

THACS

TEWIN HORTICULTURAL ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2018

Chairman's Introduction

I hope that you came along to the recent Autumn Show and got to see and enjoy all of it. The report and results are given below.

Our three events for the rest of this year all have an Arts & Crafts theme, with a creative writing workshop in October, an art workshop in November and the annual Art & Craft Fair in December (more information below).

Finally, may I remind you that your *THACS* membership runs until 31st October and will soon be due for renewal (unless you joined after 30th June this year, in which case your membership will run through to 31 October 2019).

Membership remains only £5 per person per year, which represents excellent value. If you pay for your membership via a standing order, then your membership fee will be paid automatically. Otherwise, please send your cheque (payable to *THACS*) to Malcolm Allen, 47 Bishops Road, Tewin Wood, Welwyn, Hertfordshire AL6 0NP by 31st October.

Ray Keppler (Chairman)

***THACS* Events**

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

Date	Event	Closing date for bookings
25 th October	Creative writing workshop	11 th October
6 th November	Art workshop	31 st October
1 st December	Art & Craft Fair	No booking required
14 th January	AGM	No booking required

Autumn Show on Saturday 1st September

Congratulations to all the exhibitors at the Autumn Show! The display in the afternoon was lovely, especially since the show of exhibits was accompanied by several displays of childrens' work. The sun shone, the visitors came and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. The logistics all seemed to work well, leading to a smooth-running show with no significant problems along the way.

This was the 17th annual Autumn Show and it attracted 96 exhibitors who entered 247 exhibits. Both of these numbers are much lower than in recent years, so unfortunately the show was noticeably smaller. There was a 37% reduction in the number of adult exhibitors and 25% reduction in the overall number of exhibits compared with last year. Actually, the total number of exhibits was the lowest since detailed records began in 2010. It's been a very challenging and difficult year for us gardeners, so perhaps the reductions in the entries for Flowers and for Vegetables & Fruits are understandable, but I'm puzzled and concerned about the reductions

across the other classes. We even had three whole classes without a single entry:- Adult & Child Pairs Arts & Crafts, Children's Horticulture & Children's Culinary. I don't recall that ever happening before!

We could speculate about the reasons for this reduction in the number of exhibits, but I would rather focus on ideas for generating more exhibits for next time. If you have any comments about the show or suggestions for improving future shows, then please let me know. I would be particularly interested in any suggestions you may have about how to make the schedule more appealing to potential exhibitors and how to generate more interest and entries.

When it came to the presentation of the prizes, the adult trophy winners were Susan Whitbourn for Flower Arranging, Ray Keppler for Flowers, Ray Keppler for Vegetables & Fruit, Terry Brand for Arts & Crafts, Terry Brand for Photography and Hilary Tipping for Culinary. The Shire Park Bowling Club President's Shield for horticulture was won by Ray Keppler, whilst the RHS Banksian Medal went to Shirley Barker. Peter Goodison won the George Humble Crawford Award for Children's Photography, whilst Annabel Goodison won the Tewin Cowper School Parents' Association 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 and you can view photographs of the show on the Tewin Village website (go to www.tewinvillage.co.uk/clubs/thacs/ then scroll down to *Photographs of THACS previous events* to find the link.)

Many thanks to everyone who helped at the show:-

- The staff, helpers and children at Tewin Cowper School and 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 the team of volunteers for lunch for the judges, refreshments in the afternoon and washing up
- Alison Simpson, Linda Crawford, Shirley Sinfield and Jim Hall who presented some of the prizes
- John Ling for taking the photographs
- The committee, who worked so hard to make the show a success
- All the helpers behind the scenes, setting up and clearing the hall, making cakes for the afternoon refreshments.
- All the exhibitors, without whom there would be no show!

The show could not have happened without this incredible support so do please remember that your help is greatly appreciated and never taken for granted. Thank you all very much!

