



LEIGH AND DISTRICT COTTAGE GARDEN SOCIETY

President Jean Griffin

Established 1891



NEWSLETTER JANUARY/FEBRUARY

The committee wish to take the opportunity to wish the members a happy and prosperous New Year. December and January are a quiet time for Cottage Garden Society events but the committee have been busy making plans for the 2017 Summer Show and other events to be held in the New Year.

AGM

The AGM was attended by approximately forty members on Tuesday November 22nd.

Ghassan Abdulla Al Nemer has stepped down as president.

Mrs Jean Griffin was elected as our new president. She lives locally in Horsham and is a highly qualified horticulturist and garden expert who would commit as much time and be as hands on as she could. The committee was re-elected on block.

As part of the Chairman's Report, Mark thanked Charlotte Kinloch for her work in organising the Management Plan for the show, now a legal obligation. Included in this was a traffic management plan. Compiling the plan highlighted the shortcomings of the Bunce Common Road entrance.

The proposal for a new double gate into the Cricket Field sited along the Newdigate Road side of the field was discussed. This proposal has come about after Graham Brockwell, who has marshalled the traffic for a couple of years, pointed out that the Bunce Common Road entrance is very tight for vehicles, requires a sweeping turn, goes down a dip and is situated along a very busy road. The new gate would enable disabled visitors and stall holders a safer, slower, wider access to the showground and could be used for other events throughout the year access. The main access past the cricket pavilion would still be used for exhibitors in the morning and the car parade in the afternoon. The Bunce Common Road gate would be removed and a new hedge planted. The Cricket Club agree with the proposal.

The committee would apply to Mole Valley to close the Newdigate Road every year on show day to enable safer access to the showground for everyone concerned.

Paula Brockwell explained **that LDCGS owed a duty of care to all visitors and volunteers at the Summer Show. Bunce Common Road was extremely busy, especially on show day, and with cars turning into the showground it created a significant health and safety risk to both car drivers and marshals.** It is not possible to close Bunce Common Road as it the main road through the village and there is no easy diversion route. The proposal must be discussed with Surrey County Council Highways and planning permission sought before it can go ahead. The meeting was asked to vote whether to pursue the new gate installation with the Parish Council and SCC Highways: Agreed 17, Object 2, Abstain 2.

A copy of the minutes can be viewed on the website www.LDCGS.co.uk.

Events- stop press

Our first talk of the year is on **Wednesday February 8th** at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

Vegetable Growing- Techniques, Ideas and advice. Barry Newman NDH,FNDS.

Bird Box Building- Saturday February 25th at 2.00pm Orchard Cottage, Church Road, Leigh RH2 8NJ. We hope that this will interest children but we really need to know how many will come so we have enough "flat pack" bird boxes and tools available.

Details from and names to Penny Taneborne by 22nd Feb. 01306 611515 oakfarm5@btinternet.com

We are trying to arrange more "Open Gardens" in May and October and would love to hear from anybody who is willing to show us round their garden.

Leigh Flower Show and Country Fayre 2017

This will be held on **Saturday 22nd July 2017. Please put this date in your diary** This year, the large field behind the cricket field will be available for parking.

The flower show brings together village groups and local businesses who can show case their wares.

To run this event the Society needs support. We will soon be asking for volunteers to take responsibility for overseeing a particular function They do not have to become committee members - just be willing to organise a section i.e. raffle, pedestrian entrance etc. and attend one or two meetings to keep the committee in touch. The society would give you all the support you need but you would have the task of contacting your helpers, arrange the work rota and ensure that it all runs smoothly.

Royal Horticultural Society Garden Reduced Price Entry Cards

The committee have purchased two RHS cards. When produced at the RHS garden, each card allows **one member** of the named Affiliated Society and **one adult guest** a 30% reduction on the normal entry rate to any of the four RHS gardens. The cards can be used multiple times and may be collected from Helen Taneborne 01306 611515. We had these in the past but due to a lack of uptake have not purchased them for a few years. We do hope that some of our members will make use of them this year as they each cost us £10.00.

Committee

Paula Brockwell and Charlotte Kinloch have resigned from the committee and Becky Teles-Amro was unfortunately unable to take up her position. Helen Taneborne has temporarily taken over as minute secretary. **We need a minute secretary and two committee members. Anyone interested – names to Helen Taneborne please.**

Diary of events 2017

Wednesday February 8 th at 8.00pm	Leigh Village Hall RH2 8NP	Vegetable growing- Techniques, Ideas and advice. Barry Newman NDH, FNDS.	Open to everyone, Members free £2 to non- members
Saturday February 25 th at 2.00pm	Orchard Cottage, Church Road, Leigh. RH2 8NJ	Bird Box Building- details from and names to Penny Taneborne by 22 nd Feb. 01306 611515 oakfarm5@btinternet.com	Open to everyone, Especially for children
March Date TBC	Leigh Village Hall RH2 8NP	“Meet the New President” Mrs Jean Griffin meet members to answer questions and talk about her horticultural experiences in NZ. TBC	Members free £2 to non- members
Thursday April 20 th 8.00pm	Betchworth Village Memorial Hall, Station Road. RH 13 7DF	Talk “From Garden to Staging for the Show” Sheila Rapley and Belinda.	Members free. £2 to non- members
May		Open garden to be arranged	Open to members only
Sat 10 th and Sun 11 th June Noon till 5.00pm To be confirmed	Ghassans Farm, Smalls Hill Road, RH2 0HR (Formally Little Mynthurst)	(Open Garden weekend in aid of national Garden Scheme) to be confirmed.	Entry charge. Society providing the teas
Friday June 23 rd at 6.00pm	Dolly Farm, 74, Old School Lane, Brockham RH3 7JP	Open Garden by kind permission of Mrs Valerie Newman	Open to members only
Saturday July 22 nd	Leigh Recreation Ground. RH2 8NP	Annual Flower Show and Country Fayre	
August		Open garden to be arranged	Open to members only
Saturday Sept 16 th	Leigh Village Hall RH2 8NP	Autumn Show The apple press will be in action	Open to all
Saturday Sept 30 th and Sunday Oct 1 st	The Plough, Leigh RH2 8NJ	Leigh Apple Press and Food Fair	Organised by “The Leigh Apple Press Gang” Open to all
Oct		Talk to be arranged	
Tuesday November 21 st	Leigh Village Hall RH2 8NP	AGM	Open to all but only members may vote

2017 Subscriptions (due by 31st March)

Adult minimum £8.00 – Children (under 17) 50p Patrons each £15.00 minimum

Name.....

Address.....

Postcode..... Tel..... e-mail (please print clearly)

Send to Margaret Knight. Penryn, Tapners Road, Leigh, Reigate. Surrey. RH2 8NN.e-mail- mjknight717@yahoo.co.uk