

THACS

TEWIN HORTICULTURAL ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2018

Chairman's Introduction

On behalf of the committee, thank you to the 26 people who attended our AGM on Monday 15th January. The evening went very smoothly and I hope that you enjoyed it. A brief report on the AGM can be found on page 4, and the minutes have been distributed with this newsletter, together with the associated reports. One of those reports is the text of a brief presentation I made entitled *Challenges & Opportunities*, reflecting on the current state of the Society, explaining the challenges facing it in 2018 and identifying the opportunities that these challenges provide. Please give it your attention, consider the issues it raises and think about any ways that you can help the committee to meet the challenges.

On a lighter note, preparation for the Spring Show is well underway. This time, the show will feature an exciting new class for Adult & Child pairs (as explained in the article on page 2). The Spring Show Schedule has been distributed with this newsletter, so you have a bumper package this time!

Ray Keppler (Chairman)

THACS Events

For ease of reference, here are the dates and titles of our events for 2018, together with the closing dates for the associated bookings.

Date	Event	Closing date for bookings
23 rd March	Creative Writing workshop	18 th March
14 th April	Spring Show	8 th April
20 th May	Open Gardens	No booking required
1 st September	Autumn Show	26 th August
1 st December	Art & Craft Fair	No booking required

Forthcoming Events

Creative Writing day on Friday 23rd March

This spring's Creative Writing Day will be held on this date between 10am and 4pm in Tewin. Frances Wilson will once again inspire us as our tutor. The day will follow the established format of warm-up exercises and time to write prose or poetry on a subject of your own choice or from something which has arisen from the exercises. The date has been scheduled to be just ahead of the THACS Spring Show writing competition which makes it a good opportunity to whet your appetite for that challenge if you are so inclined. Otherwise you may wish to come just for the pleasure of writing on the day. Participants will be asked to bring something to share for lunch.

The cost of the day is £18 for members and £21 for non-members, to be paid by 18th March. Cheques should be made payable to *THACS*. Early booking is advised to avoid disappointment.

If you would like more information or to book a place, contact Joanne Allen on 01438-798749 or at jrallen14@hotmail.co.uk.

Spring Show on Saturday 14th April

The *THACS* Spring Show will be held in Tewin Memorial Hall on Saturday 14th April.

Show schedules, rules and entry forms accompany this newsletter. Extra copies can be downloaded from the *THACS* page on the village website (www.tewinvillage.co.uk/clubs/thacs/) or you can get paper copies from Tewin Stores after 17th March.

BOX OF DELIGHTS

~~~~~  
24 HIGH STREET  
WELWYN  
HERTFORDSHIRE  
AL6 9EQ

01438 489469

Greeting Cards, Wraps & Tags  
Beautiful Silver Jewellery  
Scarves & Hair Accessories  
Unusual Gifts for all Occasions

OPENING TIMES:

MONDAY - SATURDAY 10.00am - 5.30pm

SUNDAY CLOSED

Over the past few years, we have been working more closely with the local children's groups and this has been very successful. Lynne Burgess is our Schools Liaison Co-ordinator and in preparation for the spring and autumn shows, she goes into our local school and other children's groups, speaking to children and staff about the art and craft they might produce. The staff, helpers and children at Tewin Cowper School, Tewin Under-Fives Pre-school and Tewin Parent & Toddler group have been very enthusiastic and supportive. We have had some delightful and interesting artwork from those groups at our previous shows and look forward to more to come this year.

Now we would like to build on this success, by extending the level of involvement in arts and crafts beyond these children's groups and into the homes and families of the children. Our objective is to get the children involved in arts and crafts at home - as well as in their school - so that they have another environment in which they can develop

their interests and skills. We believe that the best way to achieve this is with the active involvement of the parents and wider families of the children. Hopefully, we might also stimulate more interest in arts and crafts in some of the adults too! As the first step towards this objective, we have made an exciting and significant addition to this show schedule:- the introduction of a new *Adult & Child Class* for the combined efforts of adult and child pairs. For entries in this class, a child would pair up with a suitable adult (ideally a family member) and they would each produce the specified art work. For example, they could each make a drawing or painting of the same thing. The resulting pair of pictures would make up the exhibit.

All categories are open and free to Adult & Child Pairs of any age. An Adult & Child Pair may enter as many of the categories as they wish, but can only submit one exhibit per category. The adult / child in an Adult & Child Pair can also pair with another child / adult to form a different

Adult & Child Pair, which can then enter its own exhibits. For example, a family of mother, father, son and daughter could form four different Adult & Child Pairs (mother /son, mother /daughter, father / son, father / daughter) and each of these pairs could enter its own exhibits.

Prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third Adult & Child pairs.

So if you are a parent / guardian / grandparent / aunt or uncle, this is a new opportunity for you to get together with that child and have some productive fun together, whilst helping them to develop their skills (and maybe your own). Go on, try it! If this new venture is well supported, then there will be scope for extending it beyond Arts & Crafts into other suitable subjects, such as horticulture and photography. If you have any ideas for suitable categories, please let me know.

Another change that we have made is to the Photography classes. Photographers can now have the option to have an informative caption with their photograph, for the benefit of the visitors to the show. (Please see the Show Schedule for more details.)

As for the rest of the show schedule, the range of categories is extensive and includes flower arranging, flowers, arts & crafts, photography and culinary, so I am sure that you can select some suitable categories to enter. So go on, take a look at the categories and have a go. You never know, you could be a winner!

If you are going to exhibit anything at the show, please note that:-

- Entry fees remain unchanged at 30p per entry for members, 60p for non-members and free for children.
- There are no entry fees for the *Adult & Child Class*.
- Please provide your entry form and entrance fees by Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April to Ray Keppler, THACS Show Secretary, 15 Upper Green Road, Tewin, Welwyn, Herts AL6 0LE.
- Exhibits should be taken to the hall between 8.30am and 10.30am on the day of the Show.

Even if you're not entering anything yourself, you will be welcome to see the show - free of charge – when the doors open to the public at 2:00pm. You will be able to see all of the exhibits in the main hall, corridor and Parish Room and to indulge in tea and cake before the presentation of prizes at 3.30pm. Afterwards, you will have the opportunity to purchase some of the exhibits yourself, in aid of Saint John of God Hospitaller Services (Digswell Nurseries).

We look forward to seeing you there.

## Aden Associates Electrical Contractors

