

# **THACS**

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

### **NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2009**

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

The eighth **THACS** AGM took place at Tewin Memorial Hall on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2009 and was attended by more than 56 people. Gay Cates presented the Chairman's report for 2008 and Pat Fulford presented the Treasurer's report for financial year 1<sup>st</sup> November 2007 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008. These two reports are provided below. We then held the elections for the officers and committee and the full results appear on page 5 (together with the names and addresses of all committee members.)

Our Chairman Gay Cates stood down, since she has held the position for three years and that is the maximum term allowed by our constitution. Thanks, Gay, for doing such a splendid job as Chairman. If you voted for me at the AGM to become your new Chairman, then thank you very much for your support!

The AGM was followed by a refreshment break, during which Michael Clark showed some films depicting village farm life in 1959 and 1989. After the break, there was an informative and entertaining talk about the production of the book '*The History of Tewin by the People of Tewin*', given by Elizabeth Wilson, Linda Adams and Michael Clark.

**The ninth *THACS* AGM will be held at Tewin Memorial Hall  
on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at 8.00pm.**

Ray Keppler (New Chairman).

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#### **AGM Report**

##### **Chairman's report for 2008**

This has been another, very eventful year for **THACS**, beginning at our AGM in 2008, when we had a talk about the history of modern art by Barry Dodge.

We have enjoyed our two annual Spring and Autumn shows, which are ever popular with the village. They 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. A big thank you to these people and to the judges, who give us their valuable time and expertise. It was also encouraging to have more entries from the children this year, thanks to the Rainbows and Brownies.

Coach trips were organised to the fascinating Terracotta Army and Tutankhamun exhibitions. These were two major events, which we were privileged to see in this country. It is so good to

be taken right to the door of the venues, with no worries.

We arranged two gardening talks. One by Russell Jeffery at Riverside Nursery in the springtime and the other, by the celebrated Matthew Biggs, in Tewin Memorial Hall in December. Each talk was very different, informative and entertaining.

**THACS** organised 'Open Gardens' in June, showing our talent in horticulture. There were 15 very different gardens on view, from the Tewin allotments at one end of the scale, through all the lovely gardens in and around Tewin, to the stately home of Queen Hoo Hall (open for the first time). Everyone worked hard and was rewarded by an appreciative stream of visitors. Thank you to all who took part.

Because we made a substantial profit with 'Open Gardens', the committee decided to make donations, of £100 each, to three worthy causes within the village:- to Tewin Stores, to Tewin Society towards the cost of producing their book, *'The History of Tewin by the People of Tewin'*, and to Tewin Memorial Hall. **THACS** also helped to raise money for Tewin Memorial Hall, by selling plants at the village fete in June.

There was a visit to Copped Hall in August, where **THACS** were given a guided tour, by special appointment, to view the restoration of this Georgian mansion and gardens. The weather wasn't very kind, but the historical and horticultural interest and welcome tea afterwards, made a worthwhile event.

In October, we had another guided tour of Fishpool Street down to the Verulamium in St. Albans. It was a lovely sunny day this time. The charm of the varied, historic buildings was much admired and inspired our photographers.

A wreath was laid at St. Peter's war memorial, on behalf of **THACS**, on Remembrance Sunday.

Tewin showed talent again in November, with a weekend exhibition and sale of their arts and crafts, at Burnham Green Village Hall. There was a great display of work, including photos, paintings, books, jewellery, teddy bears, knitwear, pottery and horseshoe craft, by our village artisans. Well done to everyone! We are lucky to have such gifted people in Tewin.

A Christmas card of Tewin telephone box in the snow was also on sale, during and after the exhibition. The proceeds from these will help toward a sum of money, which **THACS** have set aside, to preserve the telephone box for the future in Tewin.

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Our village is most fortunate in having so many activities to enjoy, although sometimes it is difficult not to clash with each other, or surrounding villages, when there is too much going on. I think we may have a quieter year in 2009, but hopefully just as pleasing for everyone.

Now, I would like us to remember, with sadness and respect, two exceptional people who died this year. First we remember Les Borg, who knew so much about wildlife, and who died in March. Les belonged to several societies, including **THACS**, and produced wonderful photographs, generously helping and sharing his knowledge with us all. Then, we remember Dennis Tyler, who died just before Christmas. Dennis delighted in growing flowers, fruit and vegetables and entering them for the village shows. He won many awards and was always first in line at the door to enter his produce in Tewin. Both were unassuming and gifted men, who will be greatly missed.

As I complete my last year as chairman, I would like to express my gratitude to the **THACS** committee, who have given their time and skills so freely. We have an excellent team, who work well together and individually. We are also well supported by our members and friends, enabling us to have a thriving society in Tewin.

