

# **THACS**

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

### **NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2013**

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

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I wish you health and happiness for 2014 and hope that you will continue to enjoy your gardening, arts and crafts.

Thanks to all of those members who have paid their membership fees for 2013/14. Your membership card will be delivered to you this month (with this newsletter if you receive paper copy). If you are one of the few who have not paid yet, then please consider setting up an annual Standing Order. You can get the form for this from Malcolm Allen ('phone 01438 798749 or e-mail [m.allen47@googlemail.com](mailto:m.allen47@googlemail.com)) or the *THACS* page on the Tewin village website [www.tewinvillage.co.uk/thacs/](http://www.tewinvillage.co.uk/thacs/). Alternatively, you can renew your membership by sending cash or a cheque for £5 per person (payable to *THACS*) to Malcolm Allen, 47 Bishops Road, Tewin Wood, Welwyn, Hertfordshire AL6 0NP.

Ray Keppler (Chairman)

#### **THACS Events**

For ease of reference, here are the dates and titles of our events.

<b>Date of event</b>	<b>Event</b>
13 <sup>th</sup> January 2014	Annual General Meeting
5 <sup>th</sup> April 2014	Spring Show
6 <sup>th</sup> September 2014	Autumn Show

#### **Forthcoming Events**

##### **AGM on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

The thirteenth *THACS* AGM takes place at Tewin Memorial Hall on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2014 at 7:30pm** (not 8:00pm as previously announced).

The presentation of the Tewin Society Award will start the evening and this will be followed by the AGM. Then there will be refreshments (including wine) followed by a talk from a guest speaker.

The notices for the AGM and the minutes from the previous AGM accompany this newsletter. As you can see from the agenda, the meeting will include the Chairman's and Treasurer's report for 2013, the election of the officers and other committee members for 2014 and a preview of events for 2014. The committee is still developing the programme of events for 2014 and would like to hear your suggestions for this. If you have any ideas for events in 2014, then please let us know by contacting Jim Hall on the night or you can email [jimjhall@btinternet.com](mailto:jimjhall@btinternet.com).

Our guest speaker is Dr David Butcher and his subject will be *The Art of Monochrome Landscape and City Photography*. His presentation will feature a collection of stunning black and white photographs from around the world to show the more artistic side of landscape and cityscape photography. All of the photographs were taken on film and printed in a traditional darkroom to the highest quality.

David Butcher has been making photographic images since the early 1970s. He gained his Associateship of the Royal Photographic Society in 1987 and has been selling framed prints of his hill and mountain landscapes for more than twenty years. His handmade original prints are included in many private collections worldwide and are on display in many homes and businesses. He has published four books:- High Light (2005), Peak Light (2007), Lake Light (2010) and City Light (2013). These will be on sale in the hall. You can find out more about David Butcher's work from his website <http://www.davebutcher.co.uk/>.

There will not be any admission charge 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.

## ***THACS* Shows in 2014**

The Spring Show will be on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2014 and the Autumn Show will be on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2013. The Show Schedule and entry form for the Spring Show will be distributed with the next *THACS* newsletter in February 2014. Meanwhile here are the photographic categories for both shows:-

<b>Spring 2014</b>	<b>Autumn 2014</b>
1. * Portrait	1. Sunsets
2. Boats	2. Pubs
3. Village Scene	3.* Action
4. * Spring flowers	4.* Fruit and vegetables
5.* Cats or Dogs	5. * Birds

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

## **Recent Events**

### **Visit to *Lowry and the Painting of Modern Life* Exhibition at Tate Britain on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

Unfortunately this visit was cancelled because of lack of support.

### **Creative writing workshop on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

Another workshop took place in October under the expert tutelage of Frances Wilson, who often serves as a judge at our shows. The days started with exercises, which led to some inspiring writing in prose and poetry. We enjoyed hearing each others work as well as a delicious "bring and share lunch". There seems to be a desire for these workshops to continue so we hope to run another in the spring.

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## **Quiz evening with fish & chip supper on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2013**

Having got off to a slow start, the entries for the *THACS* Quiz Evening picked up significantly as the date approached. Whether people were waiting to assess the competition or hoping to surprise with the quality of their teams I don't know, but when the day came we had well over fifty people who had entered, making up eight teams.

Our quiz master Andrew Whawell did a great job setting a wide variety of questions. His opening round on horticulture was great fun and had many of us scratching our heads to come up with the answers.

In the early stages all the teams were pretty close and by the halfway point, when our fish and chip supper arrived, a number of teams were still in contention. As the quiz concluded, it took a tie breaker to decide which teams would be in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place and receive a big money prize! We also

had a special prize for the team in last place - they enjoyed a tastier prize, chocolate money!

Thanks to Andrew and everyone who took part and enjoyed a great evening in the Memorial Hall.

## **Art workshop on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2013**

We were treated to something different in November when Jude O'Sullivan led us in an unusual art workshop. Not a paint brush or a pencil was to be seen, but Jude showed us many different materials that we could use to make art. Only in the afternoon did we move on to colour, and then there was a challenge - we were only allowed to use two colours to draw something from nature! Of course, our drawings were not meant to be in the exact image of the original. 'I don't want to see a leaf painted in green', Jude said! Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day.

We hope that Jude will do another workshop for us in the spring; so watch this space!

### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

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