THACS TEWIN HORTICULTURAL ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2013

Chairman's Introduction

On behalf of the committee, thank you to the 38 members who braved the snow and cold to attend our AGM on Monday 14th January. The evening went very smoothly and I hope that you enjoyed it.

Under *Any Other Business* at the AGM, I announced a change in the procedure regarding AGMs. As a result, the minutes of the AGM have been distributed with this newsletter, so you get the full AGM minutes promptly and without having most of it duplicated in the newsletter. I hope that you approve of this change.

The Spring Show Schedule has also been distributed with this newsletter, so you have a bumper package this time.

Ray Keppler (Chairman)

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Forthcoming Events Calligraphy workshops

THACS has been running Calligraphy classes at Burnham Green Hall on Fridays for a couple of years now, and we have a nucleus of enthusiastic members taking part, usually once a month during term times. The classes are two-hourly with a break for a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit, and the classes are taught by Jo Cooper, who also judges at our Spring Shows. Jo is very helpful and friendly, and the classes are good value at £6.00 a session.

If you would like to take up this hobby and learn how to write and use different scripts or if you already have some experience, come along and join our group. You would be very welcome. The first class scheduled for 18th January had to be cancelled due to the snow, but the other classes booked so far are on the following dates:- 22nd February, 22nd March and 12th April, from 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Please contact Anna Clark on 01438 798324 or email mike.tewin@gmail.com for further details.

Creative writing workshop on Thursday 14th March

Following last autumn's successful writing workshop, there has been a request for another and Frances Wilson has kindly agreed to return on 14th March. The format will be much the same as before with exercises to get our creative juices flowing, followed by an opportunity to write in prose or poetry form about something of our own choosing or inspired by our exercises.

The course will run between 10:00am and 4:00pm and will be held at the home of Joanne Allen. Frances will take between 4 and 10 participants and the cost will be somewhere between £10 and £25 for the day depending on numbers. Last year we had a wonderful meal, so please bring something (which does not have to be homemade) to share for lunch.

For those who have expressed an interest in returning, we hope you can make the date, and we know there are newcomers who are interested. Please contact Joanne if you would like more information or to book your place.

Joanne Allen 47 Bishops Road, Tewin Wood, Welwyn, Hertfordshire, AL6 0NP. Tel. 01438 798749 e-mail: jrallen14@hotmail.co.uk

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THACS Spring Show on Saturday 20th April 2013

The *THACS* Spring Show will be held on **Saturday 20th April.** 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 from 1st March. Please make sure that your completed entry forms and fees are delivered to **Ray Keppler**, **15 Upper Green Road**, **Tewin**, **Welwyn Herts AL6 0LE by Sunday 14th April 2013**.

Please note that **no entries will be accepted after 12:00 Thursday 18th April** so please submit your entry forms and fees in good time.

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.

Entry fees remain unchanged at 25p per entry for members, 50p for non-members and 10p for children. However, there will be free admission to visitors in the afternoon.

So go on, take a look at the categories and have a go. You never know, you could be a winner! Ask your friends along to see the show in the afternoon. We look forward to seeing you there.

Future Events

We look forward to more days out in 2013 and (as we discussed at the AGM) we are looking to you, our members, to suggest locations. We are also looking for suggestion for events we can hold in the village, such as talks, demonstrations and workshops. Our aim is to provide a variety of events for members in line with THACS objectives, which (as the name suggests) is to promote horticulture, arts and crafts. Don't forget, if you come up with the ideas, we will do the organising.

Please email your ideas to jimjhall@o2.co.uk or telephone 07731381734.

Recent Events

Visit to Queen's House, Greenwich on Tuesday 27th November 2012

When we set off the weather wasn't very promising, another rainy day, but it did nothing to dampen our spirits, looking forward as we were to visiting the site that houses many of the Navy's art treasures.

The large number and variety of paintings on display in The Queen's House provides an exhibition to suit all tastes. For instance, a small painting by Lowry depicting a dockyard scene

from "up north", to the magnificent depiction of The Battle of Trafalgar by Turner.