I have found that one of the best experiences of being a chairman, is in getting to know many more people in the village and observing the willingness to help each other when needed. Many thanks to everyone who has helped me, but special thanks to my husband, Mike, who has always been ready to give me advice on any issue and expert help with committee procedures.

Finally, I would like to wish our new chairman every success in the future, as we see **THACS** go from strength to strength.

Gay Cates (Outgoing Chairman).

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### **Treasurer's report for financial year 1st November 2007 to 31st October 2008**

Overall, the 2008 financial year was a successful one for **THACS** and our funds are healthy.

At the end of the 2008 financial year, no adjustments for pre-payments or accruals were made. The cash surplus for the year was £ 1,698 compared with £235 in 2007. Once allowances have been made for prepayments and deposits over the year ends, the cash surplus of £1,698 becomes an income surplus of £1,200.

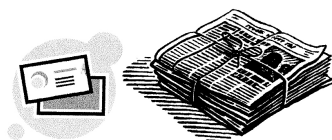
A new schedule showing the details of the cash and income surplus is included in the accounts.

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**THACS** membership at the end of 2008 stood at 187 compared with 175 members in 2007. Of the 187 members, 150 pay their subscriptions by standing order, which has reduced our administration costs.

Our membership income of £915 covered the cost of the newsletters, RHS membership, AGM costs, printing and sundry expenses, and losses on Shows. These expenses amounted to £661.

Income from advertising was £351, and the surplus from Open Gardens was £663. Resulting from this financial success, we gave donations of £100 each to Tewin Memorial Hall, Tewin Stores, and Tewin Society towards the cost of producing their book, *'The History of Tewin by the People of Tewin'*

There were net receipts of £193 in 2008 for the Terracotta Army Exhibition, but having paid £180 net for this event in 2007, the result was a surplus of £13.

Likewise net receipts of £47 in 2008 for Copped Hall Gardens turn into a deficit of £2.75 after including the advanced deposit of £50 in 2007.

The presenters of the pottery workshop and the quiz declined payment, resulting in a cash surplus of £97 in 2008, but together with the £70 advanced ticket receipts in 2007, the total surplus was £167.

Ticket sales for the Matthew Biggs talk gave advance receipts of £323 in 2008, which compares with the 2009 cost of the event of approximately £400.

The bank account balance at 31<sup>st</sup> October was £3,982. After clearing our outstanding commitments of approximately £545 covering donations, and the costs of the Matthew Biggs talk, the balance reduced to £3,437.

At the beginning of the 2009 financial year we have set aside £120 for the preservation of the Telephone Box in Tewin, and also presented a Royal British Legion wreath for £25.

Any future excess of funds will be used for the benefit our Society.

During 2009 the Committee intends to improve various aspects of our events. It is not our aim to accumulate funds but, with the present uncertain financial times, we shall act carefully to ensure our Society's finances remain secure.

Pat Fulford (Honorary Treasurer).

## Election of Officers and Committee for 2009

Gay Cates had to stand down as Chairman after 3 years, under rule no.5 of the constitution. She was thanked for all her hard work and presented with a bouquet of flowers on behalf of **THACS**.

The following officers were elected.

<b>Chairman</b>	Ray Keppler	Proposed by <b>THACS</b> Committee Seconded by Michael Cates.
<b>Vice-Chairman</b>	Anna Clark	Proposed by <b>THACS</b> Committee Seconded by Michael Cates.
<b>Treasurer</b>	Patricia Fulford	Proposed by <b>THACS</b> Committee Seconded by Anna Clark.
<b>Secretary</b>	Doreen Lloyd	Proposed by <b>THACS</b> Committee Seconded by Michael Clark.

During 2008, Peter Burleigh resigned from the committee. The Chairman thanked him for his five years of dedicated work for **THACS**, three of which were as Honorary Treasurer.

The remaining members of the committee, Terry Brand, Gay Cates, Alfred Fulford, Menna Searle and Kate Stott were all re-elected.

Two new members were voted onto the committee:-

- Kay Adams proposed by Menna Searle and seconded by Gay Cates
- Ann Moon, proposed by Pat Fulford and seconded by Doreen Lloyd.

**THACS** committee members for 2009 are as follows:

Name	Telephone 01438-	Address
Kay Adams	798441	51 Orchard Road
Terry Brand	718700	16 Lower Green
Gay Cates	717622	6 Harwood Close
Anna Clark	798324	Tewin Orchard, 1 Upper Green
Alf & Pat Fulford	798717	27 Bishops Road
Ray Keppler	717545	15 Upper Green Road
Doreen Lloyd	715020	27 Grass Warren
Ann Moon	798584	45 Bishops Road
Menna Searle	717415	19 Godfries Close
Kate Stott	717680	20 Harwood Close.

