

THACS

TEWIN HORTICULTURAL ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2011

Chairman's Introduction

The tenth *THACS* AGM took place at Tewin Memorial Hall on Monday 17th January 2011 and was attended by at least 50 members. I presented the Chairman's report for 2010 and Pat Fulford presented the Treasurer's report for financial year 1st November 2009 to 31st October 2010. We held the elections for the officers and remaining committee members and the names, telephone numbers and addresses of these individuals appear on page 5. The meeting continued with a preview of planned *THACS* events for 2011.

The AGM was followed by an informative and entertaining talk entitled *Victorian and Edwardian Photographs* by Bob White, followed by the serving of refreshments.

**The eleventh *THACS* AGM will be held at Tewin Memorial Hall
on Monday 16th January 2012 at 8.00pm.**

Ray Keppler (Chairman).

AGM Report

Chairman's report for 2010

It's been another successful year for *THACS*. We had a full and varied programme of events and all but one of them were well-supported, so thank you, members.

We organised and ran twelve events during 2010.

1) Monday 18th January - Ninth AGM

In January we held the ninth AGM which was followed by an informative and entertaining talk entitled '*The history of paper making and printing*' by Mike Creasey.

2) Monday 15th February - Jewellery workshops started

In February, Maxine and Charlotte Callaghan ran the first of another series of Jewellery workshops at their shop, Homebeads in Knebworth. Four workshops were held during 2010, with an average class size of six.

3) Friday 26th February - Calligraphy workshops started

Also in February, Jo Cooper ran the first of another series of calligraphy workshops in Burnham Green Hall. Ten workshops were held during 2010, with an average class size of seven.

4) Saturday 20th March – Ninth Spring Show

The ninth *THACS* Spring Show took place in March. There were 226 entries from 51 exhibitors which was a marvellous effort. Despite having tolerated one of the worst winters and late springs for many years, the gardeners of the society managed to display daffodils and other spring flowers, as well as shrubs and indoor plants. The Arts and Crafts, Photography and Culinary classes were also very well supported.

5) Wednesday 31st March - Visit to the Royal Academy of Arts to see *The Real Van Gogh: The Artist and His Letters*

37 people took a coach trip to the Royal Academy see this exhibition.

The letters that Van Gogh had written to his brother, Theo, were well displayed in the centre of the galleries, with plenty of room around them. There were also many works that had not been exhibited in the United Kingdom before, including some beautiful drawings using reed and quill pens. The outing was enjoyed by all and we were pleased to experience such an excellent exhibition.

6) Saturday & Sunday 15-16 May - Open Gardens

In May, more than 260 people took advantage of the *THACS* Open Gardens event and visited some of the Open Gardens in and around Tewin. Fourteen gardens opened this year and the event

was held over two days. Some opened on Saturday and some on Sunday, ensuring that there were not too many gardens to visit in one day. There were enough Open Gardens to make up two full days out and enough variety to give all of the visitors plenty to see.

7) Wednesday 23rd June - Visit to Beth Chatto Gardens

We had a glorious summer day for our visit to Beth Chatto Gardens in June and it seemed particularly appropriate for us to visit them in 2010, since this is the year of their 50th anniversary. There were 41 people in the group and 27 of them had chosen to go on the optional one-hour guided tour. The gardens were inspirational and a joy to explore. The gravel garden, water garden and woodland garden each had their own distinctive styles, but also linked together well.

The extensive and well-stocked nursery was also very popular and most of the group returned to the coach laden with their purchases.

8) Saturday 26th June - *THACS* plant stall at the village fete

The *THACS* plant stall at the Tewin Village Fete in June was a resounding success, raising more than £400 for the Tewin Memorial Hall.

9) Saturday 4th September - Ninth Autumn Show

The ninth *THACS* Autumn Show took place in September. It was the largest show yet with 111 exhibitors taking part and an amazing 528 entries. The hall was full to brimming with produce and displays of many kinds making an exciting show for all who came in the afternoon.

