

# ***THACS***

## **TEWIN HORTICULTURAL ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY**

### **NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2018**

#### **Chairman's Introduction**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I wish you health and happiness for 2019 and hope that you will continue to enjoy *THACS* events.

I am sad to have to tell you that this is the last *THACS* newsletter. The revised publicity and communications methods are explained below.

Ray Keppler (Chairman)

#### ***THACS* Events**

For ease of reference, here are the dates and titles of our next few events, together with the closing dates for the associated bookings.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Closing date for bookings</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> December	Art & Craft Fair	No booking required
14 <sup>th</sup> January	AGM	No booking required
6 <sup>th</sup> April	Spring Show	31 <sup>st</sup> March
7 <sup>th</sup> September	Autumn Show	1 <sup>st</sup> September

#### **Forthcoming Events**

##### ***THACS* Arts & Crafts Sale**

**Saturday 1st December**

**10am – 4pm**

**Tewin Memorial Hall**

**CHRISTMAS SHOPPING HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER**

**Sale of Arts & Crafts**

**made by our wonderfully talented local artists and craftspeople.**

**Wood turning, jewellery, soft furnishings, hand-made ukuleles and hats,**

**hand-made soaps and candles, Christmas floral decorations**

**&**

**a chance to try your hand at pottery making.**

**Charity Cake Stall..... and much more.**

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Monday 13.30 – 15.30

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Monday to Friday 8.30am – 4.30pm

Saturday 8.30 – 12 noon

Sunday 9am – 12 noon

Help the shop by becoming a volunteer  
a shareholder or join our monthly 100 club.

## Annual General Meeting on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019

The eighteenth *THACS* AGM will take place in Tewin Memorial Hall on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 7:30pm.

The evening will start with the AGM and then there will be refreshments (including wine) followed by a talk from our guest speaker.

The notices for the AGM accompany this newsletter. As you can see from the agenda, the meeting will include the Chairman's and Treasurer's report for 2018, the election of the officers and other committee members for 2019, a proposal for changing the Constitution and Rules and a preview of events for 2019.

Our guest speaker is Chris Bell and the subject of his talk will be ***How Photography Changed Painting Forever.***

Chris graduated from the Royal College of Art with a Master's degree in Photography and has spent 30 years

as a professional photographer working with UK and international clients, ranging from Harrods to IBM. He is an accomplished lecturer and an entertaining speaker.

His talk will be illustrated with projections of art works before and after the advent of the lens and after the photographic image arrived. This is an area little explored by the general public or the art world, who in the early days saw it either as a threat or as an inferior type of image making. The use of the lens influenced painting in many ways even before photography itself was invented and certainly in the years after. In more modern times photography has also been instrumental in changing our understanding of the way we see ourselves as well as the world around us.

There is no admission charge for the evening and no booking is necessary. This is an important meeting for *THACS* and all members are urged to attend. Non-members are very welcome but not able to vote. Any non-members who just wish to attend the talk are advised to arrive by 8:30pm.

## THACS Shows in 2019

The Spring Show will be on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2019 and the Autumn Show will be on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2019. The Show Schedule for the Spring Show will be published in February 2019. Meanwhile here are the photographic categories for both shows:-

Spring 2019	Autumn 2019
1. Sculpture *	1. Summer Flowers *
2. Paths	2. Textiles
3. Metallic	3. Landscape *
4. Waterscape *	4. Wildlife *
5. Pets *	5. People at Play

The Adult Section consists of all ten categories and the Children's Section consists of the six categories marked with \*.

Please remember that these are **your** shows, so we need your guidance and feed-back to ensure that the shows reflect the interests of THACS members. So, if you have suggestions for any categories for future shows, we'd love to hear from you.

### Recent Events

#### Creative writing workshop on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October

There were six of us and, as usual, our tutor, Frances Wilson, inspired and drew us onto more than we ever imagined doing when we woke that morning. We wrote from objects picked out of a bag and experimented with styles of poets whose writing we looked at over the course of the day.

The next writing workshop will be held shortly before the THACS spring show next year.

Joanne Allen (Workshop Organiser)

#### Art workshop on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November

This was an Experimental Watercolour workshop, where we tried various substances such as bleach and salt on watercolour. The results were quite effective.

We hope to have a display of these drawings at the AGM on the 14<sup>th</sup> of January, so do come along and see them for yourself.

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## Other News

### Fun and learning at the Tewin Cowper School allotment

Last summer, it came to *THACS*' notice that an allotment had become available and an idea grew. Tewin Cowper School needed available space to grow plants, flowers and vegetables to enhance the children's learning.

