

# **THACS**

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

### **NEWSLETTER APRIL 2016**

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

The *THACS* Spring Show helped celebrate spring, so I hope that you came along to enjoy the show. The report and results appear below.

There will be Tewin Open Gardens on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May and a visit to Savill Garden on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July. These events are both great opportunities for you to enjoy the better weather whilst exploring a wide variety of gardens and maybe picking up some gardening inspiration and taking advantage of photography opportunities along the way.

The *THACS* committee is still seeking a new secretary, so we'd love to hear from you if you think that it could be you. If you would like to know more, please 'phone me (01438 717545) or the current Secretary Jim Hall (01438 718505).

Ray Keppler (Chairman)

#### **THACS Events**

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Closing date for bookings</b>
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Open Gardens	No booking required
13 <sup>th</sup> July	Visit to Savill Garden	29 <sup>th</sup> June
17 <sup>th</sup> September	Autumn Show	11 <sup>th</sup> September
29 <sup>th</sup> October	Arts & Craft fair	No booking required

#### **Spring Show on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April**

Well done to all who took part in the *THACS* Spring Show.

The display in the main hall was vibrant and colourful. There were beautiful flower arrangements, a delightful display of horticulture exhibits, mouth-watering culinary exhibits and impressive hand-crafted items. The photography, painting, calligraphy and prose exhibits were displayed in the Parish Room and there was more prose on show in the main hall, in the form of a display of work produced at a *THACS* Creative Writing workshop. The children's charming art exhibits were displayed in the corridor.

In addition to these show entries, we had three supplementary displays of art work from the children of Tewin Cowper School:- *Observing daffodils* by Willow Tree Class (Nursery & Reception, ages 4-5) went very well with the horticulture exhibits in the hall, whilst *Easter in the style of Kandinsky* by Oak Tree Class (school years 5&6, ages 9-11) and *Exploring an artist Yinka Shonibare* by Cherry Tree Class (school years 2&3, ages 6-8) formed thought-provoking examples of abstract art.

When it came to prize giving, there was a new replacement trophy on offer this time:- the *Marian Meads Memorial Trophy* for Arts & Crafts. Marian Meads was a member of *THACS* and an enthusiastic exhibitor at the shows before she died, so her family kindly provided *THACS*

with this new trophy. She had strong Scottish connections, and these were reflected in the choice of trophy:- a silver-plated quaich (Scottish two-handled drinking bowl), with a separate engraved plinth. The new trophy was introduced by Catherine Meads, who gave a humorous insight into her late mother and her involvement with previous shows. It all made for a very appropriate tribute and an introduction of the new trophy, which Catherine then presented to Terry Brand.

The other adult trophy winners were Sue Whitbourn for Flower Arranging, Ray Keppler for Horticulture, Jules Bridgman for Photography and Melanie Goodison for Culinary. Lydia Bennett won the Les Borg Cup for Children's Photography and Lauren Murray 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.

Many thanks to everyone who helped at the shows:-

- The staff, helpers and children at Tewin Cowper School and the Tewin Under-Fives Pre-school, 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
- Kelly Fairhall from Tewin Cowper School, who presented prizes to the children
- Catherine Meads, who introduced and presented the new Marian Meads memorial Trophy
- 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)

<b><i>Special Awards for Highest Points</i></b>	<b><i>Winners</i></b>
Flower Arranging: Welwyn Times Trophy	Sue Whitbourn
Horticulture: Van Hage Cup	Ray Keppler
Arts & Crafts: Marian Meads Memorial Trophy	Terry Brand
Photography: Peter Allen Memorial Cup	Jules Bridgman
Culinary: Nodder Bowl	Melanie Goodison
Tewin Cowper School Children's Award	Lauren Murray
Children's Photography: Les Borg Cup	Lydia Bennett

<b><i>Other Prizes</i></b>	<b><i>First</i></b>	<b><i>Second</i></b>	<b><i>Third</i></b>
Flower Arranging	Sue Whitbourn	Joy Lawson	Bridget Keppler
Horticulture	Ray Keppler	Steve Stott	Mari Barton-Jones & Diana Brannen
Arts & Crafts	Terry Brand	Shirley Ashby	Audrey Walters
Photography	Jules Bridgman	David Gregg	Alf Fulford
Culinary	Melanie Goodison	Tina Bennett	Hilary Tipping