TEWIN STORES

18a Hertford Road, Tewin
Telephone: 01438 717929

Support your Community Shop, for locally sourced produce. Browse our shelves for your groceries and home made cakes. Enjoy a freshly brewed cup of coffee in our Internet Cafe whilst perusing items in the Gallery, or sit in the sunshine in our Courtyard Garden. Why not become a Volunteer and participate in this exciting village venture?

Come and see us, you will receive a warm welcome; opening hours are:-

Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 4.30 pm
Saturday 8.30 am to 12.30 pm
Sunday 9 am to 12 am

The Post Office is open:-
Monday to Friday 9 am to 11.30 am
Saturday 9 am to 11.30 am

- 10) Saturday 23rd October - *THACS* Arts & Crafts Fair
- 11) Saturday 23rd October - 10th Anniversary Party
- 12) Monday 8th November - Talk entitled *The Garden in Autumn and Winter* by Margaret Easter.

Reports on the last three events are given later in this newsletter.

Also in November, we had hoped to have a visit to the Royal Academy of Arts to see *Treasures from Budapest*. Unfortunately, this event was cancelled due to lack of support.

In addition to these twelve events:-

- 1) We made a donation of £250 to the Tewin Allotment Association towards the cost of extending the water supply.
- 2) We laid a wreath at St. Peter's war memorial on Remembrance Sunday in November.

Our events and activities were made possible by a large number of people who have given their time and skills so freely. We are indebted to them for their help and support.

As I complete my second year as chairman, I would like to express my gratitude to the *THACS* committee. We have an excellent team, who work well together and individually.

Our Spring and Autumn shows entail much hard work from the committee and other staunch helpers, who are always willing to support us in catering, setting up and clearing the hall. Thank you to these people and to the judges, who give us their valuable time and expertise.

Our thanks also go to the numerous willing members and supporters of the society, who reliably help us with diverse tasks such as:-

- 1) distribution of the newsletter
- 2) displaying posters for our events
- 3) manning our plant stall at the Village Fete
- 4) providing plants for us to sell
- 5) making cakes for use at our events
- 6) serving refreshments at our meetings.

THACS is a thriving society and is well supported by our members and friends. The Committee appreciate this support and thank you for it. Long may it continue!

Ray Keppler (Chairman).

Treasurer's report for financial year 1st November 2009 to 31st October 2010

The 2010 financial year was successful and our funds are healthy and secure.

The cash surplus for the year was £1,215.28, compared with £311.06 in 2009. At the end of the previous financial year no adjustments for prepayments or accruals were made. Included in 2010 cash surplus is £181.00 covering deposits for 2011 events.

Removing the effect of these deposits over the 2010 year end, the cash surplus of £1,215.28 becomes an income surplus of £1,034.28.

The Membership at the end of 2010 stood at 214 members compared with 203 members in 2009. Of the 214, 174 pay their subscriptions by standing order, making a savings on

postage and administration costs. It would be appreciated if the remaining 40 members would consider signing standing order forms to increase this savings.

Our Membership income of £1,050 covered the AGM costs, RHS Membership, the Newsletters, Printing and Sundry expenses, Gifts, plus the losses on our Spring and Autumn Shows. These expenses amounted to £845.30.

The Newsletter printing and postage costs for 2010 have reduced by £49.94, helped by 44 members electing to receive their Newsletters by email.

Income from Advertising was £256.50, a reduction of £102.50 from 2009. As planned we reduced the advertising space in the Newsletters.

Prior to the closure of The Tewin Society, an amount of £150 was donated to THACS for the purchase of an annual trophy. The trophy has been purchased and is available for presentation.

Thanks to hard work of our Chairman, Ray Keppler, the Open Gardens event resulted in a surplus of £646.24.

During the year we gave donations of £96.19 to the Tewin Memorial Hall for part cost of the public address system, a donation of £70 towards the renovation costs of the Tewin Telephone Box, and a donation of £250 to Tewin Allotments.

It is not our aim to accumulate funds, and from time to time we may consider donations to other local activities. Before our next Spring Show we intend to purchase two or three additional display boards which may be of considerable expense.

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The schedule of the Analysis of the Accumulated Funds, reflects the income and expenditure details for the individual activities carried out during the year, and is also a guide to the make up of our results.

