



Tilehurst Horticultural Association Newsletter July - September 2016

Dates For your Diary

23 July	Show Trophies to be returned
31 July	Last date for Show entries
6 August	Annual Summer Show at Tilehurst Village Hall
August	Oak Tree Road Trading shed closed until September
August- November	Gratwicke Road Trading shed open Sunday 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.
September	Oak Tree Road trading shed open Saturday 2.00 p.m. to 3.00 p.m.
17 & 18 September	Royal Berkshire Show (selection of produce 16 September)

Last call to renew your membership for 2016, if you have not renewed by the end of September this is the last newsletter you will receive.

Bean Pole Day 23 April

We raised a record £483 this year from our Plant Stall at the Bean Pole Day event at Caversham Court Gardens. Thanks to all who contributed towards this.

League of Friends Fete 4 June

We had a very successful day and sold many, many plants. It was quite overwhelming when we were setting up the site, there were so many plants of all types and varieties it seemed impossible that we would sell them all. As it happened, we only had some shrubs and perennials left at the end of the day and they can be cared for ready for the next sale. All the tomato plants, vegetables and annuals were sold, which was great as these would not survive until the next sale. Many thanks are extended to all those who provided plants, helped to set up and man the stall on the day and who came and purchased. We made over £480.

It is extremely heartening that from these two events we raised nearly £1,000 from the sale of plants. Our grateful thanks to all who contributed to this fantastic effort on behalf of the Association.

A Tale of Three Plants



The 3 plants are all *Thalictrum Aquilegifolium* Album all grown from seeds Claire O'Brien sowed in 2015. Pauline Sinclair had been looking after two and Claire says she nurtured the weedy one in the middle. Pauline really does have green fingers...the two in flower were quickly snapped up at the Fete Plant Stall! And the other one is going to Pauline for some TLC so that she can make it superb. (Thanks to Claire for the photo and the story).

Trading Sheds - Opening times -

Sunday - Gratwicke Road: January (from the 3rd Sunday), February, August, September, October & November 10.00 – 11.00hrs - March- July 10.00 – 12.00hrs - December closed.

Saturday - Oak Tree Road: February & September – 14.00 – 15.00hrs, March – July 14.00hrs – 16.00hrs. Closed all other times and for the whole month of August.

Plant Exchange Evening 26 May

This was once again well supported with a good selection of plants. We are, however, always on the lookout for new ideas and, if you have any suggestions for a social occasion, please let any of the Committee know or email tilehurstha@gmail.com.

Royal Berkshire Show 2016

We are preparing our entry for the inter-village class at this year's show which will take place on 17 & 18 September at the Newbury Showground. Selections of items for the THA Exhibit will take place at the Gratwicke Road trading shed on Friday 16 September. Please contact Claire O'Brien 07903 269 554 or Pauline Sinclair 07711 962 049 if you have suitable produce for our exhibit. Don't forget that the Show also has a "Grow Your Own" section with classes for vegetables and fruit for individuals. THA members had considerable success with their "Grow Your Own" entries last year.

Annual Summer Show 6 August

The show schedules will be in the Trading Sheds and on our website by the start of July. The success of the show depends on the number of entries, so we hope that the growing year has been kind to you and you are able to enter lots of classes. Even if you have not entered before remember that there is a Novice Class for the first timer. It would be nice to see lots more entries in the Junior Classes (under 16 years of age). Perhaps you could persuade your children, grandchildren, nephews, nieces or even your neighbours' children, if they live in Tilehurst, to have a go.

Entries should be submitted by 31 July and Trophies won last year returned by 23 July.

The plant stall would welcome any plants for sale on the day and the refreshment area would love to receive any cakes, maybe those you have baked and consider 'unworthy' for the actual show having baked a better one later on. The raffle table would welcome suitable contributions.

Sponsor a Class at the Show

Remember you can sponsor a class at the Show for £2. This sponsorship does help towards ensuring the show remains self-financing; forms are at the trading shed.

Trading Sheds

This is our annual plea for more helpers and Cashiers. Nigel Turner will be starting to organise the rosters in November. If you feel you can help why not give Nigel a ring on 0118 9414 102 to find out what is involved.

Obituary Mervyn Taylor

Lynne Jones writes -

"Mervyn Taylor was one of our Flower & Pot Plant judges from at least 1992 - 2008, I say 'at least' because records prior to that were sketchy, to say the least. He never seemed to age, and from 'stewarding' him can say that he was always willing to share his knowledge and explain things as in the beginning I always seemed to be asking 'why that' instead of 'this'. When I stopped stewarding and became Show Secretary he continued to be helpful, advising me as to what other organisations paid the judges, and helping to refine the schedule. He moved from Reading to Tilehurst in his later years and ceased Judging, but always kept in touch."

Mervyn's family kindly requested that the collection at his funeral be divided between the THA and the Tilehurst Allotment Society. The committee will consider how best this bequest can be used in Mervyn's memory.

Committee Changes

Sylvia Hickman has taken over the position of Talks Organiser: Maria Webb will be receiving training from Ray Haines with a view to taking over the Trading Secretary role.

Chairman	Terry Bryant	Tel	9429305	
Secretary	Pauline Sinclair	Tel	9453658	
Membership Secretary	Sylvia Hickman	Tel	9429947	Email membership.tilehurstha@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Peter Chesworth	Tel	9429066	Email newsletter.tilehurstha@gmail.com
General Email	tilehurstha@gmail.com			
Website	www.tilehurstha.org.uk			