



LEIGH AND DISTRICT COTTAGE GARDEN SOCIETY

President Jean Griffin

Established 1891

NEWSLETTER MARCH/APRIL



Past Events

Our first talk of the year was on February 8th. when Barry Newman, Chairman of the Southern Region of the National Vegetable Society and well known Grower, Exhibitor, Lecturer and Judge gave us ideas and advice about vegetable growing techniques. He grows his in raised beds and recommends adding plenty of horse manure and sand to lighten clay soil. Other tips included covering seedlings with old guttering and planting potatoes in reusable black sacks. Excellent Refreshments, with a vegetable theme of course, were provided by Lesley Eley.

The next event, on Saturday February 25th was Bird Box Building for which Mr. and Mrs Douglas Frost kindly let us make use of their garage



“Flat pack” bird boxes were prepared by Alan Eley. Six children came and had a great time assembling these with help from their parents.



Leigh Junior Gardening Club.

When the Club closed down after over ten years as the helpers retired, there was £274.97 left over from club's fund raising events and also some gardening equipment that had been donated by parishioners. The Club helpers agreed that these funds were to be used to help other youngsters and Manor Green College (a school for special needs children living in the surrounding areas) was selected as a worthy cause.

The Teacher was consulted as to how the funds could best help him to aid the pupils in learning gardening skills.

Local County Council funding had provided a greenhouse, shed and fencing but no money had been made available for plants! Over a period of time I delivered bulbs, perennials, shrubs and equipment them. Arriving one day unannounced, I saw some of the older pupils planting a newly created bed – it was rewarding to know that the money had been able to help.

Vivienne Boustred

Events

“Meet the President” On Wednesday March 22nd at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

Please come to meet our new President, Jean Griffin. She will be giving a short talk on “Tales from the Potting Shed” - giving an idea of the work she does, background info and relate some funny BBC phone calls.

She would like you to bring along any **Mystery Plants, Pests and Diseases** (in a polythene bag for the latter) for discussion and think **of any questions you would like to ask** her.

There will also be the opportunity to swap seeds so please bring along any seeds that you would like to give away or exchange.

Talk/Demonstration “From Garden to Staging for the Show” On Thursday April 20th at Betchworth Village Memorial Hall, Station Road. RH3 7DF. *Please note the different venue.*

Sheila Rapley, assisted by Belinda, will be demonstrating and giving advice on how to prepare and present exhibits for the show. We hope this will interest members and give both our longstanding and newer members the courage and incentive to enter exhibits into the show.

Charity Plant Sale

This year LDCGS are running the tea tent. Any volunteers available to help or bake a cake please contact Helen Taneborne 01306 611515.

For advice about donating plants etc, please see the Leigh Post for contact details.

We are hoping 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.

Royal Horticultural Society Garden Reduced Price Entry Cards are available from Helen Taneborne 01306 611515 (see Jan/ Feb newsletter or the website for full details).

Subscriptions are due by 31st March. Remember if you don't join and get your new membership card you will no longer be eligible for discounts at the garden centres or to attend the “Open Garden” events.

Committee

We still need a minute secretary and two committee members. Anyone interested – names to Helen Taneborne please. Alternatively if you are not a “committee person” but are willing to take over the arrangements for the raffle, children's corner or the pedestrian entrance gate (with support from the Committee) we would love to hear from you.

Diary of events 2017

Wednesday March 22nd 8.00pm	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. RH3 7DF	Talk “From Garden to Staging for the Show” Sheila Rapley and Belinda.	Members free. £2 to non-members
Saturday May 20th 2.00pm	Leigh Village Green RH2 8NJ	Charity Plant sale	Public event supported by all the village groups
May		Open garden to be arranged	Open to members only
Sat 10 th and Sun 11 th June Noon till 5.00pm	Ghassans Farm, Smalls Hill Road, RH2 0HR (Formally Little Mynthurst)	We are sorry to announce that this event is now CANCELLED	
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 22nd	Leigh Recreation Ground. RH2 8NP	Annual Flower Show and Country Fayre	Open to ALL
August		Open garden to be arranged	Open to members only
Saturday Sept 16th	Leigh Village Hall RH2 8NP	Autumn Show The apple press will be in action	Open to all
Saturday Sept 30 th and Sunday Oct 1st	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 21st	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)

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