Thanks to Hilary Tipping, THACS presented an outstanding Craft Show, which brought in a surplus of £200.99. The visit to the Royal Academy for "The Real Van Gogh" gave a surplus of £37, and the outing to Beth Chatto Gardens a surplus of £86.50, which resulted from filling a 57 seater coach.

The Photo talk was a loss of £9.00, and nine Calligraphy workshops gave a further loss of £9.67. Tickets for Talks and Workshops are sold in advance at a small fee, so we can ensure that lack of numbers will not be an embarrassment to the Speaker or Tutor.

On 23rd October 2010, THACS 10th Anniversary Party took place, despite knowing in advance that the numbers attending were disappointing. After

ten successful years of the Society, we decided to continue with the celebration, and keeping the expenses as low as possible, and the evening resulted in a loss of £112.79.

Having achieved excellent financial results for the year, the bank and cash balances to be carried forward at 31st October 2010 were £ 5,568.65, compared with £4,353.37 at the end of October 2009.

We shall continue to act carefully to ensure our Society's finances remain secure.

Finally, may I thank Graham Spring for his help and advice in acting as the Independent Examiner of these accounts.

Pat Fulford (Honorary Treasurer).

Election of Officers and Committee for 2011

The following officers were elected.

Chairman	Ray Keppler
Vice-Chairman	Anna Clark
Treasurer	Patricia Fulford
Secretary	Nick Whiting

During 2010, Alf Fulford decided that he will not be standing for re-election onto the committee. Alf has given *THACS* six years of dedicated service and his most significant and lasting contribution is the *THACS* web page on the Tewin village website. This is a great asset for *THACS* and Alf is continuing in his role as website coordinator, even though he is leaving the committee.

The remaining members of the committee, Terry Brand, Lynne Burgess, Doreen Lloyd and Kate Stott, were all re-elected. One new member was voted onto the committee:-Malcolm Allen. *THACS* committee members for 2011 are as follows:

Name	Telephone 01438-	Address
Malcolm Allen	798749	47 Bishops Road, Tewin Wood
Terry Brand	718700	16 Lower Green
Lynne Burgess	798799	14 Bishops Road, Tewin Wood
Anna Clark	798324	Tewin Orchard, 1 Upper Green
Pat Fulford	798717	27 Bishops Road, Tewin Wood
Ray Keppler	717545	15 Upper Green Road
Doreen Lloyd	715020	27 Grass Warren
Kate Stott	717680	20 Harwood Close
Nick Whiting	717230	5 Churchfield Road

There are vacancies on the committee, which we are eager to fill, especially by young energetic individuals who would introduce new and fresh ideas into *THACS*. Some existing committee members have served for a considerable time and would like to have lighter duties or possibly retire. Unless we attract new committee members to ensure continuity, we may have to reduce our activities which will be a detriment to our active Society. So please come and help us. If you would like to join the committee or are just curious about it, please let Ray Keppler know.

Forthcoming Events

Calligraphy workshops in Burnham Green Hall starting on 21st January 2011

The calligraphy workshops will continue this year in Burnham Green hall and the first three have been booked for 2.30 pm for two hours on Fridays 21st January, 18th February and 18th March. If you attended the classes last autumn, then Anna Clark will have contacted you about these workshops before they started. If you are interested in attending but have not been along before, or would like to find out more about them, then please contact **Pat Fulford, 27 Bishops Road, Tewin, Herts AL6 0NP (telephone 01438-798717).**

Jewellery workshops in Homebeads, Knebworth

We hope to organise some more jewellery workshops at Homebeads, Knebworth. If you are interested in attending these, or would like to find out more about them, then please contact **Pat Fulford, 27 Bishops Road, Tewin, Herts AL6 0NP (telephone 01438-798717).**

THACS Spring Show in Tewin Memorial Hall on Saturday 16th April 2011

THACS will be holding the tenth annual Spring Show at Tewin Memorial Hall on **Saturday 16th April** this year. We very much hope that non-members as well as members will be tempted to take part in this popular village event, so if any of your friends need a push to get started, please tell them what an enjoyable event the Spring show is, and we would love to see them and their entries this year.

