

NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Society's summer newsletter. After a wet winter, followed by more snow than we have had for some time, we are now having the hottest summer since 1976! We have not had any significant rainfall for two months or so, and all my water butts are nearly dry. The little water in them takes forever to come out now. The clay soil where I live has set like concrete, with large cracks developing. Just keeping plants alive is a challenge, and watering is a daily necessity. According to the Daily Mail (21st July), this is the driest summer since records began!

However, I have no doubt that flowers and vegetables will still appear at the Annual Show. The next few weeks will be crucial – let's hope we have some rain! School holidays have just started – that does seem to spoil the weather!!

Plant Sale

The plant sale was held on 19th May this year – later than last year, as the early May date was not as good as usual. We had lovely weather, and the road works in Leigh Road cleared just in time for the sale. The plants supplied by Sweet Acre were excellent, and the vast majority of these and the plants supplied by members were sold. The fuchsia for the members' class is a new variety, called Shelford. Members were able to collect their fuchsias at the Plant Sale, and we hope to see more entries in the **members' class this year. Kelsae Onions are not available this year, so the Members' class 65 has** been amended to "3 onions (tied down) – Winner decided by the combined weight of the three onions" The dry weather is not helping our onions!!



The Investiture of the New Chairman of Street Parish Council

This took place at Strode Theatre on Thursday 17th May, and, along with other local organisations, Street CDVS was again invited to send representatives to the Investiture. Four members of the committee attended, and heard about the previous year's achievements and the plans for the next year. Entertainment was provided by the local schools. Particularly impressive was the Street Primary Pupils' Choir as the various schools represented hadn't sung together until the Investiture! The new Chairman of the Street Parish Council is Cllr. Nina Swift.

One of the events being planned is the Merriman Fun Day on Saturday, 1st September. This takes place in Merriman Park in Street, and the Society will be having a stand at the Fun Day – similar to the stand we had at the Bishop's Palace last year, but perhaps in a more relevant site to promote the Society and our Annual Show (which takes place only a week later). If anyone wishes to help out on our stand at the Fun Day, please let us know (email contact details at end of Newsletter).

70th Annual Show

This will be held on **Saturday 8th September**. Following the successful show last year, we are pleased that the Trustees of the Victoria Club are again allowing us to hold our show in their Function Room. For those who do not know the area, the Victoria Club is off Leigh Road, a short distance from the High Street. Take the left turn by the entrance to Hindhayes School. The postcode is BA16 0HB, and there is a map in the schedule. Parking is available, which should make life easier for exhibitors bringing and collecting their entries.

We will be able to offer refreshments in the hall, and, of course, there is a bar adjacent to the hall. The Tombola was very popular last year, as was the scarecrow competition. The children's

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competition this year will be Garden Themed Rock Painting. We also hope to have a Face Painter at the show.

The children's school class 18 has the title "Save Our Seas", a display of plant and vegetable material depicting life in our seas. Class 19 is also on a conservation theme, "Save Our Penguins", a display of plant and vegetable material depicting penguins in their environment. Lots of scope for the imagination there!

In the Floral Arrangement section, the theme for Class 42 is "They're playing our song", an arrangement depicting a song. For Class 43 the theme is "Fabulous Foliage" – An arrangement of only foliages and to include at least one form of leaf manipulation (folding/shredding etc). Class 44 – the Novice Class has the title "A Vase of Flowers – A transparent container filled with flowers, but **no** "mechanics" (oasis, pin holders etc) may be used. The themes were suggested by our Floral Arrangement Judge, Jake Nicholson-Lailey.

In the vegetable section, Class 63 is now "The Longest Runner Bean". Class 64 ("A collection of produce from the garden displayed in a trug") and Class 67 ("Four examples of any fruit") continue, having been popular last year.. We hope that these classes will attract entries from gardeners who are reluctant to enter the other classes.

Our Cake Competition Class 66 continues – you don't even have to grow the fruit/vegetables in the cake yourself, although, of course, it is ok for you to do this. Bob Burns, who usually judges the cake class, will not be available this year. However, we are delighted that his daughter, Terri Petherbridge, has agreed to judge the cakes this year. Terri is managing director of Burns The Bread, and has also kindly agreed to present the trophies and awards at the end of the Show.

Many of the classes now have increased prize money, so they are well worth entering. We hope that this will encourage more entries.

We are grateful to all those supporters who sponsor classes in the Show. They make it possible to have a great show with worthwhile prize money. However, if anyone (or company) would like to sponsor a class, please contact Pat Baker, whose email is below. Tel. No. 01749347060.

The schedule is now available online from our website (see below). Entry forms for the show are also available to print from the website, as are membership forms for new members.

Schedules have been sent out (contact Lin Driscoll (tel no 01458 443303) if you haven't had yours). Please return all cups and trophies to Lin Driscoll (tel no 01458 443303) as soon as possible.

Our President, Ken Dunthorn:

Hearty congratulations to Ken, who became a nonagenarian on 15th July. We wish him many more years in good health.

Tony Nicholls:

It is with great sadness that I have report that Tony died in hospital on 5th July. Extra chairs had to be brought out at his funeral at the Parish Church. Several members of the Society attended.

Ken Dunthorn writes: -

A J Nicholls (Tony)

It was with sadness we heard of the passing of Tony. He put his first exhibit in the seventh show in 1954 and has taken part in every show since. He was in the infantry, in the war in Korea.

He was an active member of the Committee since first being elected in 1955. At one period he took on the role of Treasurer but he was much happier "growing and showing". His experience and knowledge of the history of the society will be missed.

Our thoughts are with Maureen at this time.

Data Protection Policy:


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It is likely that you will be aware of changes to the Data Protection law. The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) came into force on 25th May 2018. The SCDVS Data Protection Policy is –

SCDVS holds its members' contact details, records of show entries and attendance at events and other similar data. These can be recorded and stored by the membership secretary, show secretary or other committee members or co-opted society members. The data will be stored securely and will not be divulged or shared with any other organisation or company. The society may use the data to contact the member regarding their membership, meetings, shows, outings or other similar events which they might be interested in. Members can withdraw their permission for this contact but still remain members. They may withdraw their permission for the society to hold their contact details but then their membership will cease because it will not be possible to distribute newsletters. These data will not be shared with any other party and will be deleted or anonymized within 12 months of a member resigning or failing to renew their membership.

Website – www.streetcdvs.org.uk

Our website contains information about the Society with links to Newsletters, Schedules and photo galleries. Check it out – and let us know if you find any errors or omissions, or have any suggestions. Feedback welcome.

We also now have a Facebook page - <http://www.facebook.com/streetcdvs>. There is a link to this from the website – look for the  in the header on each page.

Society Dinner

A dinner was held on Saturday, March 18th at the Piper's Inn for members of the committee and some of helpers from the Annual Shows. The food was excellent and a very pleasant evening was had by all. While there was some disappointment with the puddings last year, there was certainly no problem this year!

As always, feedback and articles for the next issue will be welcome. The more e-mail addresses we have, the easier it is to send out newsletters – please send these (and any other comments/articles) to merrickj13@gmail.com or pbaker042000@yahoo.co.uk. Remember, you can also send feedback via the Contact Us page of the website.