## Forthcoming Events

### Jewellery workshop on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2009

This event will have happened before you read this. A brief report will appear in the March edition of the Parish News.

## **THACS** Spring Show in Tewin Memorial Hall on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2009

**THACS** will be holding the eighth annual Spring Show at Tewin Memorial Hall on **Saturday 28th March** 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! Of course, we are relying on you all to make this show the best yet and give Tewin something to remember.

Please see attached schedule, rules and entry form with your newsletter. Further copies can be obtained from Tewin Stores or the **THACS** page on [www.tewinvillage.co.uk](http://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 22<sup>nd</sup> March**.

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, or acting as a steward for the judges we would be very grateful for your help. Please contact Anna Clark on 01438 798324 or email to [mike.tewin@gmail.com](mailto:mike.tewin@gmail.com).

We look forward to seeing you there and good luck with all your entries!

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

<b>The George Humble Crawford Award Photography Cup (children age 11-17yrs)</b>	
<b><i>Spring 2009</i></b>	<b><i>Autumn 2009</i></b>
1. Food	1. Flowers
2. Local villages	2. Transport
3. Waterscape	3. The most amusing

<b>The Merv Wilson Photography Cup in 2009 (adults)</b>	
<b><i>Spring 2009</i></b>	<b><i>Autumn 2009</i></b>
1. Wildlife	1. Landscapes
2. Food	2. Flowers
3. Local villages	3. Transport
4. People in action	4. Night scene
5. Waterscape	5. The most amusing

## **Visit to RHS gardens, Wisley, on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

**THACS** is arranging another outing to Wisley, which is the flagship garden of the Royal Horticultural Society. This time we are going in the springtime and on a day when there will be a daffodil show to add to the delight of this world-renowned garden.

Set in 240 acres of beautiful grounds, visitors can experience different styles of planting and garden design in a variety of lovely settings. At this time of year there will be tulips, muscari and fruit blossoms and on Battleston Hill, magnolias and rhododendrons.

Or make your way to the top of the magnificent Rock Garden with an amazing view down onto the new 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 and dry temperate habitats. **THACS** is engraved on one of the glass panels in recognition of the donation given towards the glasshouse in 2004.

There is a Plant Centre with a wide variety of hardy plants for sale, the Wisley Shop for inspirational gifts and a choice of five different refreshment options, from a three-course meal in the Terrace Restaurant to an ice cream in the Orchard Café.

There are many facilities for disabled, including wheelchairs and an electric mobility vehicle which drives around the gardens for those who cannot walk too far.

An optional guided tour of the gardens is available to for an additional cost of £1.

As **THACS** are affiliated members of the RHS, there will be no entry charge for us. The price for the coach is £8 for members and £10 for non-members.

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

Please fill in the form on the back page with your details and preferences and then send it, with your payment, to **Pat Fulford, 27 Bishops Road, Tewin, AL6 0NP** by **31<sup>st</sup> March 2009**.

## **Future Events**

**THACS** Autumn Show in Tewin Memorial Hall on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2009.

Details of other future events will be published in subsequent newsletters.