The show schedule, rules and entry form are with this newsletter. Further copies can be obtained from Tewin Stores or the THACS page on www.tewinvillage.co.uk. Please make sure that your **completed entry forms and fees are delivered to Anna Clark, Tewin Orchard, 1 Upper Green, Tewin, AL6 0LX by Sunday 10th April.**

Entries should be taken to the hall between 8.30am and 10.30am on the day. The show will be open to the public at 2.15pm, after the judging has taken place. Refreshments will be available during the afternoon, and the presentation of prizes will be at 3.30pm. If anyone can help with the setting up of the hall, clearing away afterwards, making cakes for the teas and /or serving them during the show, we would be very grateful for your help. Please contact Anna Clark on 01438 798324 or email to mike.tewin@gmail.com. We look forward to you taking part and good luck with all your entries!

The Spring Show Schedule specifies the photography categories for Spring, but we thought that you might like advanced advance warning of the photography categories for the whole year.

Spring 2011

1. On the Farm
2. * Bridges in landscape
3. * Timepieces
4. Churchyards
5. * Happiness (to include people)

Autumn 2011

1. * Wildlife
2. * Doorways
3. Silhouettes
4. Gardens
5. * Street scene (to include people)

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

Talk entitled *The Life and Work of Henry Moore* by Barry Dodge at Tewin Memorial Hall on Monday 9th May 2011

We are pleased to announce that Barry Dodge will be talking about *The Life and Work of Henry Moore* in the Memorial Hall on the evening of Monday 9th May 2011, starting at 8pm.

Barry is a guide at the Henry Moore Foundation at Perry Green. He has also been a guide at the National Gallery and a lecturer at North Herts College. You may recall that Barry gave us an interesting talk on Modern Art in 2008.

The presentation will include slides and will last for over an hour. It will cover Henry's life from 1930 when his outstanding career took off, plus details of his famous drawings of people sheltering in the Underground stations during the 1940's, followed by later events in his life from 1950 to 1970. **Prices are £3 for members and £4 for non-members, including refreshments.** If you wish to attend, then please fill in the form at the back of this newsletter and send it, with your payment (cheques payable to *THACS*) to **Pat Fulford, 27 Bishops Road, Tewin Wood, AL6 0NP** by 4th May.

Future Events

Here is advance notification of proposed events for later in the year.

- 1) Visit to Margaret Easter's garden in Harpenden for an afternoon in early June.
- 2) *THACS* plant stall at the Tewin Village Fete on Saturday 25th June.
- 3) Visit to RHS Hyde Hall, Essex, probably in August.
- 4) Visit to Kenwood House, Hampstead.
- 5) Visit to St Mary's Church and the British Schools Museum in Hitchin, followed by a meal at a suitable venue.
- 6) The *THACS* Autumn Show on Saturday 3rd September.
- 7) Flower arranging talk and demonstration in November.

We're on the waiting list for another visit to Highgrove, Gloucestershire, but that visit is unlikely to happen this year due to the long waiting list.

We have ideas for other events, but we'd still like to hear from you if you have any suggestions. Please pass your suggestions to the editor.

The Tewin Society Award

After the Tewin Society wound up in 2009, they donated some of their funds to *THACS* in order to preserve the Tewin Society name via an annual award to be presented by *THACS* for achievements that embraces the aims and intentions of the Tewin Society. We accepted the donation and associated responsibility.

We have spent the money on this perpetual plaque. The large disc at the top is engraved:-

THACS
The Tewin Society Award
for
Heritage, Environment
& Conservation

There are 24 smaller discs that can be engraved each year with the name of the winner and the year of the award.

We intend to present the award every year at the *THACS* AGM commencing in 2012. Meanwhile, we need to determine the award criteria, adjudication method, nomination procedure and publicity. The *THACS* committee thinks that it would be best if this was achieved by a new Tewin Society Award committee to be established, for the specific purpose of dealing with these issues and managing the award each year. This committee would be chaired by the *THACS* chairman and consist of a small number of appropriate people from the village. The formation of this committee is under way.

You'll be hearing more about this in due course but, meanwhile, you can help by thinking about who you would nominate to receive this award and why, so that you'll be prepared to make the nominations once the procedure is announced.

