

THACS

TEWIN HORTICULTURAL ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2007

Dear Members,

THACS has had a full and varied programme of events this year and we now look forward to our Quiz night on 8th December 2007 and the AGM on 21st January 2008 when we hope to have an interesting speaker.

Those of you who were involved in our Autumn Show will know what a lovely day we had and how successful it was. I appreciate that whilst this was a team effort, the organising work, which began soon after the Spring Show finished and carried on through and after the Autumn Show, was mainly down to one person, Pat Fulford, so many sincere thanks Pat for all your dedicated work for **THACS**.

Gay Cates, Chairman

THACS held its sixth annual Autumn Show in the Memorial Hall, Tewin on Saturday 1st September 2007. The show was extremely well supported, with 52 exhibitors entering 348 exhibits, which represented a 25% increase in entries from our last Autumn Show. Despite all the rainy, unsettled and cold summer months, the hall was full of beautiful flowers and amazing vegetables and fruit. There was a fine display of Arts & Crafts and a high standard of Photography. Disappointingly, the entries for the Culinary and Children classes were well down and any suggestions to improve this situation before our next Show would be appreciated.

Many thanks to all the helpers with the setting up and clearing of the hall, the hard working catering ladies, those who donated cakes, the **THACS** committee who worked tirelessly, but most of all special thanks to the exhibitors for their enthusiasm, friendly and competitive spirit. We all should be very proud that such a successful and rewarding Autumn Show was staged in our village.

<i>Special Awards for Highest Points</i>	<i>Winners</i>
St Peter's Church Trophy - Flower Arranging	MARIE ST PIER
Carlton Rose Bowl – Flowers	PATRICIA FULFORD
Ivor & Vaughan Williams Trophy - Vegetables & Fruit	DENNIS TYLER
Shire Park Bowling Club President's Shield – Horticulture (Flower Arranging, Flowers, Vegetables & Fruit)	DENNIS TYLER
Royal Horticultural Society Banksian Medal – Horticulture (Flowers, Vegetables & Fruit)	DENNIS TYLER
Friends of Tewin Trophy - Arts & Crafts	TERRY BRAND
Nostalgic Photography Trophy	DAVID GREGG
Merv Wilson Trophy - Photography (Spring and Autumn)	PETER BURLEIGH
Memorial Hall Trophy - Culinary	HILARY TIPPING
Tewin Cowper School Parents' Association Award - Children's Class	NINA PITRAKOU
George Humble Crawford Award -Children's Photography (Spring and Autumn)	Joint winners SOPHIE PITRAKOU & LIZZIE RAINE

<i>Other Prizes</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Second</i>	<i>Third</i>
Flower Arranging	MARIE ST PIER	TRICIA LYONS & AUDREY WALTERS	SUSAN WHITBOURN
Flowers	PATRICIA FULFORD	ANNA CLARK	GAY CATES
Vegetables & Fruit	DENNIS TYLER	RONALD BRAND	DEREK BUCKNALL
Arts & Crafts	TERRY BRAND	DIANA WHITEHEAD	ELISABETH BUCHANAN & MAY GIBBS & WENDA PORTER & MARY LISA WEBB & LINDA WILLIAMS
Photography (Spring/ Autumn)	PETER BURLEIGH	PATRICIA FULFORD	JULIE BRIDGMAN
Photography (Autumn)	PATRICIA FULFORD	PETER BURLEIGH	WENDA PORTER
Culinary	HILARY TIPPING	MARIAN MEADS	GLORIA KERSEY

<i>Children's Awards</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Second</i>	<i>Third</i>
Highest points	NINA PITRAKOU	SOPHIE PITRAKOU	OLIVER BRADY
Horticulture:- 5 to 10 year olds	OLIVER BRADY		
Horticulture:- 11 to 17 year olds	NINA PITRAKOU		
Arts & Crafts:- Under 5's	WILLIAM BRADY		
Arts & Crafts:- 11 to 17 year olds	SOPHIE PITRAKOU	NINA PITRAKOU	
Catering:- 5 to 10 year olds	OLIVER BRADY		
Catering:- 11 to 17 year olds	NINA PITRAKOU	SOPHIE PITRAKOU	
Photography:- 11 to 17 year olds (Autumn Show)	SOPHIE PITRAKOU & LIZZIE RAINE	NINA PITRAKOU	

PHOTOGRAPHY FOR THE SPRING AND AUTUMN SHOWS 2008

To give people advance warning of the photography categories for next year, here are the details for the Spring and Autumn Shows.