John Sheridan (Chairman, Tewin Allotment Association) was instrumental in getting the project started and arranged for the ground to be cleared. Ray Keppler and Lynne Burgess cleared the overgrowth from behind the patch. The venture was underway.

Before the end of term, teacher Joanna Tebbutt and her class had planted a variety of fruit and vegetables, mostly donated by *THACS* and members of the Allotment Association. Help and expertise was on hand from John Sheridan and Ray Cattermole on most Thursday afternoons when the children make their visits to the allotment.

*THACS* has donated a beautiful set of new, child-sized tools to allow a lot of children to be gardening at the same time. The Year 4 pupils and their teacher began learning and enjoying how to tend the earth and grow flowers, plants and vegetables. *THACS* committee members Lynne Burgess and Alice Greenwood were also on hand to walk the children to and from the allotment, and share their enthusiasm for the new project.

Since then the children have successfully grown an array of plants, veg and flowers. Some of their produce has been cooked and enjoyed. In September some of their produce was exhibited at the *THACS* Autumn Show and their runner beans impressed the judge hugely!

On Friday 19th October the children had an 'Allotment Sale' outside their classroom after visiting their patch. Available to buy were pumpkins, courgettes, tomatoes, beetroot, butternut squash, gem squash and even a chilli! They managed to raise £39.20 for the Allotment Fund.

With the winter coming on the allotment has been weeded and 'put to bed' but associated classroom activities will continue. Growing will begin again in early Spring.

It's a joy to see not only the plants growing but also the way in which a new dimension has been brought to the children's learning, which they are loving. We have some budding gardeners!

There are some lovely photos on the Tewin Cowper School Web site ([www.tewincowper.herts.sch.uk/allotment/](http://www.tewincowper.herts.sch.uk/allotment/))

Lynne Burgess (*THACS* Schools Liaison)

### Donations to charity

We have donated £100 to St John of God Hospitaller Services (Digswell Nurseries), using the money raised from the sale of produce at the two shows. Digswell Nurseries is a horticultural centre selling a wide range of plants whilst providing a supportive working environment and training for vulnerable adults. (You can find out more at their website [www.digswell.org.uk](http://www.digswell.org.uk)).

The donations support the aims of *THACS*, which are to promote the good cultivation of gardens and allotments, to foster interest in garden design and plants and to encourage village arts and crafts.

## **THACS publicity and communications in 2019**

### **Background**

I've been Chairman and Newsletter Editor since 2009 and Show Secretary since 2012. Whilst it has all been enjoyable and worthwhile, I would like to lighten my workload by handing over the Newsletter Editor role to someone else. This was first announced in September 2017 in the *THACS* newsletter and was followed by numerous other appeals and initiatives to find a new editor, but without success. I believe that any further efforts would be futile so I have decided to relinquish my Newsletter Editor role at the end of 2018. Consequently, this is the last *THACS* newsletter (for the foreseeable future).

### **THACS without a newsletter editor**

This decision has not been made lightly. Regular communication with members is key to *THACS* activities and the pursuit of our objectives. The *THACS* committee has been dealing with the impacts of the decision and have developed the following approach to publicity and communications for 2019.

### **New arrangements**

#### **a) Forthcoming events**

Articles about forthcoming events will still be written and

- 1) published in the Tewin Magazine
- 2) published on the *THACS* webpage
- 3) emailed to members (based on the current email distribution)
- 4) possibly printed and posted on notice boards, such as in Tewin Stores, Memorial Hall and St Peter's Church (to be investigated).

#### **b) Show Schedules**

Production will continue as usual, but without adverts. Publication and distribution will continue as now (Spring Show Schedule in February, Autumn Show Schedule in July).

#### **c) Show reports and results**

The full post-show report and results will still be produced and published on the web page. A few paper copies will be printed and made available in Tewin Stores. A summary report will be published in the Tewin Magazine and emailed to members.

## Tewin Pilates



Pilates classes held in Tewin Pavilion,  
Upper Green, Tewin, AL6 0LX

**Day Classes:**  
Mon, 8.30am & 1.15pm, Tues, Weds, Thurs,  
& Fri, 9.15am, 10.30am & 11.45am

**Evening Classes:**  
Tues, 6.10pm, 7.15pm & 8.20pm  
Wed, 7.0pm, Thur, 7.0pm & 8.15pm

For more info contact Julie on: 07788 648438  
juleskimber@tewinpilates.com  
www.tewinpilates.com



#### **d) AGM documents**

Production, publication and distribution will continue as usual. The AGM Notices for the 2019 AGM accompany this newsletter. The minutes and associated reports will be printed and distributed with the Spring Show Schedule in February 2019.

