

THACS

TEWIN HORTICULTURAL ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2018

Chairman's Introduction

I hope that you enjoyed our recent Spring Show. The report and results are given below.

Our next two events have a horticultural theme, with the Open Gardens Day on Sunday 20th May and a visit to RHS Wisley on Wednesday 25th July. Between these two, there will be the Tewin Village Fete on Saturday 30th June, where *THACS* will be manning the plant stall so please support this effort by providing us with plants that we might sell on the stall in aid of Tewin Memorial Hall. If you are more interested in art than horticulture, then you may be interested in the two London exhibitions (described under Other News).

Our quest for a new Newsletter Editor continues. The original appeal in last September's Newsletter and the subsequent appeal at our AGM in January have not borne any results. So please help us by keeping this search in mind and spreading the word around. If you might be interested, or you know someone who might be, then please let me know.

Ray Keppler (Chairman)

***THACS* Events**

For ease of reference, here are the dates and titles of our events for 2018, together with the closing dates for the associated bookings.

Date	Event	Closing date for bookings
20 th May	Open Gardens	No booking required
25 th July	Visit to RHS Wisley	18 th July
1 st September	Autumn Show	26 th August
1 st December	Art & Craft Fair	No booking required

Spring Show on Saturday 14th April

After the ravages of "the beast from the East" and the late wet Spring, it was a delight to see the vibrant colourful displays at the Spring Show in Tewin Memorial Hall. The exhibits covered flower arranging, horticulture, arts & crafts, photography and culinary from both adults and children.

In the Main Hall were beautiful flower arrangements, a delightful display of horticulture exhibits, mouth-watering culinary exhibits and a selection of arts & craft exhibits. The impressive display of show exhibits was enhanced by the large hanging banner from Tewin Parent & Toddler group (hand-print rainbow) and the lovely new one from Tewin Under-Fives Pre-school (depicting the four seasons).

Since our last show in September, the Parish Room has had a major refurbishment, involving raising the radiators, building a raised floor, installing sound baffles and re-decorating the whole room. The transformation was impressive and the room is now lighter, more inviting, easier to access and it also seems to be larger. We put it all to good use, displaying the photography,

painting, calligraphy and prose exhibits, along with the exhibits from the new Adult & Child Pairs class.

The children's art exhibits for the Open Class were displayed in the corridor. Usually, the Open Class for children's art allows children of any age to enter a picture of a specified subject. This time, the subject was open as well, so children of any age could enter a picture of any subject, done in any medium. This resulted in a colourful and diverse collection of pictures from a large number of children. The number of exhibits was so high that the display over-flowed onto the walls of the Kimberly Room (where refreshments were available).

The adult trophy winners were Mavis Haggard for Flower Arranging, Marie St Pier for Horticulture, Shirley Ashby for Arts & Crafts, David Gregg for Photography and Shirley Barker for Culinary. The winners of the inaugural Adult & Child Class were the mother and son pair of Sydonia & Samuel Aitken-Ballard. Annabel Goodison won the Les Borg Cup for Children's Photography and May Carley won the Tewin Cowper School Award for the highest number of points in the children's classes for horticulture, arts & crafts and culinary. A full list of all the prize-winners is shown below.

The display of exhibits at the show is all too brief and the items are quickly removed and possibly forgotten. It is a shame that they are only seen by the visitors in the afternoon, particularly since some of the work could be used to inspire others. It is difficult to share the full impact of most of the exhibits to a wider audience. However, it is possible to do this when the medium is the written word, such as poetry and prose. Children in school years 5-7 were invited to submit poetry or prose entitled *Anticipating Summer* and two exhibits tied for first place. I'm delighted to be able to share them with you (thanks to the kind permission of the authors and their parents). One was by May Carley (whose poem can be seen below in *Other News*) and the other was by Zoe Faraway (whose work will be published in the next newsletter).

Many thanks to everyone who helped at the show:-

- Keith St Pier and Jim Hall for their remarkable refurbishment of the Parish Room
- The staff, helpers and children at Tewin Cowper School, Tewin Under-Fives Pre-school and the Tewin Parent & Toddler group, who have been very enthusiastic and supportive
- The judges, who give their time and expertise freely
- The Judges' Stewards, who helped the judges and recorded the results
- Linda Crawford and her team for lunch for the judges, refreshments in the afternoon and washing up
- Our guest presenters Alison Simpson and Prof Catherine Mead
- Byron Sinfield and John Ling for taking the photographs
- The committee, who worked so hard to make the show a success
- All the helpers behind the scenes, setting up and clearing the hall, manning the door and making cakes for the afternoon refreshments.
- All the exhibitors, without whom there would be no show!