The Queen's House is only one of numerous attractions on the Greenwich site. The Maritime Museum proved very popular and a number of our members also found time to enjoy the photography exhibition by Ansel Adams "From the Mountains to the Sea" which was on show in the museum's basement.

Other attractions enjoyed by many of the group were:- the Visitor Centre, the Royal Observatory and the world famous Cutty Sark.

Some of the group who had already visited the Greenwich site decided instead to spend the day looking around the Market and the shopping arcades in the old docklands area.

When we boarded the coach for our journey home, we all agreed that the last THACS outing of 2012 that been a very enjoyable day!



AGM on Monday 14th January 2013

The twelfth *THACS* AGM took place at Tewin Memorial Hall on Monday 14th January 2013 and the minutes have been distributed with this newsletter

We held the elections for the officers and remaining committee members and the names, telephone numbers and addresses of these individuals 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 |
| Jim Hall | 718505 | 5 School Lane |
| Ray Keppler | 717545 | 15 Upper Green Road |
| Nick Whiting | 717230 | 5 Churchfield Road |

The Tewin Society Award

The presentation of the Tewin Society Award took place in Tewin Memorial Hall on Monday 14th January, immediately before the *THACS* AGM.

Mavis Haggar started the presentation by putting the Tewin Society Award into its full context.

She described the formation, achievement and ultimate demise of the Tewin Society and explained that a modest amount of money was passed to *THACS* by the Tewin Society when it closed. This was for the purpose of honouring one local resident a year for continuing to uphold the ideals of the original society.

A new Tewin Society Award (TSA) committee was formed to manage this, consisting of Mavis Haggar, Linda Adams and David Gregg, under the chairmanship of Ray Keppler. This committee established the rules governing the award (essentially referring to the Tewin Society principles) and drew up ten criteria for evaluating a nomination based on the aims of Tewin Society. These criteria include:- unpaid work done to preserve our local heritage, to enhance the environment, to conserve Tewin's natural resources; unpaid work that is an inspiration to others and involves others, with lasting effects.

Once this groundwork was done, nominations could be invited from anyone (except the committee) and marking would follow a set formula. Of course the greater the proof, the more marks gained. Based on these criteria, selection can be made, impersonally and fairly.

This process was used for the first award in 2011, leading to Margaret Knight's name being the first on the Tewin Society Award plaque. The same approach was followed for the 2012 award and, as a result, the winner of the Tewin Society Award for 2012 is Elizabeth Wilson. She was nominated for the award based on her excellent work leading the production of the book *A History of Tewin by the People of Tewin*.

To commemorate VE day in 1995, Elizabeth and Ben Roberts shared with the village a collection of facts and details about Tewin, which made a fascinating and eye-opening display. The display was further developed for the Millennium celebrations and was again a huge success. An archive of material became safely housed in Tewin Memorial Hall and was added to over time by residents and others, ready for further viewings.

The village residents gave these displays such a positive reception that this led to a desire to record the history of Tewin in hard copy. Elizabeth and Ben recruited eight other Tewinites, who shared the writing, compilation, checking, etc and who tirelessly steered the project over three years to its conclusion.

The rest as they say is history ... OUR history. The History of Tewin by the People of Tewin.

Elizabeth's talent and determination have inspired many, and the book has a world wide circulation. It is enjoyed by residents, ex-residents, children and grandchildren and probably great grand children!

In this book, we have a lasting reminder of our local heritage. To quote from one of her proposers:-

"Elizabeth, as dynamic leader, is to be applauded for this project...a project that a large town would be proud of producing. Its worth will endure for decades."

I was delighted to present the award to Elizabeth. The Tewin Society Award plaque had been engraved with her name and the year of the award (2012) and Elizabeth will have it for a year. She also received a presentation crystal vase which comes with a separate small base inscribed with "The Tewin Society Award 2012".

Our congratulations go to Elizabeth and our thanks to all those who helped her in this work.

Ray Keppler (Chairman of the Tewin Society Award committee).

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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

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