

FLEET and CHURCH CROOKHAM GARDEN SOCIETY



INTERIM MEMBERS HANDBOOK

2023

www.ccgsoc.org.uk

New members and show visitors welcome

**Trading Hut Open Saturdays
10 -11.30 am 11th February to 30th September
Memorial Hall Car Park, Sandy Lane GU52 8LD
PLANT SALES AND ADVICE most weekends**

**AGM, SOCIAL EVENING & QUIZ – free to members / £3 non-members
FRIDAY 24th February 2023 at 7.30pm at The Willis Hall**

**SPRING SHOW AND SEED SWAP
SATURDAY 25th March 2023
Set up from 9.00, final entries by 10.30am, Open for visitors 11.30 Trophies at 12pm
MEMORIAL HALL, CHURCH CROOKHAM**

**ANNUAL SHOW
SATURDAY 19th August 2022
Set up from 9.00, final entries by 10.30am, Open 2.00 - 3.30 pm
CROOKHAM MEMORIAL HALL, CHURCH CROOKHAM
Trophies to be presented at 3.00 p.m.**

ADMISSION FREE TO BOTH SHOWS – VISITORS WELCOME

**HARVEST SUPPER
Friday 6th OCTOBER 2022 AT 7.30pm
WILLIS HALL, CHURCH CROOKHAM**



CHURCH CROOKHAM GARDEN SOCIETY
www.ccsoc.org.uk

OFFICIALS

Chairman

Mr Alec Grant
12 The Crescent
Crookham Village
Tel: 07856532477

alecgrant@icloud.com

Vice Chairman

Post to be filled

General Secretary

Mrs Liz Kirton
3 Nuthatch Close
Ewshot
Tel: 01252 851532

elizabeth_kirton@yahoo.co.uk

Trading Secretary

Kevin Morris
Alec Grant

Treasurer

Roger Greenhalgh
Caroline Morris

Show Committee

Jo Wilson
Caroline Morris
Helen Howard

Other Committee member

Mike Speed

**New Volunteers sought to help with:
COMMITTEE – SALES TEAMS – EVENTS – MAINTENANCE**

Please contact an appropriate member of the committee if you can help.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Following the difficulties of the previous two years, 2022 has become a successful year of recovery. From the devastating news at last year's AGM that the society may have to wind up We have this year recovered to at least the membership levels of the previous five years.

This year has also seen the introduction of some very interesting talks. These were propagation of pelargoniums by Steve Pollard, the world of butterflies by John Baker and concluded with Jim Buttress, entertaining members with his life in horticulture. Well over 40 people attended the talk by Jim Buttress.

The consensus of opinion was that the talks would be better held at the WI Hall in Crookham Village. However, the Memorial Hall and the Willis Hall will still host the spring and summer shows.

Despite the extraordinarily hot and arid weather mid-year, the summer show is an outstanding success, with near record entries.

It cannot go without mention the loss of our vice chairman, Gillian Dukes, in November. Gillian was a diligent, popular and devoted member of the committee, and I was very grateful when she stood in for me whilst I was temporarily out of action. We will remember Gillian each year with a memorial cup to be awarded at the summer show for most points in the fruit section. I am pleased to say the members raised over £55 for Phyllis Tuckwell in memory of Gillian.

It is sad to note that Peter Edwards is retiring from the committee and we will miss his diligence and enthusiasm as show secretary.

Thanks are due to Jan Parker and Sue Meek who are also standing down from the committee but both will continue to be available to provide assistance as they always have. Subject to the 2023 AGM Kevin and Caroline Morris will be joining the committee together with Jo Wilson.

It is intended that Jo will run a show committee with Caroline and Helen Howard whilst Peter will be available as an advisor.

I am confident that new committee members will inject enthusiasm and take the society forward.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

As a Not for Profit Society these are deliberately kept low to encourage membership and participation and are currently **£5.00pa**. Do please **enrol early in the season at the sales shed** and collect your new 2023 membership card, as your receipted membership card must be shown before purchases can be made. Do we have your Email address? Please check we have it right when renewing membership.

SHOW REPORT

The 2022 Annual Show was held on 20 August in the Church Crookham Memorial Hall. A total of 183 entries were received from 23 members. The Judges commented that the entries were of a high standard especially as the Show took place in the middle of a very hot summer when gardens were dry and growing conditions difficult.

The number of entries was about the same as 2021 but the number of entrants increased back up to the 2019 level when there were 22. This reflects an increase in our membership from less than 50 during lockdown to about 130.

The most notable trend in entries was the increase of those in the domestic categories, reaching a total of 35 entries.

RHS WISLEY MEMBERSHIP

The society has affiliated membership of the RHS and holds a card that entitles members to discounted entry to the RHS Gardens (30% for up to two adults). This card can be borrowed from Liz Kirton. A free group visit will be organised in the summer holidays – child friendly. Transport can be available for a small fare.

