

Street Chrysanthemum, Dahlia & Vegetable Society

Newsletter

Spring 2012

Welcome to the first newsletter for 2012. Winter has been a mixture of very cold spells, with exceptionally mild days. However, the main feature has been a lack of rain. As I write this, we have just had some welcome rain, which should help the start of the growing season. The grass and weeds are certainly moving quickly.

Annual General Meeting:

The AGM took place in the pool room at the Unity Club on Tuesday 7th February. Although it was a cold and uninviting evening, approx. 25 members and visitors attended, including members of the local allotment society. We hope they will wish to exhibit in our Annual Show, and perhaps become members of the Society.

The chairman was pleased to report on a successful year for the Society. The Annual Show came well up to expectations, helped by the change in the hours of opening to the public and earlier presentation of cups & trophies. A major development, supported by the committee, was the Society Website – www.streetcdvs.org.uk.

Pat Baker reported the accounts, which again showed that the Society has improved its financial position over the last year.

Elections were held and the new officers and committee are as follows: -

President:	Ken C. Dunthorn
Chairman:	John Merrick (Avalon House, Lower Godney, Wells BA5 1RZ)
Vice Chairman:	Jim Searle
Secretary:	Mrs Maureen Heal
Entries Secretary:	Pat Baker
Membership Secretary:	L. A. (Sonny) Dunthorn (15 Gooselade, Street, BA16 0TD)
Treasurer:	Pat Baker (2 Prospect Close, Shepton Mallet, BA4 5YD)
Show Manager:	Gordon West
Committee:	John Baker, Mrs Kay Burleton, Mrs Ruth Hamlett, Barrie Lovelace, Mrs Sandra Lovelace, Tony Nicholls, Terry Vernoum, Mrs Mary Whitaker Plus Officers

Under “Any Other Business” an increase to the £2 subscription was discussed, but no consensus ensued – to be discussed further by the committee. Feedback from members of the Society who were unable to be at the AGM would be appreciated by the committee.

It was suggested also that the Society should have other activities during the year – garden visits, social gatherings, talks etc. Again, feedback from members would be appreciated – an increase in the subscription could be used to help fund these.

Thanks to Pat Baker for organising the raffle and to Gordon West for arranging the refreshments.

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After the “business part” of the evening we had a talk on “Growing Vegetables” from Michael Pollock. This was originally scheduled for last year’s AGM, but Mr Pollock was unfortunately ill. However, the talk proved well worth waiting for, although time constraints didn’t allow the full version of his talk. We are now thinking about arranging another talk from Michael Pollock in the future with a whole evening available for us to benefit from his advice and experience.

In the absence of our secretary, our new committee member, Mrs Mary Whitaker, kindly took the minutes – she has already shown herself to be an active member of the committee! We are very pleased to welcome her to the committee. If other members feel they would like to contribute more to the Society by joining the committee, please contact us – see “Communication” below, or contact us via the website.

Dates for your diary:

Saturday, 12th May 2012: Annual Plant Sale in the Library gardens, Leigh Road, Street: 8am – 12noon

This is a chance to buy plants for hanging baskets, bedding plants, tomato, cucumber & pepper plants, dahlias, chrysanthemums, fuchsias and some perennials all at very reasonable prices. Members only can collect their fuchsia and/or Kelsae onion plants for classes 41 and 62 respectively. It would be helpful to know how many plants are required, so please let Maureen Heal (secretary) know as soon as possible (tel. no. 01458 443277).

We are pleased that the Glastonbury & Street Sea Cadets will again be helping to carry plants purchased at the plant sale to the car park.

Money raised from the plant sale helps to fund the **Annual show (on 8th September this year)**, along with donations and sponsorship.

Communication:

To improve communication and to save paper and postage, it would be helpful to have e-mail addresses for as many members as possible. This would reduce the cost of keeping you informed. Please send your e-mail addresses to Pat Baker (pbaker042000@yahoo.co.uk) or John Merrick (john@68leigh.freeserve.co.uk)

New Members

New members are welcome and we are always looking at ways to encourage people to join. Please pass this newsletter on to anyone who may be interested in joining the Society.

Message from the Chairman:

I am hoping that the show will be even better this year. We welcome any suggestions to improve the Society – in particular, any suggestions for changes to the schedule will be considered by the committee. I wish you all the best for your gardening this summer, and hope to see the results of this at the Annual Show.

If members have articles or ideas for articles for a future newsletter, please let us know.

Finally – if you haven’t paid your subscription (still only £2), please send this to Pat Baker or Leslie Dunthorn – addresses as above.