

Framfield & Blackboys Horticultural Society

Sharlands Corner, Sharlands Lane, Blackboys TN22 5HN

www.fabhortsoc.org.uk



28th October 2019

Dear Member

Another year has flown by, but the memory of some wonderful talks and visits remains. Who can forget the scale of planting in the sweeping beds at RHS Hyde Hall or the variety of vegetables in their 'Global Growth' vegetable garden and huge glass-house. The huge skies of Hyde Hall contrasted with the formality of the gardens at Hever Castle when we had a tour with the Head Gardener and appreciated, at first hand, the amount of work and planning required to keep the gardens in their perfect condition. Members also enjoyed very relaxing Sunday afternoons, with tea, cakes and warm sunshine, in local gardens at Hammonds Green Cottage and Sharlands Corner.

We have had a year of excellent talks on subjects ranging from growing Clematis, getting the best out of herbaceous borders, to the gardens at Arundel Castle - all have been very enjoyable and informative.

Our luck with good weather for the Summer Show ran out this year with heavy rain before the show and gale force winds on the day itself. However the marquee resisted all attempts to blow it away and the show went ahead, albeit on a rather smaller scale in terms of outside stalls. The community once again showed their wonderful support for the show by turning up in good numbers despite the weather, and were rewarded with fantastic displays of fruit, vegetables and flowers in the marquee and cooking, photography and handicrafts in the hall.

None of these events would take place without the hard work of the Committee members and I am extremely grateful to them for all that they do for the Society and the support that they have given me during the year. Next year there will be a change in some of the committee members' roles as Fiona Fidler hands responsibility for 'membership' to Emma Page and for 'meetings and events' to Sarah Hince.

As we look forward to another great year of horticultural talks and garden visits, please find attached your membership renewal form. If you would like to take advantage of any of the benefits the Society can offer (see attached for details) please remember to tick the box(es) accordingly, and of course, don't forget the GDPR consent box, otherwise we cannot keep in touch with you.

Please note that members renewing or joining at the Summer Show will no longer get 15 months of membership. Annual membership runs to 30th November of any given year, regardless of date of renewal.

If you would like to renew your subscription please fill in the membership form and either:

- 1 Bring it along to the AGM on 12th November with cash or cheque (made out to Framfield & Blackboys Horticultural Society),
- 2 Post it to (or drop it through the post box of) Emma Page – Little Badgers, Possingworth Park, Cross-in-Hand, TN21 0TN, by 30th November. You could either enclose a cheque (as above) or if you prefer to pay by BACS, please tick the relevant box on the form (see below for bank details), or

Continued overleaf

President: John Rider, Vice President: Kathy Gore, Chairman: Trevor Hince

Treasurer: Emma Page. Minutes Secretary: Claire Dennis

Committee: Jenny Bacon, Richard Chapman, Terry Everitt, Sarah Hince, Fiona Fidler, Margaret McSheehy, Rachel Willcox, Denise Taylor, Alice Chapman

- 3 Scan your completed membership form and email it to Emma Page at fabhs.membership@gmail.com and make your payment by BACS as follows:

Details for BACS payments:

- Account number 50383155
- Sort Code 20-49-76 (Barclays Bank)
- Reference PLEASE use your surname plus initial
- Payment to be received by 30th November please.

Please note that BACS payment is only available to existing members. On receipt of payment we will send you the list of events.

As ever we have another exciting programme of talks and visits planned for 2020 but before that we end 2019 with the traditional 'Christmas wreath making workshop' run by Jenny Bacon and Fiona Fidler. It will be in Framfield Memorial Hall on Thursday 5th December starting at 6.45pm. Book early - only 14 places!

Another favourite is Terry Everitt's Quiz night which will be held on Tuesday 10th March at Blackboys Village Hall when we can expect an entertaining and fun-filled evening to test our horticultural knowledge (loosely!), our lateral thinking (definitely!) and willingness to gamble on our own answers being right! So, please put the date in your diary and get together to form a team of six, or come on your own and we will put you with others to make a team. Bring your own refreshments and the Society will provide tea, coffee and nibbles.

There will be four talks next year. Two, very topically, dealing with making our gardens more welcoming for wildlife; one will be about welcoming hedgehogs back into gardens and the other about what we can do in our gardens to reverse the decline in insect numbers. The other two talks see the return of 'old friends' with Neil Miller describing the roses at Hever Castle and, at the AGM, Ben Pope talking about 'time and place' in the garden and practically how to manage time in relation to maintenance, design and layout.

For any of you who have not been to one of our talks I do encourage you to come. We offer a free glass of wine (or a soft drink) on arrival and a coffee break later in the evening. It gives members a chance to talk to one another and discuss any gardening problems. We also hold a raffle and in season a plant stall (we are always grateful for spare plants, seedlings or produce to sell).

Finally there will be visits to two nurseries; one specialising in orchids and the other in rare and unusual shrubs. Interest closer to home has not been forgotten with visits to two local gardens opening for us both offering afternoon tea and cakes on the lawn!

All in all it promises to be another enjoyable year of events. For more information on talks or visits please contact Sarah Hince at fabhs.events@gmail.com.

I look forward to meeting you at next year's events, but before that please don't forget the AGM on Tuesday 12th November (Blackboys Village Hall) where the speaker will be Tom Simmons talking about 'Woodland Management in the 21st Century'.

Yours sincerely



Trevor Hince (Chair)