

FEERING & KELVEDON GARDEN CLUB

MAY 2024

WELCOME TO THE CHAIRMAN'S NEWSLETTER



All images courtesy of Ronda Howard

April hailed our Spring Show and although the entries were slightly down from last year the exhibits were of a very high quality as can be seen from the above and those who had entered certainly gave the Institute a real feeling of Spring.

The results are as follows:

Miniature Daffodil

1st Ronda Howard, 2nd Carol Taylor
3rd Susan Pitt

Small Cupped Daffodil

1st Janet Davies, 2nd Fiona Barkham,
3rd Don Davies

Large Trumpet Daffodil

1st Susan Pitt, 2nd Fiona Barkham

Large Fancy Daffodil

1st Fiona Barkham, 2nd Ronda Howard
3rd Janet Davies

Spring Flowers other than above

1st Sue Pitt, 2nd Fiona Barkham
3rd Janet Edwards

Flowering & or Foliage Shrubs

1st Janet Davies, 2nd Roz Clarke, 3rd Linda Curtis

Planted pot of daffodils in flower

No entries

A Single Foliage Pot Plant

1st Janet Davies, 2nd Doug Read,

A Single Flowering Pot Plant

1st Naomi Emerick, 2nd Roz Clarke,
3rd Susan Pitt

An Orchid in Flower

1st Tracy Harman, 2nd Doug Read,
3rd Carol Taylor

An Arrangement of Spring Flowers

1st Janet Edwards

A planted container of Spring Flowers

No entries

Congratulations to all

MEMBERSHIP – We welcome a new member to the Club, **Adrienne Copsey** bringing a total so far to 66

GREETINGS to all those with a birthday or an anniversary this month.

HELMINGHAM HALL

Sunday 9th June with Kings Coaches

It hardly seems possible that last payments for the above outing are due this month and reserved seats need to be settled along with any new bookings. Please hand over completed forms and cheques/*cash payments to Annie and tickets will be issued.

TROPHIES & SHIELDS – Angela Carruthers

has kindly volunteered to take on this important role and the winners from last year should bring these along to either this **May** meeting or at the latest in **June** for engraving prior to the Open Show. It would be helpful if these were cleaned and polished up please!

TREASURER REQUIRED FOR 2025!

Andrew Taylor who kindly volunteered at this year's AGM to become the treasurer next year and assistant treasurer until that time, will not be able to continue with either role due to his very busy commitments so we are now looking for another treasurer! So anyone with an aptitude for figures please consider taking up this position for the Club in 2025.

RAFFLES –the question has been raised as to whether there is a budget for raffle prizes to which the answer is no. As this is a fund-raising exercise we do rely on the goodness and generosity of raffle prizes being donated. The stock is somewhat depleted and needs replenishing so please if you have any spare items please consider donating!



Let's turn to a few gardening tips

1. Trim evergreen hedges and topiary to keep them neat.
2. Plant dahlias. Cannas and summer bedding after late frost.
2. Sow hardy perennials in a frame or greenhouse and annual flowers direct.
3. Sow parsnips, salads, chard, kales direct.
4. Sow cucumbers marrows, squashes and pumpkins under glass.



POET'S CORNER

Poem of the month

"Pippa's Song – by Robert Browning written in 1841

*The Year's at the Spring,
And day's at the morn;
Morning's at seven;
The hillside's dew-pearled;
The lark's on the wing;
The snail's on the thorn;
God's in his heaven –
All's right with the world!*

DID YOU KNOW? Oak Apple Day used to be a big tradition in Britain. People would wear oak apple leaves pinned on to them on 29th May to remember the day King Charles II returned triumphantly to England after the restoration of the monarchy in 1660. The reason for the oak leaf was to celebrate the King's narrow escape from capture by Cromwell's soldiers by hiding in an oak tree. Another extraordinary fact was that up until the middle of the 20th century, anyone caught not wearing a leaf on the 29th May could be kicked, punched or otherwise abused!!

ANNUAL OPEN SHOW – believe it or not we only have the June members' meeting remaining before **31st August** and we need volunteers to help run the Show please for all the various jobs that it entails - setting up on Friday night to include the collection of tables from the Institute and St Mary's Kelvedon Church, organising refreshments, stewarding and much more. We do have some volunteers already on board which is brilliant but to make the Show the success we all hope for please put your name down on the list provided to ensure it is just that. Many thanks!

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

Lady Constance Howard's Ginger Cake

INGREDIENTS

600g flour
1 tsp baking powder
125g butter
2 tbsp ground ginger
250g raisins
2 eggs well beaten
15cl (1/4 pint) dark treacle
15cl milk (1/4 pint)

METHOD

Pre-heat oven to 180c/Gas Mark 4
Line a 2lb loaf tin with buttered paper

Mix the flour and baking powder; rub into the butter; add the sugar, ground ginger and the raisins. Add to the well beaten egg the treacle and milk, then mix all the ingredients well together and put into the prepared loaf tin and place in the pre-heated oven. Bake for about 2 hours or until the cake shrinks slightly from the sides of the tin. Remove and place on a rack to cool. **ENJOY!**

Next month we will be halfway through the year and your Chairman will be a year older the following day after our meeting on **June 4th**! Our speaker will be Chris Meacham, a professional mole catcher, who will be bringing along his ferret (it will be in a cage!) to talk to us about the control of moles and rabbits. He is a delightful character and we can look forward to a most informative and interesting talk.

CLUB MEMBERS' AFTERNOON VISIT UTLING WICK TUESDAY 2nd JULY 2024 (2pm until 5pm using own transport) £12 including refreshments

Tickets available for members to visit so please see Annie if you would like to come along.

FLOWER OF THE MONTH

Resumes this month so do not forget to bring along your exhibit. The winner at the end of the year will receive the coveted Flower of the Month Shield currently held by Lyn Harris.

THAT'S ALL FOR THIS MONTH! HAPPY COOKING & GARDENING

*"Life is the flower for which love is the
honey" – Victor Hugo*