

OTFORD GARDENERS' SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

August 2007.

~~~~~  
**Gardening** is a humbling experience. It brings you to your knees!!  
~~~~~

It's August and as I write this **Newsletter** it is beginning to feel more like winter, as the wind and the rain combine to send us for our jumpers and pullovers. But not to worry because soon the sun will be out and it will be time for our

AUTUMN FLOWER AND CRAFT SHOW

which will take place on

SATURDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER

Your committee look forward to your entries of Flowers, particularly Dahlias, Vegetables, Fruit and Crafts.

The Open Class for a trug, basket or tray of Vegetables, Class 18, will again be staged, with the prize money kindly donated by the Otford Allotment Association.

Please look through your Schedule and try to find at least ONE entry that you can enter. You never know how good your entries are until you see them alongside others. Having found one, perhaps you could then look for two or even more and you could arrive home with a sackful of cups and prize money.

Staging of entries will, as usual, take place from 9.30am and we would ask you to kindly **vacate the hall by 11.45am.**

~~~~~  
**Your entry form, together with your entry fees, can be left at the Parish Office** (by kind permission of the Parish Clerk) **and also at 34 Willow Park, not later than 9.00pm on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September.**  
~~~~~

The Flower Arrangement Classes are:

Class 62 "Trio"
Class 63 "Harvest Time"
Class 64 "Fire and Ice"
Class 65 Novice - "Fields of Gold"

See Schedule for full details and sizes.
~~~~~

**Section 9 handicrafts. Can you enter one of YOUR hobbies here?**  
~~~~~

The subjects for **Photography** are:

Class 80 "All at Sea"
Class 81 "A Kentish Scene"
Class 82 "The Allotment"
~~~~~

**The Preserves and Cookery** classes are:

Class 83 Plum Chutney  
Class 84 Sausage Rolls  
Class 85 Strawberry Jam  
Class 86 Parkin  
Class 87 Honey Cookies

**Please see Schedule for details.**  
~~~~~

We look forward to seeing how many Juniors have managed to grow a crop of Cherry Tomatoes from OGS seed.
~~~~~

**Could** we please prevail upon the ladies, once again, for cakes to go with our teas? We do really appreciate those that do so regularly.

~~~~~  
On the subject of TEAS, if anyone could spare half an hour on Saturday afternoon could they please give us some help with the teas? Please speak to Janet Finney on 523760.

~~~~~  
**At** the **Autumn Show** there will be a presentation by the Chairman of the Parish Council (Councillor John Allen) for the Best Village Front Garden Competition, which is organised on behalf of the Parish Council by the Gardeners' Society.

~~~~~  
DO NOT FORGET

Our next EVENING MEETING will take place on Tuesday 4th September when Gordon Darby, one of our members and President of the Allotment Association, will give a talk on "A vegetable growers year". Usual time 8.00pm.

~~~~~  
**And** following that we will have on 2<sup>nd</sup> October, Bob Ogley looking back on the night of the hurricane in 1987. Was it really 20 years ago?

~~~~~  
Our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held on Tuesday 6th November 2007. If you have any item that you would like to see on the Agenda would you please contact Janet Finney on 523760.

~~~~~  
**QUIZ AND FUN NIGHT**

**This** will take place on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December and we look forward to having as much fun as we did last year. So, now is the time to get your team together, to sharpen your pencil and your wits and enjoy a social evening to round off the gardening year.

~~~~~  
Not many members turned up for our garden visit to Great Comp on 14th July. It was a lovely sunny afternoon, one of the few this summer, and it was a great pleasure to be able to look around this local garden. The teas were jolly good too!!

We had a few problems at the Summer Show, due to lack of Committee members, where we made a few mistakes, which fortunately were sorted out to everyone's satisfaction. Please, if you move an exhibit on the show table make sure that the entry card goes with it.

~~~~~  
**Joan James**, who was a stalwart of our Committee until she had to resign due to ill health, is in Kent and Sussex Hospital. We send her our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

~~~~~  
The Kent Dahlia Society is holding their Annual Show on Sunday 2nd September in the Village Hall from 2.00pm to 4.30pm.

~~~~~  
**We** have a number of Silver Cups, which we present at each Show. However, many were presented years ago and we do not know who the people were who donated them. Can you help with the following names?

**Invicta Trophy** donated by Mr R F Thatcher(No, not HER husband!!)  
**Narcissi Challenge Salver** donated by Mrs R Wood.  
**Raisen Cup** donated by Mrs Daphne Raisen.

~~~~~  
Has anyone any time to spare from 7.00pm on Friday 7th September to help to set up the Show for the next day? It should only take about an hour, but many hands make light work and your Committee will be very grateful.

~~~~~  
**The** Committee and I look forward to seeing you all, with your many entries at the

**AUTUMN FLOWER AND CRAFT SHOW.**

Doug Dickerson  
Chairman.