<b>Children's Awards</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Third</b>
<b>Horticulture</b>			
Nursery & Reception	Lauren Murray	Theo*	Jackson Gibbons
School years 1 & 2	Samuel*	Annabel Goodison & Ashley Winters	
School years 3 & 4	Zoe Faraway & May Carley		
<b>Arts &amp; Crafts</b>			
Nursery & Reception	Lauren Murray & Linus Winters	Kitty-Rose Carley, Annabel# & Phoebe #	
School years 1 & 2	Imogen Winters	Matilda Dring	Riley Gibbons
School years 3 & 4	Zoe Faraway		
School years 5-7	Luke Faraway		
<b>Photography</b>			
School years 8-13	Lydia Bennett		
<b>Culinary</b>			
Nursery & Reception	Lauren Murray	Kitty-Rose Carley	Linus Winters
School years 1 & 2	Ashley Winters	Matilda Dring	Darcey Sullivan
School years 3 & 4	May Carley		
School years 8-13	Lydia Bennett		

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

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

## Donations to charity

The *THACS* committee strives to keep the prices of our events as low as possible (usually aiming to just cover the costs) and consequently as affordable as possible for members.

We do not seek to raise money for charitable purposes. However, we occasionally make donations to charities and this has proved a good way of using money that could be regarded as extra income. Recent examples include the money raised from the auction of flower arrangements at a workshop, proceeds from auction of produce at shows and profits made from Open Gardens.

The charities supported so far have all been well-known and popular but not relevant to the aims of *THACS*, which are to promote the good cultivation of gardens and allotments, to foster interest in garden design and plants and to encourage village arts and crafts. Consequently, the committee has been seeking to identify more suitable charities i.e. ones that deal with horticulture, arts or crafts (preferably locally). These are likely to be less well-known than the ones we have supported so far, so they could benefit from extra publicity as well as any moderate cash donation.

If you attended the Spring Show, then you will already know that we decided that St John of God Hospitaller Services (Digswell Nurseries) should be the beneficiary of the sale of produce. (Find out more at their website [www.digswell.org.uk](http://www.digswell.org.uk)).

Do you know of any other suitable charities that we could support in this way? If so, then please let us know.

## Forthcoming Events

### Open Gardens on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

This is a very popular event which only comes around every other year so please make sure you make a note of the date, which this year is Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

Tewin Open Gardens offers us all a rare opportunity to explore the secrets hiding behind the hedges and lanes around the village as private gardens will open their gates to us. These gardens offer a wide variety of styles, sizes and interesting features, ranging from unusual plants, wild areas, to the ever popular water feature.

In some of the gardens you will see beautiful borders, vegetable plots and you may even spot the odd sculpture. We hope you will come along and enjoy this wonderful opportunity to see a wide variety of interesting gardens.

We are very pleased to tell you that some of the open gardeners will have plants and refreshments on sale. With the possibility of other gardeners also joining the event soon, it promises to be a great day and you won't be disappointed. If you think you would like to join in and open your garden for the day (which last time raised over £250 for Isabel Hospice), please contact Jim Hall on 01438 718505 or email [jimjhall@btinternet.com](mailto:jimjhall@btinternet.com).

The opening times for most of the gardens will be 11:00am to 6:00pm. Entrance to gardens will be by a programme which will include a map detailing the gardens locations. The programme costs £2.50 per adult whilst accompanied children are free. These programmes will be available from Tewin Stores and Tebbutts at Burnham Green from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May and from some of the gardens on the day.

We look forward to seeing you around our village on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May for a beautiful Spring day out, when you will be made very welcome.

### Visit to Savill Garden on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July

If you would like a summer's day out to visit an inspirational garden, then join us on a coach trip for a day trip to Savill Garden.