## Children's Corner

### An Easter Crossword Puzzle

#### Across

1. Dyeing Easter eggs is called \_\_\_\_\_ them

5. The Easter \_\_\_\_\_

7. Italian word for macaroni or spaghetti

8. The opposite of "say yes"

10. Long-eared, fuzzy-tailed animal friend

12. What hens lay

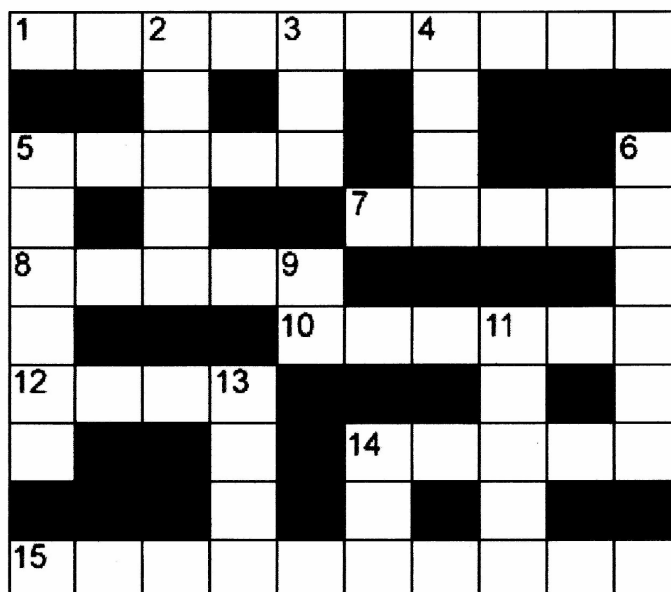
14. Wise, \_\_\_\_\_, wisest

15. Small, bean-shaped candies in many colors (2 words)

#### Down

2. Chocolate or peppermint

3. A beam of sunlight is also called a \_\_\_\_\_



4. A musical instrument that plays very low notes

13. Wind pushes this to make some boats go

5. Where the Easter Bunny puts your candy

14. What a spider makes

6. An "eggy" holiday

9. Either one \_\_\_\_\_ the other, but not both

11. A train goes by land. A ship goes \_\_\_\_\_ (2 words)



Once you have completed the crossword, you can find the answers on the next page.



## Recipes

### Valentines Day Fool

*Turn off the telly, dim the lights, one dish and two spoons*

#### Ingredients

300g frozen summer fruits  
Handful of frozen raspberries  
2 tsbs caster sugar  
142ml whipping cream

#### Method

Place the summer fruit in a pan with the sugar, heat until just boiling and the fruit is releasing its juices. Remove from the heat, throw in the raspberries, and allow to cool. Place in the fridge for 1-2 hours. When chilled strain the fruit reserving the juices. Whisk the cream till soft and holding its shape (do not overdo). Stir in the fruit.

Scoop into one large serving glass. Drizzle with a little of the reserve juice. For a really romantic touch sprinkle with crystallised rose petals (definitely optional!).

Answers to Easter Crossword	
Across	Down
1. Decorating	2. Candy
5. Bunny	3. Ray
7. Pasta	4. Tuba
8. Sayno	5. Basket
10. Rabbit	6. Easter
12. Eggs	9. Or
14. Wiser	11. Bysea
15. Jellybeans	13. Sail
	14. Web

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*THACS members spending over £10 on gardening goods  
(not on special offer) receive 10% discount,  
Discount does not apply to Pet Food.*

## **The Rose & Crown Tewin**

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*Sunday Lunch - Carvery Roast*

*Tuesdays 6.30-8.30 Curry Night*

*Quiz Night - Wednesday*

*Music Quiz - 3rd Thursday  
of the Month*

## Photographic Tips

### Winter weather

When it rains, the moisture tends to create a shiny surface on most materials. In towns the rain causes the streets to shine and the buildings to look gloomy. In the countryside the grass can shine and with the right amount of light, droplets of water hanging from branches and leaves often sparkle. The clouds that accompany the rain also diffuse the available sunlight spreading it equally and removing shadows. Just after the rain has stopped and the clouds move, allowing the sun to peep through, is the best time to take pictures and you can create amazing landscape photos. Portrait photos in the rain can also be very compelling. The light reflected off people's faces can often dominate the picture because the rain dampens the light reflected off surroundings.

You will probably have to use either a longer shutter speed or a wider aperture because of the clouds blocking out direct sunlight. If the weather is wet, misty and gloomy, increase your setting up to ISO 400 or even 800. This will enable a faster shutter speed and reduce camera shake and blurry results. Try shooting in black and white instead of colour in wet and dull weather. The extra contrast of black and white can sometimes result in great photos when colour would look dull and lacking in detail. And what about the water at your feet? Think of all the interesting reflections you can capture in a puddle: trees, clouds, street lights.

In order to be prepared for rain you should have a waterproof bag for your camera as well as an umbrella or something else that you can use to shield the camera. Water is a camera's worst enemy and water entering a modern digital camera can damage the electronics. If your camera does get very wet, quickly dry it with a tissue, remove the battery and store the camera with the lens removed in a warm place for 24 hours.

Bad weather doesn't mean bad pictures. It just changes your options and sets the stage for some unique photographic opportunities.

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### VISIT TO RHS GARDENS WISLEY THURSDAY 30th APRIL 2009

Name(s).....Numbers.....

Your address.....

Telephone number.....Are you a RHS member? (yes/no).....

Are you a member of **THACS**?.....Will you be bringing a non-member?.....

Please add their name and contact number.....

Do you wish to have a guided tour? Please add cost of £1 (yes/no).....

Do you wish to book an electric wheelchair? Add deposit £5 (yes/no).....

(Non-electric wheelchairs are available on the day and free of charge)

Cost of coach will be:- members...£8.....non-members...£10.....

I enclose £.....

Please make cheques payable to **THACS** and send to.....

Pat Fulford, 27 Bishops Road, Tewin, AL6 0NP by March 31 2009.