The George Humble Crawford Award Photography Cup (children age 11-17yrs)	
<i>Spring 2008</i>	<i>Autumn 2008</i>
1. A Water Scene (Sea, rivers, lakes etc.)	1. Gardens (Any sort.)
2. Structures (Monuments, statues, buildings etc.)	2. Pets (Dogs, cats, horses etc.)
3. Wildlife (Birds, butterflies, lions etc.)	3. Portrait (Posed person or group.)

The Merv Wilson Photography Cup in 2008 (adults)	
<i>Spring 2008</i>	<i>Autumn 2008</i>
1. Still Life (Posed subject - not people.)	1. Gardens (Any sort.)
2. A Water Scene (Sea, rivers, lakes etc.)	2. Pets (Dogs, cats, horses etc.)
3. Structures (Monuments, statues, buildings etc.)	3. Interiors (Churches, public/private buildings etc.)
4. Wildlife (Birds, butterflies, lions etc.)	4. Portrait (Posed person or group.)
5. Machines (Cars, tractors, clocks etc.)	5. Landscapes (A scenic view.)

RECENT EVENTS

Painting and photography day, Tuesday 17th July 2007.

Although the weather was fine, it was a little chilly sitting outside in the churchyard, so most people stayed in St. Peter's church to paint. Others wandered down to the river and into the nature reserve hide in Tewin Bury to take photos, thanks to Ivor Williams. We ate our lunch in the vestry, where we were kindly allowed to use the facilities and in the afternoon Terry Brand came along to offer his expertise. Thank you to all who took part.

St Peter's church and Rose & Crown Thursday 16th August 2007

Peter Walters, past Churchwarden and Tower Captain of St Peter's Church, as well as a **THACS** member, welcomed about 40 members from the pulpit, insisting that this was for his comfort and that he was not going to preach a sermon! He said that much of his knowledge comes from the NADFAS book in the church, completed by them in 1984. St Peter's, Tewin was one of the first churches to be researched by NADFAS.

Peter's talk was fascinating, with details of the church's long history dating from a pre-Christian building between AD 300-400, where people worshipped Tew, the god of war. It became a Christian place of worship in AD 450, was rebuilt with the chancel, making two buildings, typical of an early Hertfordshire church, in 1088, and was dedicated to St Peter. It is older than the Tower of London, and the South Aisle was built just before St Albans abbey in the 13th century.

Details of the architecture, windows, bells, clock and furnishings were all covered, with information about the church's renovation over the past 20 years, and some of the famous graves were described.

Gay Cates, **THACS** Chairman, warmly thanked Peter Walters for a most interesting, anecdotal talk, and 36 members then made their way to the Rose & Crown for a delicious 3-course dinner, served by their friendly staff.

FDRTHCMDING EVENTS

Quiz evening, Saturday 8th December 2007

There will be a **THACS** quiz night at Tewin Memorial Hall. Our quiz master will be Andrew Whawell (who runs quiz evenings regularly) and there will be a supper of Fish / Chicken / Veggie Burger & chips in the interval. Doors open at 19:00 and the quiz will start at 19:30. The supper will be during the interval, at about 20:30. Please bring your own drinks and glasses.

The price for this event will be £5 per person, which covers the supper and entrance to the quiz. Teams of eight will be formed on the night, so you don't have to get your team ready first. This evening will be fun, so please complete the form at the end of this newsletter and send it with your cheque or cash, to Peter Burleigh by **31st October 2007**.

Annual General Meeting, Monday 21st January 2008

The AGM will be held in the memorial Hall, starting at 8:00 pm. We are arranging an interesting talk to follow the AGM, so please make a note in your diary and come along.

Visit to see *The First Emperor: China's Terracotta Army* at the British Museum, London on Wednesday 5th March 2008.

This outing has been well supported and is now fully subscribed. Forty people have paid their deposit to secure their place, the exhibition tickets have been purchased and the coach has been booked. We will contact the participants directly with further details in January 2008. If any other members wish to join this visit, then please contact Ray Keppler (01438 717545 or ray@raykeppler.wanadoo.co.uk). He will then add your name to the waiting list, which will be used in the event of any withdrawals.

FUTURE EVENTS

Visit to see *The Tutankhamun & Golden Age of Pharaohs Exhibition* at the O2 Dome, London on Wednesday 14th May 2008.

Don't miss the most highly anticipated exhibition in London history in Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs!

The exhibition includes approximately 130 objects from the tomb of Tutankhamun and other Valley of the Kings Ancestors. Most of these objects have never before been seen in the UK. By comparison, the 1970's exhibition contained approximately 50 items and only seven of those are on show this time.

Featured treasures in the exhibit, which are all between 3,300 and 3,500 years old, include Tutankhamun's royal diadem - the gold crown discovered encircling the head of the king's mummified body that he likely wore while living - and one of the gold and precious stone inlaid coffinettes that contained his mummified internal organs.