~~~~~

7 Lower Green, Tewin

Call: Adrian Murray

07970 298521

E: adrian@adenassociates.co.uk

We are an established family run business, if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

An NICEIC approved contractor
www.adenassociates.co.uk

Tewin Open Gardens on Sunday 20th May

We would love to enlist your support in helping us to inspire passion in the art and practice of horticulture by opening your garden and sharing the best in gardening with local visitors. Residents would enjoy exchanging ideas with you on how to improve their gardens.

When the National Gardens Scheme (NGS) first started in 1927, its aim was to raise money for district nurses but the creation of the National Health Service in 1948 changed that idea. Now the NGS supports many other charities.

This scheme has inspired many towns, villages and communities to operate their own events and Tewin is no exception. *THACS* has run an event with local gardens available for local people to visit for a number of years. These events have raised funds for local charities including Isabel Hospice and Tewin Village Stores and donations have been made to our village school, the Toddler group and the Pre-school Nursery.

In 2018 this bi-annual event will take place on **Sunday, May 20th**.

WOULD YOU OPEN YOUR GARDEN FOR A FEW HOURS THAT DAY?

If you think of the traditional English garden of the past it might have included a lake, gently rolling lawns set against groves of trees, and classic temples, bridges and other architectural edifices designed to create an idyllic landscape. Lancelot Capability Brown's work was a good example of this ideal.

Today, many of us are privileged to have a garden but often it is much smaller and with few of the eye catching artefacts of the past. However, these gardens, too, can be of considerable interest to visitors who just enjoy looking round them, or would like to be inspired to create something new in their own gardens.

Remember every garden is different, your garden is unique and it can be of great interest to other gardeners as well as helping to generate income for worthy charities

If you would like to provide inspiration to other gardeners by opening your garden on May 20th, 2018 please contact Jim Hall on 01438 718505 or Alice Greenwood on 01438 798177

Recent Events

Annual General Meeting on Monday 15th January 2018

The seventeenth *THACS* AGM took place at Tewin Memorial Hall on Monday 15th January 2018. The minutes are distributed with this newsletter, together with all of the associated reports.

We held the elections for the officers and remaining committee members and the names and contact details are as follows:-

Name	Telephone 01438-	Email	Address
Malcolm Allen	798749	allendmw@outlook.com	47 Bishops Road
Terry Brand	718700	tbrand@talk21.com	16 Lower Green
Lynne Burgess	798799	burgesslynne1@gmail.com	14 Bishops Road
Alice Greenwood	798177		14 Desborough Drive
Jim Hall	718505	jimjhall@btinternet.com	5 School Lane
Ray Keppler	717545	raykeppler@btinternet.com	15 Upper Green Road
Tina Lord	714148	tinalord22@hotmail.com	2A Hertford Road

After the AGM and a break for refreshments, our guest speaker Richard Fishbourne gave his talk entitled *A Worm's Eye View of Bringing a Garden to Life*. It was an informal and highly

interactive talk, covering a wide range of topics relating to wildlife in the garden. He brought along a wormery to illustrate several of his points (complete with worms and the kitchen scraps they were feeding on). Richard challenged us to re-consider some of our views about the role of wildlife in the garden, in an informative and entertaining way.

Other News

Poetry evening on Tuesday 27th March

There will be an evening of poetry in Welwyn Garden City on Tuesday 27th March, from 8pm to 10pm. You'll be able to listen, discuss and be inspired by poetry on wildlife, nature and the local landscape. There will be well-known and contemporary poems chosen and read aloud by members of local poetry groups: U3A, Ver Poets and Poetry ID. (If you would like to read aloud a poem of your own choice, please contact Claudia Harflett on 07754 145029 or claudia.harflett@gmail.com).