Recent Events

***THACS* Arts & Crafts Sale and 10th Anniversary Party on Saturday 23rd October 2010**

To mark our 10th Anniversary, we arranged an Arts and Crafts sale and a party in the evening of 23rd October. This date was chosen since our first launch party was on 27th October 2000, when we encouraged Tewin residents and others interested in horticulture, arts and crafts to come along to the Memorial hall for an initial get-together. The following year saw the beginning of the society in earnest, with shows, talks, workshops and visits.

Hilary Tipping very kindly offered to organise the Arts and Crafts sale on our behalf, and set to contacting exhibitors; her efforts were rewarded with a full Memorial hall with stalls ranging from Terry's bears to jewellery, photographs, paintings, knitting and sewing gifts, preserves, cards and more. The sale was advertised in the local press, and the hall was busy all day, with refreshments provided by a willing team of helpers. There was a demonstration of jewellery-making by 'Homebeads' of Knebworth, and face-painting by Emma Pitrakou for the children.

Michael Clark had organised an Apple Day walk for Hertfordshire and Middlesex Wildlife Trust members and

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We Deliver Locally

Apple enthusiasts around Tewin Orchard and the Millennium orchard, and he brought many of these walkers down to the hall for refreshments and purchases. He also decorated part of the stage with a selection of unusual apples.

The sale was a great success and our thanks go to Hilary for all her efforts.

In the evening, after decorating the hall with balloons and lovely table decorations by Gay Cates, just over 50 of us gathered for a party, bringing a feast with us to share and enjoy. Todd and Jean Canton did a splendid job behind the bar, and Gary Benjafield played and sang a variety of popular music while we danced the evening away.

We displayed photographs, posters and captions of many of the events, talks, open gardens and other successes we have experienced during the past 10 years, and the overall feeling was that *THACS* has been a happy and successful society. We have managed to continue to stick to our principles initially set out in our constitution, and have increased our membership over the years.

Talk entitled *The Garden in Autumn and Winter* by Margaret Easter in the Memorial Hall on Monday 8th November 2010

Forty-two people came out on a cold November evening to enjoy an informative and informal talk by Margaret Easter entitled *The Garden in Autumn and Winter*. The main message of the talk was that our gardens do not have to be dull, boring and devoid of flowers during autumn and winter. Margaret encouraged us all to use plants that flower in that period and to plant them with earlier-flower plants and bulbs to ensure a succession of flowers.

Margaret has compiled an extensive list of plants that flower between September and February. She introduced us to these plants using excellent photographs and gave us information about their requirements and uses, with a few tips about their care. Most of the plants on the list are available from her nursery, LW Plants, and the catalogue can be down-loaded from her web site www.thymus.co.uk. (If you would like a copy of this actual list, please contact the Editor). The talk was followed by Q&A and refreshments were served whilst her plants and books were viewed and purchased.

Many of the audience expressed a desire to have a guided tour of Margaret's garden in Harpenden, so we will be organising this visit for 2011 (probably in early June).

Visit to the Royal Academy of Arts to see Treasures from Budapest : European Masterpieces from Leonardo to Schiele on Wednesday 24th November 2010.

Unfortunately, this event was cancelled due to lack of support, even though we offered the option of coach seats only, to provide door-to-door transport for six hours of Christmas shopping.

It is always sad and frustrating when our events have to be cancelled due to lack of support because it means that we have not chosen an event that appeals to our members. So please help by giving us feed-back to any of the committee members if you would have liked to have gone on this visit but did not book on it.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Ray Keppler Email: ray@raykeppler.wanadoo.co.uk Telephone: 01438 717545

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**Talk entitled *The Life and Work of Henry Moore* by Barry Dodge
at Tewin Memorial Hall on Monday 9th May 2011 at 8.00pm**

Name/s

Address.....
.....

Phone Number.....Email.....

Tickets are £3 each for members and £4 each for non-members.

Total number of tickets required.....

How many of these are for THACS members?

I enclose £.....

**Please make cheques payable to THACS and send to:- Pat Fulford, 27 Bishops
Road, Tewin, Herts AL6 ONP by 4th May.**