The cost for this trip will be £24 per person for **THACS** members and £25 for non-members, including coach travel and entry tickets. Note that this visit will be on a Wednesday because it is considerably cheaper than at a weekend:- tickets are £6.50 per person more for weekends than for weekdays!

This exhibition will run from 15th November 2007 to 30th August 2008 and is proving to be extremely popular. If we are to secure a group booking for Wednesday 14th May 2008, then we need to book and pay as soon as possible. Tickets need to be paid for when the group booking is made and they are non-refundable. Consequently, if you wish to visit this exhibition with us then **please complete the form at the end of this newsletter and send it, with a deposit of £5 per person, to Peter Burleigh by 31st October 2007**. (This deposit will only be refunded if the visit is cancelled).

Obituary

It is with great sadness that we learn that Peter Allen passed away at his home on 18th July 2007. With determined spirit, he bravely fought his long illness.

Peter had a brilliant mind, a bright and colourful personality, and an outstanding knowledge of photography. His conversations were interesting and entertaining, and his sense of humour and hearty laugh will be sadly missed.

Peter and Freda were members of **THACS** and whenever possible they supported outings and shows.

Peter was the Photography Judge for the **THACS** Spring Show 2006, and he performed his duties in a splendid way, explaining the rights and wrongs of the photographs. His personal portfolio of fantastic professional photographs will be much treasured by his family.

We send our love and condolences to Freda and daughters Elizabeth and Belinda in their sad loss.

CHILDREN'S' CORNER



CHUTNEY RECIPES

There is an abundance of fruit at this time of year, and making chutney is an enjoyable way of using some of your crop. The smell of vinegar and cooking chutney in the kitchen can't be beaten!

2 Apple Chutney recipes

There are lots of different recipes for apple chutney, and here are a couple of my favourites. The cooking procedure is the same: the apples should be peeled, cored and coarsely chopped along with any other fruit and vegetables used; the spices should be tied in muslin. Put all ingredients in your preserving pan and simmer gently for about 1 hour or until thick. Remove the muslin bag, pot and seal.

Recipe 1 ingredients

4lbs sour apples, 1lb sultanas, ½ lb onions, 2 lbs soft brown sugar, 1 ½ pts malt vinegar, rind and juice of 1 lemon, 1 tbs mustard seed, 1 dsp ground ginger.

Recipe 2 ingredients

3 ½ lbs apples, 1lb onions, 1lb each raisins, currants and sultanas, ¾ lb brown sugar, 2oz ground ginger, 1oz salt and mustard seed, ¼ oz cayenne and mixed spice, 3 ½ pts malt vinegar.

Plum Chutney

Ingredients:

2lbs plums, ½ lb apples, ¾ lb brown sugar, 1lb raisins, ½ oz garlic, ½ oz ground ginger, 3 dried chillies (or 1 fresh hot chilli), 1pt vinegar.

Stone the plums, put in the pan with raisins and finely chopped vegetables and half the vinegar. Simmer until tender, then add the remaining ingredients. Simmer until thick, then pot and seal.

NB: Chutney 'shrinks' over time if the jar is a) not full to the brim and b) if it is not properly sealed. It is worth putting a wax disc on top of the chutney when you have filled your jar, then a cellophane lid secured with a rubber band while still hot. When the chutney is cold, cover with a screw top lid. This should keep it airtight. Keep in a cool store for at least 3 months before eating – the longer it is kept the better!

**Quiz evening at Tewin Memorial Hall
on Saturday 8th December 2007.**

Name(s).....Numbers.....
Address.....
Tel. No.....e-mail address.....
Are you a member of **THACS**?.....
Please indicate your choice of meal below:-

Meal	Number
Chicken & chips
Fish & chips
Veggie Burger & chips

(Each portion comes with knife, fork, salt, vinegar and serviette)

I enclose £..... (£5 per person – cheques made out to **THACS**)
Please send to Peter Burleigh, 23 Harwood Close, Tewin AL6 0LF by **31st October 2007.**

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**Visit to see *The Tutankhamun Exhibition*
at the O2 Dome, London on Wednesday 14th May 2008.**

Name(s).....
Address.....
Tel. No.....e-mail address.....
Are you a member of **THACS**?.....
Number of members..... Number of non- members.....
I enclose £..... non-refundable* deposit (£5.00 per person – cheques made out to **THACS**)
Please send to Peter Burleigh, 23 Harwood Close, Tewin AL6 0LF by **31st October 2007.**
* Deposits will only be refunded if the visit is cancelled.