



Liss Horticultural Society

Founded in 1940

*Affiliated to The Royal Horticultural Society; The Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies;
The National Vegetable Society; The National Dahlia Society.*

Newsletter no. 155 – December 2020

Chairman's Report: This I have found to be the most difficult contribution I have made to one of our newsletters. Undoubtedly the pandemic, and its restrictive consequences introduced as a result, have made this a strange and testing year for us all. Covid 19 apart, there have been a series of personal losses for several of you as members which have a more lasting impact for you as individuals and on us all.

I do feel through all of this haze I need to demonstrate some of the more positive highlights and to encourage you all to look forward to a much revised 2021, when we can possibly meet up again, the government having said hopefully after Easter, so we have cancelled plans for the first 3 months. We have now moved the AGM from January to the 6th April, 2021 and the Spring Show to the 11th April.

Hopefully, the Plant Sale will go ahead on the 15th May so please save those plants and sow some extra seeds.
More details of our plans are covered elsewhere in this newsletter.

The Highlights of 2020 included a very successful ad-hoc plant sale which I mentioned in the last newsletter and the response to a request for your photographs of flowers etc. that you would have entered in the shows under normal circumstances. The response was amazing and Tracey Haskins has very kindly downloaded them to be shown on the big screen at one of our meetings. One of the photographs, taken by Alan & Jean White, was of a rose which we have called the "Lockdown Rose" and has now been chosen for the 2021 membership card. Thank you to everyone who submitted photographs. (Incidentally, so you can be prepared the photographs in the 3 classes for the Summer Show in 2021 will be "Daffodils", "Sunset" and "Plants in a Pot"!)

The Hut also did very well with increased sales.

Our Finances still look healthy, despite the reduced activities of shows and evening meetings. A more detailed breakdown of our financial position will be given at the AGM in April.

The Triangle was really grateful to receive our donation to help with the running costs during Lockdown.

Vacancy on the Committee. Lesley is retiring from her role as the Speaker Coordinator at the end of this year's planning cycle. I would welcome any volunteer who would like to take up the reins of this post to plan for 2022. Lesley will remain available to "coach" her replacement through the process for the coming year. Please do not hesitate to contact Lesley directly if you would like to have more details – she will be very willing to assist you as well as pass on all her contact lists and the know-how techniques used!

A Friendly Reminder: Despite any apparent relaxation of the often-changing rules which impact on our day-to-day lives, the priority for all of us must be to keep safe and stay well. Do not be tempted to break those rules which have seen you remain free of virus for so many months just for the sake of a hug with a relative or dinner with too many members of different households! I have yet to get an image of an Easter decorated with holly and mistletoe, but would rather be given the opportunity to be around to see it!

When we do get back together, I do think that there will be some re-building process required by all of us to pick ourselves up to actually do things to get LHS back to its former glory! We look forward to welcoming you back. Your support will be really appreciated!

May I, take this opportunity, on behalf of our President, Peter Catt and all the Committee, to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very Healthy & Happy New Year.

Chairman, Mike Boocock 01730 893569

News on Speakers: By now you will have realised that we had to cancel our speakers in 2020 and have also decided to cancel the first 3 months of 2021. However, we are trying to be optimistic about after Easter so I am delighted to say that **Paul Gallivan, Head Gardener at Woolbeding**, the National trust Gardens near Midhurst, is going to talk to us on the 4th May with an update on that lovely local garden.

Dan Pearson, Garden Designer has agreed to come on Friday, 11th June to give us his talk on "The Education of a Gardener" that was sadly postponed from June this year. If you bought tickets for this event for this year they will be carried forward to 2021 but please let me know if you are not able to make it next year.

We are still hoping to go ahead with an exhibition to celebrate our 80th anniversary on Saturday 12th June and also serve cream teas.

Speakers for the autumn meetings will be announced at the AGM.

Lesley Finnegan 01428 723750 or 077333290

Outings- At the moment it's not possible to make any 2021 outing bookings due to Covid 19. However, hopefully things will get better as the year goes on and when it does I will make some bookings. Will keep you informed.

Ken Payne 01730 893906

The Hut The hut will reopen on Saturday, 20th February. You will all receive a note of opening times and a stock list prior to opening as usual.

When you come to the hut please wear a face mask until further notice.

Ken Payne 01730 893906

Membership Subscriptions - The membership year runs from 1st January to 31st December. Membership cards for 2021 are now available with subs still only £5 which can be paid in person to my home at 41 Western Road, Liss GU33 7AG or by post enclosing your old card and I will deliver your new card to your home if you live in the village or please enclose a S.A.E. if outside the village. Alternatively subs can be paid to any committee member or placed in an envelope with your name on it and addressed to me c/o The Triangle. Please phone me for further information or if you need your subs collected.

Thank you to all who paid for 2020. If, however, you do not wish to continue your membership would you please let me or a committee member know so that records can be amended. Thank you for your continued support.

Membership cards can be used to receive discounts as follows:

Luffs Farm shop/Nursery, Mill Lane, Headley offer 10% off plants
Southern Fruit Trees, Oakhanger offer 10% (closed Sunday) open 1st November to 30th April.

Rotherhill Nursery at Stehann 5% off plants.

Ayings Garden Centre, Troton 5% off

Jenny Hall 01730 893423

Shows: The show schedules for 2021 will have the class choices that were selected for 2020 but we will be issuing new 2021 schedules. Geranium and fuchsia plants have been ordered for you to grow on for the shows. These will be available after Easter the date to be decided depending on their progress.

The Next Newsletter will be issued early February when we have more details confirming the Covid 19 implications in the New Year. Hopefully, we can get back to "normal!" after Easter.

Would you like to receive your newsletter by email? If so please email me.

sueandmikejordan@tiscali.co.uk

Website: Have you visited our website yet? www.liss-horticultural-society.co.uk
HFHS (Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies) website:

www.hantsfedhortsoc.org.uk

Sue Jordan, Secretary 01730 893454

Proposed Programme for 2021

April 6 th	Tuesday 7.30pm – AGM plus?? To be decided.
April 11 th	Sunday 2pm - Spring Show
May 4 th	Tuesday 7.30pm Speaker – Paul Gallivan, Head gardener at Woolbeding
May 15 th	Saturday – Plant sale
June 11 th	Friday – Special Event - Dan Pearson talk.
June 12 th	Saturday - 80 th Anniversary Celebration Exhibition and Cream Tea.
July 25 th	Sunday – Summer Show
Sept 12 th	Sunday – Autumn Show
Oct 5 th	Tuesday 7.30 Speaker tbc
Nov 2 nd	Tuesday 7.30 Speaker tbc
Dec 7 th	Tuesday 7.30 Speaker tbc, Christmas meeting Mulled wine and mince pies