

Street Chrysanthemum, Dahlia & Vegetable Society

Newsletter

Spring 2013

2012 will long be remembered as very wet, dull and windy, and 2013 certainly started off very wet, with some snow. However, as I write this, it has been dry for about a week, although with low temperatures, feeling even colder in the bitterly cold East wind. However, gardening is always planning and looking ahead to what might be, and how our plants and vegetables will flourish if the weather is kind to us.

Annual General Meeting:

The AGM took place in the pool room at the Unity Club on Tuesday 5th February. A few flurries of snow early in the day made us a bit nervous, but in the end the evening weather was fair. Approx. 29 members and visitors attended, including members of the local allotment society.

The Chairman reported that, in spite of the difficult weather, the members still managed to fill Crispin Hall with a fine display of exhibits. Some photos of the show are available on the Society Website – www.streetcdvs.org.uk, along with more about the Society.

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
Correspondence Secretary:	Mrs Maureen Heal
Minutes Secretary:	Mrs Mary Whitaker
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
Press Officer:	Ruth Hamlett
Committee:	John Baker, Mrs Kay Burleton, Barrie Lovelace, Mrs Sandra Lovelace, Tony Nicholls, Terry Vernoum, Plus Officers

The secretarial duties have been split into correspondence secretary and minutes secretary. Maureen was thanked for her many years managing both these roles, and tributes paid to her. Ruth Hamlett was voted in to the new post of Press Officer.

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

Street Chrysanthemum, Dahlia & Vegetable Society

After the “business part” of the evening we had an illustrated talk by Gilly Hayward of Moor Plants, Ashcott, entitled “Growing into Moor Plants”. The talk was enjoyed by all, especially those less “into gardening”, although some members felt it was not technical enough! We hope to have another Social Evening this summer, after the success of last year, and will choose a speaker with a subject more practical for gardeners.

Maureen Heal was unable to be at the AGM, and Mary Whitaker kindly took the minutes in advance of being appointed to her new role as Minutes Secretary.

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, 11th 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 63 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).

Money raised from the plant sale helps to fund the **Annual show (on 14th 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)

Keith Miller: Ken Dunthorn writes – It was with sadness the committee learnt of the death of Keith Miller in June 2012. He was one of the earliest members of the Society, joining not long after its formation. His expertise was growing chrysanthemums, his bloom were always of top quality which encouraged newer/novice growers to achieve the “Keith Miller” standard.

In the 1960’s Keith became chairman – a post he held for a number of years. He relinquished that position for business reasons – he was proprietor of the hardware shop in Glastonbury. He continued to support generously the Society, as did his father before him; one of the cups competed for at our Annual Show in the chrysanthemum section is the George Miller Cup.

Derek Willmott: Ken Dunthorn writes – The committee were saddened by the news that Derek had died (last autumn). He was a generous supporter of the Society for many years. It was because of his wife, Anita Ruth Willmott, who was a very talented Floral Arranger, that Derek became a supporter/sponsor. Anita died several years ago and Derek gave a cup to the Floral Arrangement section in her memory. The cup is keenly competed for at our Annual Show, in the class that Derek has always sponsored.

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.