Ray Keppler (Show Secretary)

<i>Special Awards for Highest Points</i>	<i>Winners</i>
Flower Arranging: Welwyn Times Trophy	Mavis Haggar
Horticulture: Van Hage Cup	Marie St Pier
Arts & Crafts: Marian Meads Memorial Trophy	Shirley Ashby
Photography: Peter Allen Memorial Cup	David Gregg
Culinary: Nodder Bowl	Shirley Barker
Adult & Child Pairs: THACS trophy	Sydonia & Samuel Aitken-Ballard
Tewin Cowper School Children's Award	May Carley
Children's Photography: Les Borg Cup	Annabel Goodison

<i>Adults</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Second</i>	<i>Third</i>
Flower Arranging	Mavis Haggar	Joy Lawson	Susan Whitbourn
Horticulture	Marie St Pier	Joy Lawson	Ray Keppler
Arts & Crafts	Shirley Ashby	Terry Brand	Audrey Walters
Photography	David Gregg	Jules Bridgman	Terry Brand
Culinary	Shirley Barker	Hilary Tipping	Melanie Goodison
<i>Adult & Child Pairs</i>			
Arts & Crafts	Sydonia & Samuel Aitken-Ballard	Debbie Hall & Erin Murray	Ian & Lauren Murray, Debbie Hall & Lauren Murray, Katie & Imogen Winters

<i>Children</i>	<i>Winners</i>
Horticulture	
Nursery & Reception	Linus Winters
School years 1 & 2	Peter Goodison
School years 3 & 4	Annabel Goodison
School years 5-7	May Carley
Arts & Crafts	
Nursery & Reception	Erin Murray & Joseph#
School years 1 & 2	Mia Barrettbell & Annabel*
School years 3 & 4	Annabel Goodison
School years 5-7	May Carley & Zoe Farraway
Photography	
School years 3 & 4	Annabel Goodison
School years 5-7	May Carley
Culinary	
Nursery & Reception	Lauren Murray
School years 1 & 2	Kitty Carley
School years 3 & 4	Matilda Dring, Imogen Winters, Ashley Winters
School years 5-7	May Carley

*:- These children are pupils at Tewin Cowper School.

#:- These children attend Tewin Under-Fives Pre-school.

Forthcoming Events

Tewin Open Gardens on Sunday 20th May

When was the garden invented? Well, you could ask many an historian, gardening aficionado or poet to whom a cultivated enclosure has always been important to their literary imagination. Was the original Garden of Eden open to all? If this were the case, then they may have created the activity of gardening which, in turn, lends itself to metaphors of human work, a human influence on the natural world and the process of life.

Well, let's have less of the philosophical treatise and more of getting our hands dirty.

This year brings back the bi-annual Tewin Open Gardens Event which has proved to be a very popular day among many villagers. A visit to our Open Gardens could provide you with great inspiration or just furnish you with ideas of how to improve or change your own garden.

Please remember that this event supports local charities and our village shop.

20th May 2018 should be as entertaining as any of our previous events. We have a number of new gardens this year, together with some of our favourites from the past. Our Open Gardeners have been toiling away, getting their hands dirty so that visitors can enjoy some of their spectacular gardens. We will have plant sales in some, delicious refreshments in others and all with variants of beautifully kept lawns, flower beds, woodland walks and an occasional water feature.

Opening Times: 11.00am - 6 pm.

Entrance: Entrance is by programme only, priced £3 per person, with accompanied children free. The programme includes a map detailing the location and addresses of the Open Gardens, together with a brief description of each of the gardens. Programmes will be available from Tewin Stores and the Rose and Crown Pub from Monday, 7th May, and from some gardens on the day itself.

We look forward to seeing you around our village on Sunday, 20th May for a beautiful spring day out. You will be made very welcome.

Plant stall at the village fete on Saturday 30th June

As you may have heard by now, the Tewin Village Fete will take place on Saturday 30th June. THACS will be organising the plant stall again and all the monies raised go to help maintain the village hall, so it's a very worthy cause.

