.

He then outlined the list of events:

Writing workshop (similar to last year)

Spring Show 5 April

Autumn Show 6 September

Open Gardens 17 and 18 May (he appealed for more gardens to be entered)

Art Workshop in June

Fete 28 June – the THACS sponsored plant stall.

Flower arrangement talk in August

Visit to Wisley in the summer (date to be fixed)

Arts and crafts sale in November

A visit to an artistic venue in October/November

Possible visit to mark the anniversary of the start of WWI

Jim asked the members to let him know which days suited them best for a visit. Was it better at the weekend or during the week for example?

7 Any Other Business

Lynne Burgess spoke on behalf of the Tewin Cowper School to seek donations for their gardening project. The school is appealing for donations of plants, particularly those attracting insects such as bees and butterflies. Working parties will be organised for specific days and help will be much appreciated. The prime mover in this operation is Esther Carley and her contact details will be in the next newsletter

Ray Keppler spoke briefly about the concerns that the committee has over the steady fall in the number of exhibitors at the Spring and Autumn shows. There was a 64% drop in the number of exhibitors at the Autumn Show since the peak in 2010 and the number of exhibits had fallen by 45%. Only 12% of the members exhibit at the shows and it would be nice if this increased this year. He noted that there is a wide range of areas to choose from and there should be something for everyone. He asked the members to consider exhibiting this year. In this way we can maintain healthy competition and the future of the shows.

Ray Keppler announced the decision of the committee to dispense with membership cards in the future. There was a significant cost and work involved for little benefit.

8 Date and Time of next AGM

This will be held on Monday 12th January 2015 at Tewin Memorial Hall. The meeting is scheduled to commence at 7:30pm.

This concluded the formal meeting which was followed by a brief interval where a glass of wine was enjoyed. Immediately after this Dr David Butcher showed us a selection of his stunning black and white photographs taken in the countryside and in cities around the world and spoke about the technical and logistical challenges involved. The meeting thanked him for a very enjoyable and informative presentation.

Appendixes:

Chairman's report

Treasurer's report and copy of accounts