Ray Keppler (Show Secretary)

<i>Special Awards for Highest Points</i>	<i>Winners</i>
St Peter's Church Trophy - Flower Arranging	Susan Whitbourn
Carlton Rose Bowl - Flowers	Ray Keppler
Ivor & Vaughan Williams Trophy - Vegetables & Fruit	Ray Keppler
Shire Park Bowling Club President's Shield - Horticulture (Flower Arranging, Flowers, Vegetables & Fruit)	Ray Keppler
Royal Horticultural Society Banksian Medal – Horticulture (Flowers, Vegetables & Fruit)	Shirley Barker
Friends of Tewin Trophy - Arts & Crafts	Terry Brand
Merv Wilson Trophy - Photography	Terry Brand
Memorial Hall Trophy - Culinary	Hilary Tipping
THACS Adult & Child Pairs Trophy- Arts & Crafts	Not awarded
Tewin Cowper School Parents' Association Award – Horticulture, Arts & Crafts and Culinary	Annabel Goodison
George Humble Crawford Award - Children's Photography	Peter Goodison

<i>Adults</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Second</i>	<i>Third</i>
Flower Arranging	Susan Whitbourn	Audrey Walters	Joy Lawson
Flowers	Ray Keppler	Diana Brannen	Shirley Barker
Vegetables & Fruit	Ray Keppler	Joy Lawson	Shirley Barker
Arts & Crafts	Terry Brand	Audrey Walters	Jim Hall
Photography	Terry Brand	Ray Keppler	Melanie Goodison & Shirley Ashby
Culinary	Hilary Tipping	Melanie Goodison	Shirley Barker
<i>Adult & Child Pairs</i>			
Arts & Crafts	No entries		

<i>Children</i>	<i>Winners</i>
Horticulture	
Nursery & Reception	No entries
Years 1 & 2	No entries
Years 3 & 4	No entries
Years 5-7	No entries
Years 8-13	No entries
Arts & Crafts	
Nursery & Reception	Hollie, Charles, Angus & Valerie
Years 1 & 2	Peter Goodison & Ella
Years 3 & 4	Annabel Goodison
Years 5-7	Zoe Faraway
Years 8-13	No entries

Culinary	
Nursery & Reception	No entries
Years 1 & 2	No entries
Years 3 & 4	No entries
Years 5-7	No entries
Years 8-13	No entries
Photography	
Years 1 & 2	Peter Goodison
Years 3 & 4	Annabel Goodison
Years 5-7	No entries
Years 8-13	No entries

Forthcoming Events

Two interesting workshops are coming up, both being organised by Joanne Allen.

Creative writing workshop on Thursday 25th October 10am to 4pm

This autumn's creative writing workshop will be held in Tewin and will be run by our very able tutor, Frances Wilson. We are lucky to have her! As usual, she will start with a number of warm up exercises on which to build poetry or prose. Participants can write on matters of their own choosing or from ideas that have arisen on the day.

Tea and coffee are provided and participants are asked to bring something to share for lunch. The cost of the day is £21 for *THACS* members and £24 for non-members to be paid by the 18th of October. Cheques payable to *THACS*. Final day for booking is 11th October.

Art workshop on Tuesday 6th November 10am to 4pm

Now's the time to get this in your diary. It's suitable for all abilities. The course will be held in Bramfield Village Hall which has been specially chosen because of its wonderful light and beautiful rural surroundings. We are lucky to have Jude O'Sullivan again as our tutor so you can be sure it will be an enjoyable and satisfying day. No special art materials will be necessary. Tea and coffee are provided and course participants are asked to bring a contribution to share for lunch. The cost of the course will be £33 for *THACS* members and £36 for non-members. If you have friends who you think may like to come, please let them know about this special event.

If you haven't been before but think you might like to give it a try or if you would like to book, feel free to contact me for a chat on 01438 798749 or at jrallen14@hotmail.co.uk

Joanne Allen (Course Organiser)

Art & Craft Fair on Saturday 1st December

The Arts and Crafts Sale will take place this year on the 1st December, from 10am to 4pm in the Memorial Hall. The later date last year proved popular with both the stall holders and the public looking for those unique last-minute Christmas presents made by our talented artists and crafts people from Tewin and surrounding areas.