#### **e) THACS webpage**

The *THACS* webpage on the Tewin Village website has traditionally echoed the *THACS* newsletters in its structure, content and updating regime. The demise of the newsletters means that this approach is no longer viable so the *THACS* webpage will need to be revised and enhanced. Work on this has already started and some of the enhancements can already be seen in the way new *THACS* photographs are handled. Thanks to help from the Tewin Village Website Committee, there have been substantial improvements in the way photographs are up-loaded and displayed and in the way the links between the text and photographs work. To see what I mean, go to [www.tewinvillage.co.uk/clubs/thacs/](http://www.tewinvillage.co.uk/clubs/thacs/) and click on the links to pictures of the 2018 Autumn Show and to the pictures of the *THACS* visit to RHS Wisley. I hope that you like what you see! Look out for further developments during next year.

#### **Impact on members**

The impact on our members will largely depend upon how they currently receive our documents.

**Email.** If you currently receive our newsletters via email then you will be the least affected. Instead of receiving a full newsletter five times each year, you will receive articles about forthcoming events early in most months. It will be the same text as submitted for the Tewin Magazine, but will get to you before the Tewin Magazine is published. This means that our members will still hear about our forthcoming events – and have an opportunity to book – before any non-members hear about it.

**Personal or postal delivery.** If you receive the paper copies of the newsletter by personal or postal delivery then you will unfortunately suffer a more substantial impact. If you subscribe to the Tewin Magazine, then you will be able to read about our forthcoming events there. Otherwise, you will not get to know about them unless you see the articles on one of the notice boards. In either case, you will lose the current membership communication services. However, there are things you can do to overcome this:-

- Switch your nominated communication method to email (just by letting me know)
- Take out a subscription for Tewin Magazine if you haven't already done so and you are within its distribution area (contact the editor Jackie Murphy at [tewinmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:tewinmagazine@gmail.com) or the distribution organiser Sue Whitbourn on 01438 798221)
- Check the *THACS* webpage on the Tewin Village website regularly ([www.tewinvillage.co.uk/clubs/thacs/](http://www.tewinvillage.co.uk/clubs/thacs/) )

Whatever you do, please make the effort to make a change and find a suitable way to keep up with *THACS* news so that you can continue to enjoy *THACS* events.

Ray Keppler (Outgoing Newsletter Editor)

#### **Our Advertisers**

As this will be the last *THACS* Newsletter for the foreseeable future, we will no longer be able to support local business by publishing their advertisements and *THACS* will no longer benefit from the advertising revenue.

On behalf of the *THACS* committee, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our advertisers for their wonderful support over the last six years. The income from the advertisements during this period was £2,233 which has covered the costs of producing our

Newsletters and Show Schedules and make a welcome contribution to the essential costs of running the society.

The following organisations have been *THACS* advertisers:-

- 1) Aden Associates
- 2) Attimore Veterinary Group
- 3) Bedwell Garden Machinery
- 4) Bespoke Sheds and Garden Buildings
- 5) Bless My Sole feet treatment
- 6) Box of Delights gift shop
- 7) Catbells accommodation
- 8) Chimney Sweeping
- 9) FP Mortimore web design
- 10) Homewood Heating and Plumbing
- 11) Pet and Garden Centre
- 12) Pet and Reptile Centre
- 13) Plume of Feathers
- 14) Tewin Mobile Vets
- 15) Tewin Motors
- 16) Tewin Pilates
- 17) Tewin Stores
- 18) Welwyn North Taxis
- 19) Wilkinson Tree Surgery

The first advertisement in our Newsletter was the Pet and Garden Centre which unfortunately closed its doors and was replaced by the Pet and Reptile Centre. Unfortunately this also closed down, but the owner was not to be outdone and then opened the Box of Delights, a lovely gift shop in Welwyn and was delighted to

continue advertising with us. Our mobile vet Chris came to Tewin village so we replaced Attimore Veterinary Group advertisement with Tewin Mobile Vets.

There are many memories are to be had, such as the owner of Wilkinson Tree Surgery (known as the “tree man”) who usually delivered his payments in advance on the doorstep. The procedure was always to discuss advertising requirements at the beginning of each year, agree the artwork and number of adverts, then plan the printing schedule. The payments always promptly flowed in (with only one exception due to a change of ownership).

We have been very fortunate to have such a loyal group and we thank you for your time and effort in support of our society and trust your business will continue to thrive over the coming years.

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### **ADVERTISEMENTS**

Please support the advertisers and be sure to mention ***THACS*** and that you saw their adverts in our Newsletter or Show Schedule when purchasing items or services.

### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

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