As of 1st February next year all **affiliated societies will receive 2 NEW benefits:**

- A discount card giving 50% off the cost of entry to any RHS garden for up to two members of your group at a time (Please read T's & C's on reverse of card before use). Share the card around your members and encourage everyone to take advantage.
- A Recognition Award certificate to honour one of your members, or someone in your local community who has gone the extra mile in 2022. Perhaps they were key in keeping your club going, enabled everyone to take part in Zoom meetings, perhaps provided much needed transport, or extra fundraising, started a local community project, or some other outstanding achievement. This is a lovely way to say their efforts have been noted and really appreciated.

DOBIES SEEDS

Members are entitled to a discount of up to 50% on orders from Dobies' catalogue if they use the code given when they order. Find out our code at the trading shed (it is exclusively for members of the society)

2022 TROPHY HOLDERS and ROSETTE WINNERS

TROPHY	DESCRIPTION	SHOW	HOLDER
Ryelaw Vegetable Cup	Highest Points Vegetables	Summer	Sue Grant
Ryelaw Rosette	Vegetable Runner-up	Summer	Russell Hunt
Ryelaw Floral Cup	Highest Points Flowers	Summer	Gillian Rose
Ryelaw Rosette	Floral Runners-up	Summer	Sue Grant
Kempshall Cup	Best Novice	Summer	Lynne Hardy & Garry Rickard
Ryelaw Blue Riband	Best Exhibit	Summer	Gillian Rose
Lady Reid Cup	Most Points Classes 34 &35	Summer	Ann Lyford & Margaret Edwards
Ryelaw Rose Bowl	Floral Art	Summer	Helen Howard
President's Cup	3 Vases Flowers	Summer	Gillian Rose
Banksian Medal	Highest Points	Summer	Sue Grant
Richard Leavey Cup	Chairman's Choice	Summer	Jennifer Kelly
Charles Murrell Cup	Best Pot Plant	Summer	Ruth Waller
Gladys Murrell Cup	Class 52	Summer	Sue Meek
Domestic Cup	Highest Points Section VI	Summer	Jennifer Kelly
Longest runner bean	Longest	Summer	Michael Kelly
Ryelaw Junior Cup	Best Exhibit	Summer	Jake Howard
Junior Rosette		Summer	Sofiya Hardy
Fruit Supremo Rosette	Highest Points Section II	Summer	Sue Grant

Trophies must be returned to Secretary or Trading Shed at least 2 Weeks before next Show
Due to the expense, having the trophy engraved is optional.



Class 30 Spring show 2019

SALES SHED

Probably the most useful part of your society, the shed is staffed by volunteers who can offer advice and help to load your supplies, which are available at near wholesale prices. The shed is open on Saturday mornings during the season from 10 – 11.30am

SHED ROTA

Proposed Shed Rota 2023

Team Leaders	Dates		
Mrs Liz Kirton & Rob	11 th Feb	6 th May	29 th July
Mr Roger Greenhalgh & Carolyn	18 th Feb	13 th May	5 th August
Mrs Jan Parker & Will	25 th Feb	20 th May	12 th August
Mr Peter Edwards & Margaret	4 th March	27 th May	19 th August
Mr Kevin Morris & Caroline	11 th March	3 rd June	23 rd September
Mrs Sue Meek & Duncan	18 th March	10 th June	2 nd September
Mrs Sandra Douglas & Rob Brook	25 th March	17 th June	9 th September
Mrs Jo Wilson & Lynne Hardy	1 st April	24 th June	16 th September
Mrs Margaret Smith & Liz Kirton	8 th April	1 st July	26 th August
Mr Jim Hawkett & Mike Speed	15 th April	8 th July	30 th September
Mrs Ruth Waller & Eve Cowell	22 nd April	15 ^h July	
Mr Alec Grant & Sue	29 th April	22 nd July	

Contact numbers:

Liz Kirton	01252 851532
Roger Greenhalgh	01252 615603
Jan Parker	01252 622491
Peter Edwards	01252 939729
Kevin Morris	07564442334/ 01252 626826
Sue Meek	01252 676514
Sandra Douglas	07779668132
Jo Wilson	07766577549
Margaret Smith	margaretsmith658@gmail.com
Jim Hawkett	01252 623627
Mike Speed	01252 622086
Ruth Waller	01252 614846
Eve Cowell	01252 692092
Alec Grant	07801714662

Dogmersfield, Winchfield & Crookham Village Horticultural Society

Our members can join the DWCV Horticultural Society talks at the WI hut in Crookham Village for a small contribution

<http://www.dwcvhortsoc.org/events.html>

Local Allotments

If you would like to be on a waiting list for an allotment there are two sources nearby:

Hart Allotments – Pilcot Allotments on Hitches Lane & Edenbrook

– enquiries@hart-allotments.org.uk

Church Crookham Allotments Association

– admin@churchcrookham.org.uk

Hints for Exhibitors

Preparation and presentation of fruit

Choose fruit for ripeness, colour and uniformity.

