



Tilehurst Horticultural Association **Newsletter July-September 2015**

Dates for your Diary

12 July	Trophies to be returned
26 July	Last date for Show entries
August	Oak Tree Road Trading Shed closed until September
1 August	Annual Show
September	Oak Tree Road Trading Shed re-opens 2-3pm
12 September	Trip to RHS Flower Show Wisley
19 & 20 September	Royal Berkshire Show (selection of produce on 18 September)

Last call to renew your membership for 2015, if you have not renewed by the end of September this is the last newsletter you will receive.

Beanpole Day 25 April

This event was held at Caversham Court and managed to make a profit of over £376. A fantastic effort, our thanks to all of those who contributed plants, helped and also to the husbands who got roped in.

Plant Exchange Evening 28 May

This was another enjoyable evening. Even though there were not as many tomatoes as in previous years, everyone seemed to go home with some interesting plants.

Herb Walk 31 May



This was organised by one of our members, Linda Bostock, who is a practising Medical Herbalist.

About a dozen of our members attended the walk on what turned out to be a rather chilly day for the end of May. Linda had reconnoitred the Rivermead meadows only a few days earlier but in the meantime the long grass had been cut down! Despite this setback and the chilly weather Linda's enthusiasm and knowledge made for a very interesting and enjoyable walk.

RBH League of Friends Fete 6 June

This was another very successful day. Weather was just right, not too hot or cold, and there were crowds of visitors. Many, many thanks to all those who helped on the stall, donated plants for sale and also bought plants as well.

There were plants of all types everywhere, on the tables, on the floor, on the stands at the front, and it is amazing that by the end of the day most of them were sold, the floor was empty and so were some of the tables. We made, after costs, over £430 which goes to our general funds.

Trading Sheds - Opening times -

Sunday - Gratwicke Road: January (from the 3rd Sunday) February, October & November 1000 - 1100hrs - March- September 1000 - 1200hrs - December closed.

Saturday - Oak Tree Road: February & September - 1400 - 1500hrs, March – July 1400hrs – 1600hrs. Closed all other times and for the whole month of August.

Annual Summer Show 1 August

The Show Schedules will be in the Trading sheds and on our website, by the start of July. I hope that the growing year has been kind to you and that you will be able enter lots of classes! Remember there are not only Vegetables, Fruits & Flowers, but Cookery & Photographs and Knitting; and there is a Novice class for the first timer, so no excuse for not giving it a go. We would like to see lots more entries in the junior section for those under 16 years of age, so perhaps you could persuade your children, grandchildren, nephews or nieces to 'have a go'; it could be a lot of fun!

Entries should be submitted by 26 July and Trophies won last year returned by 12 July. Remember, you can sponsor a class for the grand total of £2; forms are at the Trading Sheds.

Finally, the plant stall would welcome any plants and the refreshment area would love to receive any cakes, maybe those which you have baked and consider 'unworthy' for the actual show, having baked a better one later. The raffle table would happily receive any unwanted gifts or other contributions.

Outing to RHS Flower Show, Wisley 12 September

Coach trip £16 p.p. Pickup points – Walnut Way 9.00 a.m; Valpy St, Reading 9.15 a.m.

☎ Edna – 0118 9677 025

Royal Berkshire Show 19 & 20 September

We have now submitted our entry for the Intervillage class at this year's show which takes place on 19 & 20 September at the Newbury Showground.

Selection of items for the THA exhibit will take place at the Gratwicke Road trading shed on Friday 18 September. Please contact Claire O'Brien ☎ 07903 269 554 or Pauline Sinclair ☎ 07711 962 049 if you have suitable produce for our exhibit, or for further information.

Please note that this year there is a new section entitled "Grow Your Own". This section contains classes for vegetables and fruit for individuals which you might like to consider entering. More details are available on the Royal Berkshire Show website, www.berkshireshow.co.uk, under the Floral Tent Schedule heading, or by calling the Show Office on 01635 247 111.

Trading Sheds

As always we are looking for new Cashiers and Helpers for both of our trading sheds. Oak Tree Road is especially short of helpers and unless extra volunteers come forward, we may have to consider curtailing the opening period. The time commitment is not too great; a minimum of 6 hours a year of your time helping out would make all the difference. Nigel Turner will start organising the rosters in November so please give him a call on ☎ 0118 9414 102 if you would like to help.

The magazines and notice boards in the Gratwicke Road Trading Shed have been tidied up recently. The gardening magazines, including copies of the RHS magazine "The Gardener", are available for reference. We also have copies of Ray Broughton's leaflets for sale at 50p per copy, together with the instructions for making Nettle Tea, mentioned in Ray's latest talk.

Members are welcome to advertise gardening items for sale on the notice board, but please do ensure that you remove your notice when you have found a new home for the item.

Chairman	Joan Macphee	Tel	9414873
Secretary	Pauline Sinclair	Tel	9453658
Membership Secretary	Sylvia Hickman	Email	membership.tilehurstha@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Peter Chesworth	Tel	9429066
General Email	tilehurstha@gmail.com	Email	newsletter.tilehurstha@gmail.com
Website	www.tilehurstha.org.uk		