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SUNDAY CLOSED

There will be the usual mix of art, jewellery, woodturning, knitting, mixed media and ceramics. You will also have the opportunity to try your hand at the potter's wheel.

Debbie and Anne Hall are taking a well-earned rest this year from their popular Charity Cake Stall but we would like to keep it going with cakes donated by all you talented bakers out there.

If you could help please contact Hilary at [Hilary.tipping@talk21.com](mailto:Hilary.tipping@talk21.com) or phone:01438 718700.

## Annual General Meeting on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019

The eighteenth *THACS* AGM will take place at Tewin Memorial Hall on the evening of Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019. The AGM will be followed by a talk from a guest speaker. More information about the AGM and the talk will be issued with the next newsletter in December.

## Recent Events

### TEWIN STORES

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Monday 13.30 – 15.30  
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#### **Shop and Café opening hours**

Monday to Friday 8.30am – 4.30pm  
Saturday 8.30 – 12 noon  
Sunday 9am – 12 noon

Help the shop by becoming a volunteer  
a shareholder or join our monthly 100 club.

### Visit to RHS Garden Wisley on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July

It was back in March when I started to organise this trip. At the time I was hoping that the weather would be kind on the day and that the visit would not be marred by heavy rain. Well, it turned out to be a very hot and sunny day indeed, where the main issue was finding shade and staying cool, rather than dodging the rain. It just goes to show that we need to be careful about what we wish for!

The group of 32 people left Tewin at 9:00 and we had a smooth and comfortable journey in the nicely air-conditioned coach from South Mimms Travel. On arrival, I was pleased to find that everything was ready and waiting for us, so it did not take long to get the entrance tickets and garden maps and to check the arrangements for the mobility scooters and for meeting for the garden tour. Nine people went on the optional guided tour, which started at 11:30 and lasted about 1½ hours, so

there was still plenty of time for lunch and exploration afterwards.

There were several exciting new features that were well-worth closer inspection. The largest development is the construction of the new Welcome Building, which is well under way and due to be completed by the end of next year. The new Bowes-Lyon Rose Garden has now been completed and looked stunning, particularly when enjoyed from the wide sinuous path through it. Another exciting addition was the new 75m Wisteria tunnel on the Top Terrace. The structure still looks a bit stark, but the young Wisterias will soon establish and start to soften the effect and

it should be spectacular next May when dripping with beautiful Wisteria blooms. The new Exotic Garden has established quickly and already looks lush and colourful. It has generous wide paths and plenty of seats, so you can immerse yourself in its lovely atmosphere.

It was interesting to see how the gardens have been coping with the extreme hot and dry weather. The famous mixed borders were still looking magnificent and full of colour, form and texture. However, in a few other parts of the garden there were signs of scorch and die-back. Chatting to some of the gardeners confirmed that the severe weather has been a challenge for them and for some of their plants. However, the RHS is doing some good work to research and advise about gardening in a changing climate, which is something that us gardeners will be increasingly interested in.

Despite the challenges of the recent extreme weather, many of the plants were star-performers and there were some stunning plant combinations. Consequently, the Plant Centre got a good deal of business from our visit, and most people in our group brought plants. I hope that all of the plants settle into their new homes and thrive, providing happy memories of a great day out.

It all went very smoothly and the time-keeping was excellent, so thanks to everyone in the group for helping to make the visit go so smoothly.

Ray Keppler (Event Organiser)

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## Other News

### GDPR and THACS Data Protection Policy

The introduction of the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in May caused some concern and confusion for various societies and clubs such as *THACS*. It would have been helpful if there had been some specific help for small organisations, but since there was not, we had to do the best we could to interpret how the regulation applied to us.

We decided to notify all of our members about the impact of the GDPR on the way *THACS* operates and asked them to complete and return the *THACS* GDPR form, which would give their express permission for the committee to contact them by their nominated methods. Our thanks go to all of you who responded to that request. Unfortunately, the response level was disappointing and so personalised reminders were then sent out. Despite these reminders, we still do not have responses from all

members (72% as of 31/08/18). We have decided to not pursue this matter any further with those members who have not responded. We shall continue to contact them by the method that they had previously nominated for the receipt of *THACS* documents (unless they ask us to do

otherwise). We believe that this is permitted because *THACS* has a legitimate interest in keeping members informed of the Society's activities and members have a similar interest in receiving that information.