Apples: should be staged with the eye upwards and stalk down, placing one fruit in the centre and the rest around it. Do not polish the fruit.

Pears and other pear-shaped fruit are best arranged around the perimeter of the plate, stalks pointing towards the centre.

Berries: arrange in rows (except blueberries, which should be arranged around the perimeter of the plate)

Currants: Strings must be attached and look fresh and green. Strings should be roughly parallel.

Choose long strings.

Plums, gages and cherries: must have stalks attached and be careful not to disturb the bloom on the skin. Arrange in lines.

Preparation and presentation of vegetables

Where necessary, vegetables should be washed to remove soil. Use a soft cloth, but never scrub as this may damage the skin. Never use oils to enhance the appearance.

Beans: fresh pods of even colour cut with a portion of stalk remaining. Exhibit with the tail ends facing forward in a line.

Beetroot: select roots of even size about 60-75mm diameter. Small side roots should be removed but avoid specimens that do not have a single small tap root. Trim foliage to 75mm.

Cabbages: solid heads of equal size and a good waxy bloom. Remove only a minimum of outer leaves. Stage with approximately 75mm stalk, heads towards the front.

Cauliflowers and calabrese: Again, leave 75mm stalk. Just prior to staging, trim back leaves so they match the level of the outside of the curd. Cover the curd with moist cloth or clean paper until the last minute before judging to exclude light.

Courgettes: Select young, tender shapely and uniform fruits approx. 150mm in length and 25-35mm diameter. Stage flat, with or without flowers still attached.

Cucumbers: Fruit should be green and completely matched. The flower end should be completely developed. Aim for 250mm length for indoor grown (less is acceptable for outdoor varieties).

Garlic: Clean off all soil and dry completely. Remove the roots and reduce the stem to 25mm. Don't divide bulbs into cloves.

Leeks: Uniform size and solid with a uniform blanch that is not bulbous at the base. Avoid excess stripping of outside leaves. Ensure that the stem, leaves and roots are flushed clean with tap water. Bind in the leaves to an appropriate length.

Lettuce: Lift with roots intact in the evening or early morning when the leaves are turgid/crisp. Wash the roots and foliage and wrap roots in damp tissue, place in a plastic bag until staging. Remove damaged outer leaves and stage with the hearts pointing forward.

Marrows: Choose tender young uniform fruits, less than 350mm long. For round cultivars 500mm circumference. Wipe clean and stage directly on the bench.

Onions: choose well ripened bulbs of good colour. Do not over-skin. The tops should be neatly tied and the roots cut back to the basal plate. Stage on rings of card or plastic. Shallots should be staged as separate bulbs, not clusters. Cut the roots as with onions and tie the tops. Display on dry sand or similar on a plate.

Peas: Pods should be uniform in length and in good condition. The judges will open the pods to see the peas. Use scissors to cut from the vine with about 25mm stalk and avoid damaging the bloom on the pod by holding the pods with this stalk. Stage on a plate with the tail ends facing front.

Potatoes: Show medium sized specimens 200-250g. wash with a sponge, don't use a brush as it will damage the skin. Choose potatoes with shallow eyes and free from skin blemishes caused by pests. Stage on a plate with the rose end outwards; cover with a cloth to exclude light until judging commences. N.B. coloured potatoes are any variety with any colour like King Edwards with pink eyes or can be completely red skinned like Desiree.

Sweetcorn: Cobs of uniform size with fresh green husks should be displayed about one quarter of the grain exposed by pulling down sharply from the tip to the base. The best cobs are filled with straight rows of tender grains. The stalks should be trimmed.

Tomatoes: Fruit should be the right shape, colour and size for the cultivar. Show with stalks (calyces) still attached. Stage on a plate calyx uppermost. For truss tomatoes cut the truss from the plant carefully as near the main stem as possible. At least a third of the fruit should be ripe.

For other vegetables and fruit, please consult the show secretary.

Preparation and presentation of flowers

Cutting: The best time is the evening or early morning. Use a sloping cut to aid water uptake.

Remove side shoots, unwanted buds and lower leaves and place upright in a deep container of clean water.

Staging: vases are provided; place stems in the appropriate vase and make sure the stems are not too long nor too short. Blooms should all face the same direction unless all round effect is specified

Pot plants: the 'all round effect' is expected for most pot plants, so keep turning the pot in the preceding days. Remove damaged leaves and faded flowers and stage in a clean container with the best side facing front.

Floral Art: No artificial flowers or foliage allowed, but flowers need not have been grown by the exhibitor for the minimum of two months prior to the show as in other classes. The exhibit should occupy most of the space stated in the schedule.