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SUNDAY CLOSED

Please support this effort by providing us with plants that we might sell on the stall. Now is a good time for spring sowing, so please think ahead about what you might be able to cultivate for the stall. If there are seedlings left over they might be just the thing for people to buy later on. When you start on the herbaceous beds there may be a bit of dividing or thinning to do. You may have plants that others would value highly so keep us in mind when you find spare offshoots and seedlings.

If you have any plants to donate, then please bring them along to us at the plant stall on Lower Green during the morning of the fete. If this would be inconvenient then you can drop them off before the fete to either Nick Whiting, 5 Churchfield Road, or Sue Whitbourn, 107 Burnham Green Road. Any further enquiries to Nick on 01438 717230.

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## Visit to RHS Garden Wisley on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July

If you would like a summer's day out to lift the spirits, then join us on a coach trip for a day at RHS Wisley. Wisley is the flagship garden of the Royal Horticultural Society and is home to some of the largest plant collections in the world. Set in 240 acres of beautiful grounds, visitors can experience different styles of planting and garden design in a variety of lovely settings and all cared for to perfection. It is truly inspirational!

The famous mixed borders are glorious in July and they are full of colour, form and texture. From the top of the magnificent Rock Garden, you'll also see the amazing view down onto the majestic glasshouse and lake. This glasshouse is a showcase for a world-class plant collection, including rare and endangered species. The huge cathedral-like structure has three climatic zones, recreating tropical, moist temperate and dry temperate habitats. (*THACS* is engraved on one of the glass panels in recognition of

the donation given towards the glasshouse in 2004.) The glasshouse borders should be looking wonderful. They're full of agastaches, grasses, heleniums, echinaceas and eryngiums. There are some stunning plant combinations to see in detail and a glorious view en masse.

You may well have been to Wisley before and seen some of the main attraction such as these. They are all worth re-visiting but Wisley is continuously developing and changing and the pace of change has recently increased substantially, so be prepared for a few surprises! The largest - and most obvious - development is the construction of the new Welcome Building, which is well under way and due to be completed by the end of next year. The new Bowes-Lyon Rose Garden has now been completed and should look stunning, particularly when enjoyed from the wide sinuous path through it. Another exciting addition is a new 75m Wisteria tunnel on the Top

Terrace. When I last visited in March, the construction of the component arches of this impressive structure seemed to be near completion, so I could visualise how spectacular it will be when dripping with beautiful Wisteria blooms.

Despite the large size of the garden, you don't have to be a fit walker to be able to enjoy it. If you are no longer as mobile as you used to be, rest assured that there are many facilities to enable access for disabled people, including manual wheelchairs by the entrance and an electric mobility vehicle which drives around the gardens for those who cannot walk too far. There are also some powered mobility scooters available, but these need to be booked in advance.

However you get about the garden, you'll be in need of some refreshments during our visit. There are four different catering options - from a self-service lunch in the Food Hall to delicious cakes in the Coffee Shop – as well as picnic sites. Also, don't forget to visit the Wisley Shop and the extensive Plant Centre for top-quality plants and great ideas for home and garden.

Since this trip will be during the school holidays, parents may wish to bring their children along. There are several suitable trails in the garden and you can get free garden trail leaflets at the Garden Entrance. Each trail gives children things to spot, ideas of great places to explore and fun things to do in the garden. Also, young would-be jungle explorers will love the Tropical Zone in the glasshouse.

If you would like to find out more about the garden and the facilities before you visit, please look at the web site [www.rhs.org.uk/Gardens/Wisley](http://www.rhs.org.uk/Gardens/Wisley).

As *THACS* is affiliated to the RHS, there will be no entry charge for us. The adult price for the coach is £15 for *THACS* members and £20 for non-members. The children's price for the coach is £10 if at least one parent / carer is a *THACS* member and £12 otherwise. An optional walking guided tour of the gardens is available for an additional cost of £3 per person. The tour guides are knowledgeable and helpful, so the tour is particularly recommended if you have not visited Wisley before. The tour will last about 90 minutes and is scheduled to start at 11:30.

**The coach will leave Tewin (opposite the Rose and Crown) at 9.00am promptly and leave Wisley at 3.30pm.**

Following the problems we had with our previous coach company last year, we are using a new one. We've chosen South Mimms Travel but this means that we will need to pay for the coach four weeks before the visit, with high cancellation charges after that. So, if you are interested in this visit, **please book as early as possible**. Please fill in the form on the back page with your details and preferences and then send it, with your payment, to Ray Keppler, 15 Upper Green Road, Tewin, AL6 0LE as soon as possible and certainly before 18<sup>th</sup> July. (If you would like to reserve a mobility scooter then please let me know as soon as possible, so I can book one for you whilst they are still available).