Another impact of the introduction of the GDPR was to make me realise that *THACS* did not have a formal Data Protection Policy and that we needed one. The committee has been working together on this for some time and I am pleased to share the resulting *THACS* Data Protection Policy with you. It's given below and will soon be published on our page of the village website.

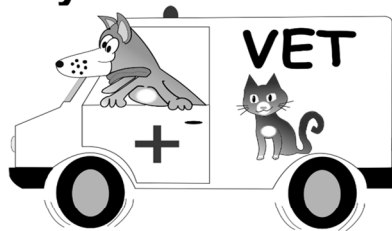
Our work on this policy mainly consisted of formalising our existing practices but it did also lead to a review and improvement in the way your data is safeguarded. This made all the effort worthwhile and I hope that you will be pleased with the resulting policy.

Ray Keppler (Chairman)

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**THACS**  
**TEWIN HORTICULTURAL ARTS & CRAFTS SOCIETY**

**DATA PROTECTION POLICY**

***Purpose***

The purpose of this document is to specify what personal data we hold about *THACS* members and how it is managed, stored, used and safeguarded.

***What personal information do we hold?***

The data that *THACS* keeps is the minimum necessary for people to remain active members.

The Membership Records held by the *THACS* committee consist of the name, *contact details* and *record of subscription payments* of every member.

The *contact details* consist of the home postal address, together with any email addresses, home telephone numbers and mobile telephone numbers that the member has provided.

The *record of subscription payments* consist of details of when and how the membership subscriptions are paid but they do not include any bank details. If members supply a completed standing order form to cover their annual membership subscriptions, it is passed on to the bank in question. We do not retain a copy and we do not record the bank details.

Additionally, there are also some photographs. Photographs are taken at the Spring and Autumn Shows and other events and uploaded onto the village website ([www.tewinvillage.co.uk](http://www.tewinvillage.co.uk)) which is accessible to the wider public. It is expected that anyone who does not want to appear on the website would decline to be part of the photograph.

***How is it managed, stored and used?***

The Membership Records are managed by our Membership Administrator, who stores them electronically in an Excel Spreadsheet. The information is shared with other committee members and trusted helpers, who need access to it for various *THACS* purposes, such as newsletter distribution and event organisation.

The information is only ever used for *THACS* purposes.

Whenever emails are sent by a member of the committee to a group of *THACS* members, it will be done in a way that hides the email addresses of the recipients.

We will not share any members' contact details with a third party without their prior agreement.



### ***How is it safeguarded?***

The security of the membership information is important to the *THACS* committee. The spreadsheet of membership records is password-protected. The Membership Administrator assigns the password and will change it periodically. It is only given to committee members and trusted helpers. The password will not be recorded in committee minutes or given out in emails.

The Committee and our trusted helpers are all volunteers, so information will reside on home computer systems. It will thus be subject to normal security arrangements, as would any similar data held on home computer systems for normal social interaction.

### ***How long is it kept for?***

Members' personal information will be managed, used and safeguarded for as long as that person is a member of *THACS*. When a member leaves *THACS*, a snap-shot of their current information is preserved as a former member for a maximum of three years, but it is not updated.

### ***Your rights***

As a *THACS* member, you have the following rights with regard to your personal information:

- See what information is stored on you
- Change your details, if they are incorrect

If you resign from *THACS*, you have the right to have your information deleted from our records.

### ***Questions***

If you have any questions or concerns about this, please contact Ray Keppler, *THACS* Chairman via email ([raykeppler@btinternet.com](mailto:raykeppler@btinternet.com)) or 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.

#### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Ray Keppler Email: [raykeppler@btinternet.com](mailto:raykeppler@btinternet.com) Telephone: 01438 717545

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For more info contact Julie on: 07788 648438

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