The Savill Garden lies within Windsor Great Park and is a tranquil place to discover rare plants from around the world, arranged in stunning seasonal displays. The exotic displays and National Collections will impress even the most seasoned gardener, and also provide an abundance of subject material for photographers of all levels. This natural haven of beautifully designed gardens and woodland can be enjoyed by everyone, from dedicated horticulturalists to those who

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For more info contact Julie on: 07788 648438

juleskimber@tewinpilates.com

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The Garden consists of 35 acres of interconnected gardens including the Hidden Gardens, Spring Wood, the Summer Gardens, the New Zealand Garden, Summer Wood, The Glades, Autumn Wood and the Winter Beds. It was developed under Royal patronage dating back to George VI. Eric Savill was appointed as Deputy Surveyor in 1931, and began working on the Garden in the winter of 1932, with the support of George VI. From the original rhododendrons, camellias and azaleas planted by Eric Savill, to the Queen Elizabeth rose - recently planted to mark HM the Queen becoming our longest-reigning monarch - The Savill Garden team continues to respect the traditions of the Garden, whilst introducing new and exciting plantings and displays from around the world each year.

There are two locations for refreshments and lunch - The Savill Garden Restaurant and The Gallery Café - both located in The Savill Building. The Savill Garden Restaurant offers

homemade cakes and biscuits, freshly ground Fairtrade coffee, loose leaf teas and a selection of soft drinks. Full or light lunch options are available, including freshly made sandwiches, deli-style salads, jacket potatoes, soups and other hot meals. The Gallery Café offers loose leaf teas and freshly ground coffee, plus a selection of homemade pastries, cakes and biscuits in a quieter location.

The Savill Building also houses the gift shop which offers gifts evocative of an idyllic country lifestyle alongside a range of plants and garden accessories from the Royal Gardens.

The Savill Garden is easily accessible, with a fairly even terrain that is suitable for both wheelchairs and buggies. There are a limited number of non-motorised wheelchairs available to borrow, on a first come, first served basis. There are no electric mobility scooters available, but if you have your own then you are very welcome to use it.

There are plenty of clearly marked wheelchair accessible paths throughout the Garden, as well as several benches and seated areas where you can relax and enjoy the views.

For visitors with disabilities, an accompanying able-bodied companion is allowed in free of charge. Please be aware, although the main circular route around the Garden is wheelchair accessible, there is a section with a slight descent and ascent when returning to The Savill Building, meaning that companions will need to be fit and able-bodied in order to push a wheelchair in these areas.

The prices for this visit are £20 for THACS members and £23 for non-members.

If you want to find out more about Savill Garden before visiting, then please see their web site at <http://www.windsorgreatpark.co.uk/en/experiences/the-savill-garden>.

**The coach will leave Tewin (opposite the Rose and Crown) at 9.30am promptly and leave Savill Garden at 3.30pm.** An optional walking guided tour of the gardens is available to for an additional cost of £2 per person. The tour guides are knowledgeable and helpful, so the tour is particularly recommended if you have not visited Savill Garden before. The tour will last about an hour and is scheduled to start at 11:30.

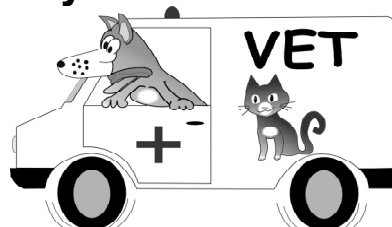
If you would like to come on this visit, then please fill in the form on page 9 and send it, with your cheque (payable to THACS) to:-

**Ray Keppler, 15 Upper Green Road, Tewin AL6 0LE by Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June.**

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## Recent Events

### Creative Writing on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March

Seven people came to this event which inspired great wit, surprises, and a lot of laughter. We were asked to write about the life of someone in another profession or someone we would like to be. We were asked to write a tale from the perspective of Cinderella or someone in her story. Some wrote sarcastically or jealously or from a modern-day perspective. We were given lines of poetry from several different poets and asked to use these to construct a poem of our own. Participants who came thinking they could never write a poem produced beautiful poetry. It was a day when we left having written things we never imagined at the start.

A real pleasure for everyone and a request for another day in the autumn. Thank you to our tutor, Frances Wilson, who tantalized our senses, and to Linda Adams who hosted the day so congenially.

Joanne Allen

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

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**Visit to Savill Garden  
on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

***Contact details***

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

**Address.....**

**.....**

**Phone Number.....Email.....**

***Booking information***

**Number of members places required (£20 each).....**

**Number of non-members places required (£23 each).....**

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

**Number of guided tour places required (£2 each).....**

**I enclose £.....**

**Please make cheques payable to *THACS* and send to:- Ray Keppler, 15 Upper Green Road, Tewin AL6 0LE by Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June.**