



Bulletin

11th May 2026

From the Chair

Dear Members,

This year's events got off to a wonderful start with Cherrill Sands' excellent talk on Tulips and Turbans. So entertaining, and it inspired me to grow more tulips next year. And wasn't the Spring Show marvellous? So many daffodils and spring blossoms to gladden the heart. The evening lecture by Barry Newman on growing and showing vegetables was full of interesting tips that for a while I was tempted to replace my shrubs

with potatoes, carrots and onions... but maybe not. I get so much enjoyment watching my garden change with the season, and just as the daffodils and tulips are dying off I'm thrilled to see the irises and alliums coming into bloom. Here's hoping there will be some left for the Mini Show on the 23rd May.

Hoping to see you there,
Gail Fraser, Chairperson

In this issue:

Spring Show

What a show
this year!
Page 2

Plant Corner

Plus Friends of Banstead
Wildlife Field
Page 3

Upcoming Events

Including details of all the shows
happening later this year
Page 4

Spring Show

What a show!

With everything coming early this year we were not too sure we had timed it correctly, but to see 114 pots of narcissi pack in the hall backed up by displays of tulips, shrubs, flower arranging, cookery and junior classes, with a heavy scent striking you as soon as you walked in, was amazing. Many thanks to all the exhibitors and all those who work behind the scenes, especially Yvonne who co-ordinates our kitchen.

Cups

The Chairman's cup: Jackie Russell
The Betty Maddams cup: Gail Fraser, The Jack Howell cup: Claire Abbott.

Blue Ribbons

Jackie Russell (Narcissi Division 4), Claire Abott (Narcissus "A"), Gail Fraser: (collection of Narcissi from 3 divisions), Alison Urwin (Narcissi "B"), Richard and Peggy Reid (Narcissi "B"), Judith Henley (tulips), Margaret and Norbert Dietsch (an arrangement of spring flowers), Jill Clark (a chocolate Victoria sandwich), Nina Fassnidge (Seville orange marmalade), and Ann Shore (a simnel cake).

Spring Show

Lottery Winners

£40. No 63.
Rachel Kearney

£20. No 66.
Judith Henley

£15. No 23.
Diana Beck

Certificates of Merit

Benjamin Crouch and Elisha Jofield (a home-made easter card), Sally Keywood -Gray (Narcissi, a pot grown orchid and a collection of pot plants) and Claire Abbott (cheese scones and 3 entries of Narcissus)

Other achievements in the junior classes were Sophie Ward's first prize for a planting of Spring flowers and prizes to Alice, Rosie and Beverley from the local guide group.

Richard and Peggy Reid won the award for the best bloom of narcissi

given in memory of John Goddard and Norbert Dietsch the public ballot.

The A and B bulbs were pink charm (division 2 w-pr) and sweet desire (division 4) respectively

Note: The winner of the craft cup last year was Carol Stacey, not as stated in the last newsletter. Apologies for the error.

David Peterken,
Show Secretary



Plant Corner

This year a second category of tulips, parrot tulips, was introduced in the Spring Show. Unfortunately, with the rescheduling to an earlier date mine didn't make it. It was particularly galling to find that they were in full bloom on week later. I do think it's rather a pity that the tulip season falls neatly in between the Spring show and the Mini show as there are so many splendid varieties available now, including Margaret Dietsch's, the name of which she has forgotten. Perhaps someone out there recognises it?

Ann Shore



Above: The day of the show.

Below: The week after the show.



Friends of Banstead Wildlife Field (BWF) and Open Garden



This is our beautiful new logo created by a sixth former at Epsom College. Our last main infrastructure work is to renovate the path, which is due in the late summer. After that the Volunteer group will continue what we are doing at removing invasive species and creating a woodland path all round. We also hope to run some small events and courses (Council

permitting). Note your diaries, join us for a warm welcome and learn more at:

- Our AGM Wednesday 27th May at 17.30 at the Banstead Community Centre, The Horseshoe, Banstead SM7 2BQ
- My open garden on Sun June 14th (2 to 5pm) with cream teas and plants for sale. at 16 Shawley Way, Epsom Downs, KT18 5NZ
- The BHS Open day Sat 23rd June (2 to 5pm) at the Community Hall.

Diana Beck

Community Hall Border

Change of Day

We are changing the day on which we tend to the weeds (!) and flowers at the Community Hall border.

From May the day will be the 2nd Thursday of the month. We will meet at 2pm for 2 hours. If you have any free time on those days your help would be much appreciated. If bad weather stops play, then we hope to be there the following Thursday.



We had a very nosy helper last month, hopping around our feet was this cheeky little robin... helping himself to the worms.

Jane Mawer

Upcoming Events

Mini Show and Open Day

Saturday 23rd May 2.30-5pm
at the Community Hall

Raffle draw at 4.45pm

Joining us will be Banstead Commons Conservators, Surrey Wildlife Trust, Banstead Village Residents Association, The Alpine Society, Banstead History Research Group, The Woodland Trust, Banstead Arts Festival Society, Sutton Bonsai Society, Banstead Wildlife Field and Banstead Art Group. The new mayor will be attending. Some of the history of our major cups will be on display.

Entries should be with the show secretary's by 8pm on Wednesday 20th. If you have friends who are non-Members with possible entries, they may enter but must be within the schedule. Entries are to be staged from 2pm in exhibitor's own containers, though some of our own vases will be available.

Early Summer Show and Summer Show

Saturday 20th June and Saturday 25th July 2-5pm at the
Community Hall

Plenty of interesting classes with a lot of new challenges for cooks and flower arrangers. A reminder to cooks, recipes are required where not stated.

Do not forget the junior classes are open to all ages from 3 to 16. Any help setting up our shows is most welcome from 6.30 pm on the Friday preceding. Entries can be sent to the show secretary's on peterkend@aol.com and sallykg@aol.com. The Show Secretary's number is 01737 351224 not as in some schedules.

Banstead Village Rotary Fair

Saturday 4th July 10.30am-3pm in the Orchard,
Banstead High Street

As usual we will have a stall at this event selling plants.



Margaret Dietsch 's fuchsias which she is growing on for sale at the Rotary Fair

In Memorium

We are sorry to announce that we have recently lost two valued friends, James Fraser and Jo Homewood, who supported us in many ways.

Contacts

President and Show Secretary, David Peterken 01737 351 224 | Chairperson, Gail Fraser 01737 356 576