No booking is required. If you wish to attend, then please meet at 8pm at Howlands Baptist Church, The Commons, Welwyn Garden City. Sat Nav AL7 4RS

(Thanks to David Laming for bringing this to my attention.)



Homewood
Heating & Plumbing

LOCAL PROFESSIONAL PLUMBER

Gas Safe Heating Engineer
Which Trusted Trader

- Boiler Replacements
- Boiler Servicing
- Central Heating Installation
- General Plumbing
- Power Flushing
- Friendly and efficient service

01438 717536 07977 924459
www.homewoodplumbing.co.uk



Rooms with a view. Two Amazing Galleries for You to Enjoy

1. **The National Gallery**
2. **The Wallace Collection**

If you fancy a day in London then there aren't many better places to visit than an art gallery.

The National Gallery

The first place I recommend is the National Gallery where you'll see some amazing "rooms with great views". Did you know, the National Gallery possesses one of the most valuable and comprehensive collections of paintings in the world.

The gallery was founded in 1824 after Parliament provided £57,000 for the purchase of 38 paintings from the famous Angerstein Collection. Numerous later purchases and donations made it necessary to enlarge the building many times over, the latest in 1991 when the Sainsbury Wing was opened.

The collections offer a wide cross-section of European painting from 1260 until 1920, with the greatest treasures being the collection of Dutch Masters and the Italian Schools of the 15th and 16th centuries.

The West Wing presents paintings from sixteenth century, including exhibits by well-known artists; Tintoretto (St George and the Dragon).

The North Wing delights with paintings from 1600 to 1700 including: Peter Paul Rubens (Rape of the Sabine Women and The Straw Hat), van Dyck (Charles I on Horseback and The Balbi Children). Displays of Spanish paintings include: Diego Velázquez, Caravaggio (Boy bitten by a Lizard), and Nicolas Poussin (The Finding of Moses).

Tewin Mobile Vets

Chris Wearne BVSc(Hons I) MRCVS

Expert care in the comfort of your own home



Call us for an appointment
01438 840 028
enquiries@tewinvets.co.uk
www.tewinvets.co.uk
Mon-Fri. 8am – 6pm
Sat. 9am – 4pm

The East Wing is the place to aim for if you want to break for lunch or for a cuppa: - you deserve it!

You can also view a Reynolds, Gainsborough, Constable or Turner before moving onto the delights of the French and Italian displays, such as Monet (The Waterlily Pond) and van Gogh (Sunflowers).

The gallery offers excellent audio tour options. For example, the Inspired Tour directs visitors to paintings known to have provided inspiration for poets and writers, as well as celebrities, some of whom share their favourites. There are free maps and free guided tours (check on-line or at the desk when you arrive).

There are free Friday evening music recitals, provided by students from the Royal College of Music.

For more information visit www.nationalgallery.org.uk

The Wallace Collection

A not so well-known venue in London is the Wallace Collection which is located at Hertford House, Manchester Square, London, W1U 3BN. The nearest tube is Bond Street or Baker Street.

The Wallace Collection is a national museum in an historic London town house. In 25 galleries are unsurpassed displays of French 18th-century painting, furniture and porcelain with superb Old Master paintings and a world class armoury; you could say there is something to interest everyone.

In 2018, the Wallace Collection celebrates the 200th birthday of the founder, Sir Richard Wallace. The supposed illegitimate son of the Fourth Marquess of Hertford, Sir Richard unexpectedly inherited the Marquess's dazzling collection of art. This legacy was to change the direction of his own life and that of the masterpieces in his care.

Sir Richard believed in sharing his inheritance with a wider audience and he was also a prominent collector, adding extensively to the Collection prior to his death in 1890.

If you have 10 minutes or a couple of hours to spare the gallery is open seven days a week from 10am – 5pm and admission is free.

There is much more detail and information on the collection at www.wallacecollection.org

There will be plenty to see and do if you get chance to visit either of these great venues.

Jim Hall (Vice Chairman)

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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

ADVERTISEMENTS

Please support the advertisers and be sure to mention **THACS** and that you saw their adverts in our Newsletter or Show Schedule when purchasing items or services.

C.E. Wilkinson Tree Surgery & Services

Established 1998

Specializing in All Aspects of Treework & Stump Grinding

- Tree Felling - Topping & Pruning (All Treework to BS 3998)
- Specialists in Stump Grinding
- Hedge Cutting & Removal
- All Wood and Debris Removed from Site
- Specialists in Conifers
- Fully Insured and Qualified
- Contract Work Undertaken
- Firewood available

47 School Lane, Welwyn, Herts.

For Free Estimates and Advice Telephone : 01438 718481

Mobile : 07850 110868



Plume of Feathers Tewin

01438 717265

Spring is round the corner and so are we!

Large, beautiful garden and children's outside play area

Fantastic selection of seasonal dishes to tempt, at affordable prices.

Food served all day everyday from 11.00 am to 10.00 pm.

Open for Coffee & Cakes from 9.00 am.

Value menu - meals starting from £5.99

General Knowledge quiz every other Thursday from 9pm, cash prizes.

Like our Facebook page for fantastic weekly offers.