THORPE BAY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

(Affiliated to Royal Horticultural Society)

CHAIRMAN	SHOW MANAGER	HON. SECRETARY
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AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2026

Dear Members

How lovely to see so many exhibits at the summer show after the unforgiving weather – heavy rain, a heatwave then a dreadful thunder storm which finished off my roses. Also because of the early heatwave all my shrubs had flowered early and had finished by the date of the show but thank goodness our dedicated members found plenty to exhibit which really impressed our judges. Also the weather on the day was ideal. It was lovely to have so many members and visitors attending although this did ease off during the afternoon which is usual. As I am putting this newsletter together we are in the midst of yet another heatwave and I am looking at straw instead of green grass in our garden but one plant (probably a weed) is growing at a rate of knots so I am leaving it to see what it turns out to be. No doubt these heatwaves will impact on the exhibits at the Autumn show but I have been proved wrong before so hope I will be proved wrong again. We had three floral art exhibits on the stage which was great and they were so clever and colourful. As always our clever “crafters” put some impressive exhibits in the homecraft classes which adds more interest to the shows and which our homecraft judge was delighted with.

I wish to thank those people who responded to my request for cakes for the tearoom. As the summer show is generally not as busy as the spring and autumn shows we did not run out this time and were even able to put some in the auction. All donated cakes are very much appreciated and enjoyed. Unfortunately we will no longer have use of the back room for teas etc., and hope to be able to rearrange the main hall to accommodate extra tables. As always our thanks also go to people who help set up the hall and clear away after the show, it really is a great help and much appreciated.

SINCE WRITING THE ABOVE WE NOW HAVE A HOSEPIPE BAN!! This is going to make it very challenging for our horticultural exhibitors so hopefully we can rely on our “crafters” for plenty of exhibits but, as usual, I have great faith in everyone to ensure we have a good show.

The Summer Show is sponsored by Kirby & Lewis, Fruit and Vegetable wholesalers and our thanks go to them for their support and to Hunt Roche who print these newsletters.

We also have a new sponsor – Geoff Keane Carpets – which is excellent news as sponsors spread the news about our shows as well as contributing financially.

Bob reported that the two coach trips were a great success, especially the one to Winchelsea as it was a new venue and which, I believe, had some outstanding gardens. Many thanks to Bob for all his time and effort in planning these trips.

Could I please ask people to bring bags with them if they wish to purchase bric a brac and plants.

FOR THE AUTUMN SHOW ONLY THIS YEAR WE WILL NOT BE CHARGING EXHIBITORS AN "ENTRY FEE" SO PLEASE DO NOT PUT ANY MONEY IN WITH YOUR ENTRY FORM.

At the summer show someone left a ladies coat behind. If it is yours or you know who it may belong to please will you phone me as I have it at home. If it is not claimed I will donate it to a charity shop.

AUTUMN SHOW 5TH SEPTEMBER 2026

CLASS 80 – FLORAL ART This year's subject is **"AN INDIAN SUMMER"** and must be predominantly plant material.

CLASS 101 – PHOTOGRAPHY This shows subject is **"AUTUMN FRUITS"**. The photo must be taken by the exhibitor, be no larger than 7" x 5" and be unframed/unmounted.

PRINCESS DIANA MEMORIAL CUP This will be awarded to the best exhibit in Class 42 – Best flower stem from your garden.

CLASS 104 – HOMECRAFT This show's cake is **SULTANA AND CHERRY CAKE.** Exhibitors must use the following recipe:

12oz sultanas
4oz glace cherries –halved
4oz butter
4oz caster sugar
3 large eggs
Pinch of salt
6oz plain flour

Grease and line a 2lb loaf tin. Set oven to 160c/gas 3/fan140c. Cream fat and sugar. Add beaten eggs and flour gradually, leaving a little flour to mix in with the fruit and cherries. Bake for 1 ½ - 1 ¾ hours. Leave in tin to cool before removing.

TROPHY AND DIPLOMA WINNERS AT THE SUMMER SHOW:

Trophies

Rose Trophy for the best exhibit in Rose Classes awarded to Jane Cotton
Warner Trophy for best exhibit in Floral Art awarded to Mandy Sylvester
Claydon Trophy for most points gained by a lady at the summer show awarded to Nicola Calder
Cramphorn Trophy for most points gained by a gentleman at the summer show awarded to Brian Everett
Presidents Salver for best pot grown plant awarded to Nicola Calder

Diplomas

Kaye Brazier for her orchids
Brian Everett for his display of vegetables
Gillian Reynolds for her knitting

CHRISTMAS LUNCH Our traditional Christmas lunch will be held at Thorpe Hall Golf Club on Wednesday 9th December. Arrival from 12.30 for sit down at 1 p.m. At the present time the Golf Club have not advertised the cost but we are assured it will be available for the Autumn show. Bookings will be taken at the EVENTS TABLE at the Autumn show with a deposit of £10 per person. Cheques should be made payable to Thorpe Bay Horticultural Society.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - **AGM TUESDAY 19TH JANUARY 2027** This will be held at the Methodist Church cnr Johnstone Road and Broadway. The meeting commences at 7 p.m. and members are welcome to attend.

Next year's show dates are: **Spring show 10th April, Summer show 12th June, Autumn show 11th September.**

I look forward to seeing you at the Autumn Show on the 5th September.

Best wishes
Linda

PHOTOS FROM THE SUMMER SHOW 2026

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