

# FEERING & KELVEDON GARDEN CLUB

## OCTOBER 2023

### WELCOME TO THE CHAIRMAN'S NEWSLETTER a special edition following the Annual Show last month

First though we welcome back an amusing speaker - Brian Carline on 3<sup>rd</sup> October who will be giving a talk on "Organic Vegetable Growing". But now for a report of our Show last month. As everyone knows putting on the Show is extremely time consuming both for the entrants and those organising it and therefore thanks must be conveyed to all those who participated by entering and to all those who tirelessly helped to organise it. In particular, thanks must go to Gill Read and her team of Tracy Harman and Lesley Griggs for running the Café and to those who baked cakes. Without the extra tables exhibits could not be shown so thank you to David Curtis, Don Davies, Doug Read, Mark Roper and Ronda Howard for collecting and returning these and also to Terry Mays for providing some of the transport. Especial thanks to Jean Yems for putting together the Tombola with the help of her daughter Kay and to Val for helping on the day. There was not one prize left this year so that was a sell out! It would be impossible to run the Show without stewards so thanks to those who kindly volunteered to take on this extremely important role and to our collator of winners, Rob Evans who quietly worked out the results followed by our Treasurer, Doug Read with the help of Terry Mays filling the winners envelopes with their prize money!

Finally, to all the Committee together with extra help from Linda Curtis and Roz and Dave Clarke who helped to clear up the Hall alongside Gill Read in the Café with the Centre being cleared in record time.

It has to be said that it was disappointing that the number of entrants was down although the entries were actually up. Also, it was disappointing that the Show was not better attended, although this may have been partly due to horrendous traffic jams both on the A12 and through Kelvedon and with other Shows in the area also being held at the same time. However, on a more positive note for those who did come along there were lovely exhibits to look at together with the refreshments in the Café and a chance to win a prize on the Tombola.

Now for the results:

#### BEST IN DIVISION

**Don Harris** – Vegetables (Coloured potatoes) Onions)

**Rachel Smith** -Fruit (Tree fruit)

**Annie Northfield** – Dahlias (Medium decorated)

**Ronda Howard** – Flowers (Sunflowers)

**Annie Northfield** – (Planted container)

**Sue Bunting** – Floral Art (Foliage)

**Nancy Pitt**– Photography (Close Up)

**Janet Edwards** Art & Crafts (Marquetry)

**Sue Bunting** Cookery (Carrot Loaf)

**Ruth Bell**- Preserves & Drinks (Chutney)



## CUP WINNERS

**Rachel Smith** - Fred Cross Cup  
**Don Harris** Stanley Langston Cup  
**Roger Pitt** – Sybil Sherwood Cup  
**Tracy Harman** - Annual Challenge Cup  
**Roz Clarke** – Ron Hayward Memorial Cup  
**Annie Northfield** -Buckle Cup  
**Annie Northfield** - Arthur Brown Cup  
**Susan Bunting** - Dorothy Bacon Cup  
**Carol Taylor**– The Feering & Kelvedon WI Shield  
**Nancy Pitt** – The Roberts Shield  
**Sue Bunting**– Redman Cup  
**Ronda Howard** - Joyce Brown Silver Plate for Best in Show – Trug of vegetables



**Carol Taylor**- RHS Banksian Medal  
**Don Harris** - Member's Bronze Award  
**Annie Northfield** – Member's Bronze Award

**Dave Clarke** - Chairman's Challenge



*The winning Cosmos*

**So, congratulations to all the winners and especial thanks again to all those who entered this year, organised the show, helped with setting up and setting down and to all who helped on the day with various activities. It all helped to make the show a success.**



**Now let's turn to jobs to do in the garden and allotment this month –**

1. Plant up containers with winter bedding and evergreens
2. Raise patio pots onto bricks to avoid waterlogging
3. Mulch around borderline hardy plants
4. Trim hedges
5. Check for hedgehogs before lighting a bonfire especially on (5<sup>th</sup> November!)
6. Pot up chives and mint to bring indoors for winter use.
7. Rake up Autumn leaves and add them to the compost bin
8. Plant onion sets, shallots & garlic
9. Harvest Brussels sprouts, leeks and parsnips
10. Propagate fruit bushes by taking hardwood cuttings and plant fruit trees

## NEWS FROM MEMBERS

**BIRTHDAY** greetings members with a birthday or anniversary this month. We also welcome **Paul Rice** who joined at the Open Show and with a late renewal from **Richard Monk** it brings the total of membership to 81. Congratulations also to **Ronda Howard** and **Mark Roper** who will be marrying at the end of the month.

## GOOD NEWS ABOUT THE MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION

The Committee have decided to leave the membership subs at £6 rather than increasing them to £8 as had been agreed at the 2023 AGM .

## POET'S CORNER

Ian Standingford's poem of the month  
Extracts from AE Housman's  
Last Poems: XL

*Tell me not here, it needs not saying,  
What tune the enchantress plays  
In aftermath of soft September  
Or under blanching mays,  
For she and I were long acquainted  
And I knew all her ways.....*

*On acres of the seeded grasses  
The changing burnish leaves;  
Or marshalled under moons of harvest  
Stand still all night the sheaves;  
Or beeches strip in storms for winter  
And stain the wind with leaves.*

### DID YOU KNOW?

St. Francis Day is celebrated on 4<sup>th</sup> October. Saint Francis of Assisi has long been associated with the patronage of animals and the natural environment and along with Catherine of Siena, is the patron saint of Italy – he is also credited with creating the very first nativity scene in 1223.

In England St Francis Day is traditionally considered to be the day when swallows migrate south for the winter. It was believed at one point that swallows flew to the bottom of ponds and stayed there during the cooler months - a rather bizarre thought considering the cold winters of recent years!

### NOW FOR NEWS ABOUT OUTINGS NEXT YEAR

#### SUNDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2024

**HELMINGHAM HALL** in Suffolk.

A 53-seater coach has already been booked with Kings Coaches with tickets priced at **£30** for members and **£35** for non-members – this includes coach travel, driver's tip and entry to the Gardens. Book early to avoid disappointment!

On **TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> JULY 2024** we shall be visiting the renowned **Ulting Wick Gardens** using own transport to enjoy the beautiful gardens of the owner. The cost of the ticket to include refreshments will be **£12pp**.

## RECIPE OF THE MONTH SQUASH, OAT BLACKBERRY & APPLE MUFFINS

**Pre-heat oven to 170o Gas Mark 3  
and line a 12 hole muffin tray with  
paper cases or squares of non-stick  
baking paper**

### INGREDIENTS

140gm soft brown sugar  
20g honey  
100g oats or muesli  
170g self-raising flour or self raising wholemeal  
1 tsp bicarbonate of soda  
2 eggs  
200ml milk  
80g butter, melted  
½ an eating apple, cored and finely chopped.  
100g grated pumpkin or butternut squash  
100g blackberries  
Demerara sugar for topping

### METHOD

Put all the ingredients into a mixing bowl – except the blackberries – and stir together with a wooden spoon. Stir gently until you have a creamy mixture. Spoon the mixture into the prepared muffin tins filling each one about half full, then add some blackberries and then spoon the remaining mixture on top. Sprinkle with some demerara sugar and a few oats.

Bake in the pre-heated oven for about 30 minutes or until golden and springy to the touch. **ENJOY!**

### FLOWER OF THE MONTH resumes

**NEXT MONTH** we welcome Zsuzsa Serer who will be talking all about orchids.

### CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

Tickets now available at only £5pp

**That's all for this month so Happy  
Cooking and Gardening.**