

THORPE BAY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

(Affiliated to Royal Horticultural Society)

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CHAIRMAN

Mr. R.Stride

01702 587244

SHOW MANAGER

Mrs. P. Bushell

01702 585392

HON. SECRETARY

Mrs. L. Green

01702 588297

**THE SOCIETY CAN BE CONTACTED VIA OUR WEBSITE WHICH IS
WWW.THORPEBAYHORTICULTURALSOCIETY.CO.UK**

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2024

After all the rain, wind and storms we had a lovely sunny day for our Spring Show and it was great to see so many visitors and members supporting the society – the most since 2017. We also signed up 19 new members and I hope they enjoy future shows and may even be encouraged to become exhibitors.

There was a wonderful selection of cakes in the tearoom so “thank you” to all the people who donated them. Likewise to all the people who brought plants along for the plant stall. These together with the bric a brac table, book stall and raffle all help to make our shows as popular as they are and, of course, we wouldn’t even have the shows if we didn’t have our great exhibitors. Also “thanks” to the people who helped set up the hall Friday evening and stayed to help put everything away after the show.

May I remind people of the auction which takes place after the prize giving. If exhibitors don’t want to take their exhibits home they put them in the auction and you can bid for some lovely plants and vegetables so it’s worth staying for. Talking to people I have a feeling that some of our newer members are not aware of this.

Hunt Roche estate agents sponsor our Spring Show and also print the newsletters our thanks go to them for their continued support.

The RHS is debunking (their word not mine) the top five myths most commonly put to it’s advisory team:

(1) Is the belief that digging improves soil fertility, when in fact it releases nitrogen and can damage soil. It is better to feed the soil by adding organic matter.

- (2) RHS team issues a warning against planting in pots which can limit root growth and necessitate more feeding and watering. If possible plant directly into the ground.
- (3) Adding crocks to the bottom of pots can disrupt capillary action and reduce soil volume although it can be useful to place one crock over the bottom of the hole at the base of a container to hold in soil.
- (4) Many of us avoid watering in the sun believing it will scorch leaves when in fact this does not happen, although it is still best to water at ground level.
- (5) Gardeners with clay soil think they need to create a planting hole filled with grit but all this will achieve is creating a sump causing plants to rot. (I am guilty of two of these – putting crocks in a pot and putting grit in the ground).

SUMMER SHOW 8TH JUNE 2024

CLASS 62 – FLORAL ART: This shows' subject is **“JUNE IN BLOOM”** and must be predominantly plant material

CLASS 89 – A PHOTOGRAPH The subject is **“A FAMILY PET”** the photograph must be taken by the exhibitor and be no larger than 7” x 5” and be unframed/unmounted.

CLASS 92 – HOMECRAFT This show's cake is an **ORANGE AND ALMOND CAKE**. Exhibitors must use the following recipe:

INGREDIENTS:

1 medium orange	175g/6oz butter, softened
175g/6oz light muscovado sugar	3 eggs
175g/6oz self raising flour	½ tsp bicarbonate soda
50g/2oz ground almonds	icing sugar for dredging

METHOD:

Preheat oven to 190c/170c fan/gas 5. Butter or line a 20cm/8” round cake tin. Cut the whole orange – skin, pith, flesh – the lot – into pieces. Remove the pips then whizz the pieces in a food processor/blender to a finely chopped puree. Tip the butter, sugar, eggs, flour, bicarbonate of soda and almonds into the processor and whizz for 10 seconds until smooth. Pour into the prepared tin and smooth the top. Bake until the cake is risen and brown checking after 30 minutes (may take up to an hour depending on the size of the orange). Allow to cool in the tin for 5 minutes before turning out onto a wire rack. Dredge thickly with icing sugar.

The following are changes to the Summer Schedule in your handbook:

Class 25: Any other item of horticultural interest **not covered in this section** and **ONE** entry only. Any container should not exceed 12”/30cm.

Class 55: Any other fruit or vegetable – remove the wording “any number of exhibits” and replace with **ONE** exhibit only.

Please amend your handbooks accordingly.

The following trophies were presented at the Spring Show:

Daffodil trophy was presented to Nicola Calder

Wilkins Kennedy cup for most points in Homecraft was awarded to – Mandy Sylvester

Owen Wallis Trophy for best exhibit in the spring show went to Nicola Calder

Diploma winners were:

Tulips – Brian Everett

Other bulbs and flowers – Cheryl Stride

Floral Art – Lucy Vickers

Homecraft – Pat Taylor

Well done to them all

Don't forget to check our website regularly and it would be nice to see some new photos on the "members pictures" page.

I look forward to seeing you at the Summer Show on the 8th June.

Best wishes

Linda

PHOTOS FROM THE SPRING SHOW 2024