## Other News

### Visual Arts

We have the luxury of Picasso, in what was described as his greatest year, in an unmissable show along with the luxury of ocean liners. Two very tempting exhibitions to help you spring into Summer.

#### **Picasso 1932- Love, Fame, Tragedy**

On until September 9<sup>th</sup> 2018.

You can't fail to have seen the publicity for this exhibition, in the papers, on TV and in various magazines, but just in case you have here is a little information

This is the first ever solo Pablo Picasso exhibition at Tate Modern. It will bring you face-to-face with more than 100 paintings, sculptures and drawings, mixed with family photographs and rare glimpses into his personal life.

Three of his extraordinary paintings featuring his lover Marie-Thérèse Walter are shown together for the first time since they were created over a period of just five days in March 1932.

The myths around Picasso will be stripped away to reveal the man and the artist in his full complexity and richness. You will see him as never before.

Visit <http://www.tate.org.uk> for more information and booking.

#### **Ocean Liners: Speed and Style**

On until June 17<sup>th</sup> 2018.

If you like sailing and in particular the speed and style of Ocean Liners then the current exhibition at V&A London is for you.

The exhibition is the most comprehensive ever about international ocean liners, looking from Brunel's ground breaking Great Eastern of 1859, which transformed ocean travel to the Queen Elizabeth II of 1969, which brought the era of great ocean-going passenger shipping to a close. Between these two vessels a whole transport culture is on display.

View luggage belonging to the Duke of Windsor, a diamond and pearl tiara previously owned by Lady Marguerite Allan and saved from the Lusitania and amongst many other items a children's chair from the first-class playroom on the Normandie,

Visit [www.vam.ac.uk](http://www.vam.ac.uk) for information and booking.

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Children's Poetry from the Spring Show

Anticipating Summer

The weather gets warm so we have fun outside,
We set up our tent and I help build the fire,
My favourite thing is roasting marshmallows,
That's what I like about summer!

I love to play in the garden with friends,
I love to wear my birthday-suit and frolic about in the sun,
That's the fun of summer!

When we go to the beach I turn into a piggy and gorge on ice cream,
Everyone else has one scoop but I have two,
That's the sweetness of summer!

When we go camping we look for minibeasts,
I hope to find a massive one (the size of a dog)
But we only find little ones the sizes of pennies,
That's the excitement of summer!

We go down to the river and search for crayfish,
Sometimes we find them and sometimes we only find Miller's Thumbs,
That's the chilly part of summer!

We go blackberrying and Mummy says to collect them,
But I just eat them then and there.....
And that is why I love summer!

May Carley (Year 5, age 9)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Ray Keppler Email: raykeppler@btinternet.com Telephone: 01438 717545

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**All Enquiries Welcome**

**\*\*\* NO JOB TOO BIG OR SMALL \*\*\***

**VISIT TO RHS WISLEY  
WEDNESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JULY 2018**

***Contact details***

**Name/s .....**

**Address.....**

**.....**

**Phone Number.....**

**Email.....**

***Booking information***

**Please enter the number of people required for each option in the boxes headed “#” to the right of the associated price.**

|                      | Adult |   | Children <sup>1</sup> |   |
|----------------------|-------|---|-----------------------|---|
|                      | Price | # | Price                 | # |
| <i>THACS</i> members | £15   |   | £10                   |   |
| Non-members          | £20   |   | £12                   |   |

<sup>1</sup>:- Children are people who are aged 16 or under.

They are entitled to the member's price if at least one parent / carer is a *THACS* member

**Total number of places required.....**

**Number of guided tour places required (£3 each).....**

The tour will last about 90 minutes and is scheduled to start at 11:30.

**Do you wish to book a mobility scooter? (yes/no).....**

A deposit of £5 will be required for the mobility scooter, payable on the day and refunded after use. Manual wheelchairs are available on the day, free of charge.

**I enclose £.....**

**Please make cheques payable to *THACS* and send to  
Ray Keppler, 15 Upper Green Road, Tewin, AL6 0LE as soon as possible and certainly  
before 18<sup>th</sup> July.**