

Surrey Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society

Newsletter – February 2022

The few months since the last newsletter have seen several changes to the Committee. Those of you that attended the AGM on 6th December will be aware of them, but for those of you who didn't come along I will give a precis. The full AGM minutes can be seen on our website. www.surrey-cads.com

Mr A Moody decided for personal reasons to sever his connection with the Society, he asked that the background to his decision remain in house and therefore please refrain from further enquires. He was thanked for his long service to the Society having first joined the Committee in 1990.

Our President, Mr Tim Pierce had advised that he was no longer able to drive and therefore had no objection if he were to step down in his role.

That left just the four remaining Committee members. After consideration between the four of us it was thought that Fred Austin should become Chairman and Howard Cooper take on Fred's previous role of Secretary. Tony Field would continue as Treasurer and Kevin Taitt as Show Secretary. These changes were put to the members at the AGM and unanimously agreed.

Bryan Everest was proposed as President, as was Tim Pierce to be made President Emeritus. Both were agreed unanimously.

The Society had held four shows in 2021, only the Daffodil Show being cancelled due to the pandemic. The shows were generally well supported but it was hoped that all members will be back showing in 2022.

Despite a small deficit last year it was agreed to leave the annual subscription unchanged at £5.

A buffet and social evening followed the closure of the AGM.

Although the Committee now only consists of four, we have agreed to hold a full programme of events this year for all our members, Covid restrictions permitting.

All five shows will be held and the Schedule of Shows booklet has been produced, please take time to read this and note that there are some changes to classes from a couple of years ago, so if you didn't exhibit in 2021 these amendments are very relevant. Copies of each show schedule can also be found on our website www.surrey-cads.com We are also making it a condition of exhibiting that each exhibitor is responsible for the removal and emptying of their vases at the close of each show.

Writing this Newsletter at the end of January, the weather has been very bright and sunny although frosty at night, despite this I notice that plants are beginning to emerge making me think that Spring is not too far off and now is the time to start my dahlia tubers on heat and to take the last few chrysanthemum cuttings. With this in mind we are going to hold on the morning of 12 March 2022 between 10.00 and 12.00 at the Arbor Centre, Coldharbour Road, Pyrford, Woking. GU22 8ST (same venue as our Main show) a talk and demonstration on the setting up and propagation of dahlias, splitting tubers, potting on etc. this will be followed by a sale of Dahlia tubers and hopefully some Chrysanth plants. Light refreshments will be provided. Entry is free to members but £5 for non-members. Although this is aimed primarily for new growers it is hoped that many of you will come along and support the event, after all none of us know everything! If you know anyone who may be interested in this talk/demonstration please pass the details on to them. If this event is a

success it is hoped that we will have another later in the year on cultivation/feeding, getting the right number of breaks, timing and preparing your flowers ready for a show etc.

We will only be holding one plant sale this year, which will be on Friday 13th May, once again at West Byfleet (see website for details nearer the time). We aim to have far more dahlia plants on sale this year, unfortunately last year we had very few and were sold very quickly. We would be grateful for any plants you can donate, Dahlia/Chrysanthemum/Herbaceous/Vegetable. If you think you can either help on the day or supply plants please let Howard Cooper or Tony Field know.

As many of you know we have a "Ton-up" club which has been ably run and administered by Jean Clark for the past couple of years, but I am sure that many of you are not aware of exactly what it is. For the payment of £6 a year, a member is allocated a number between 1 and 100, you keep the same number each year provided you pay for it each year. You can have more than one number if you wish provided you pay £6 for each number. Each month numbered balls are drawn from a bag by an independent person. If your ball is drawn you win a cash prize, at the end of each monthly draw all balls are returned to the bag ready for next month's draw. In February and August the prizes are £100, £20, £10 and £5, for the other months the prizes are £10, £5, and £3. We currently have a few spare numbers, if you are interested in supporting the Society and fancy having a go in the monthly draw please contact Tony Field whose contact details are at the front of the Schedule of Shows booklet. The results of the draws for January and February are below, congratulations to all the winners!

January.

1st 46 K Taitt £10 2nd 63 J Coombes £5 3rd 42 J Putman £3

February.

1st 100 M Dixon £100 2nd 26 Society-Spare £20 3rd 90 M Embleton £10 4th 91 J Coombes £ 5

As you can see a spare number was drawn in February, could this number be yours in the future? Members are reminded that the Ton-up payments are now due and should be sent to the Treasurer.

Our first show of 2022 will be our Daffodil Show which will be held at Abinger Village Hall on 3rd April. We are really hoping for a good show with a large entry as we have had to cancel this show for the past two years due to the pandemic. I am sure there is a pent up desire to support this show. For those of you who have never been it is well worth a visit, the sight of all the blooms and the perfume as you walk in the hall is quite unforgettable. If you have not entered daffodils in a show before but would like to, go on have a go, you will get a lot of help and advice. If you are unable to exhibit at this show but would like to get involved and help on the day, please contact Kevin Taitt whose contact details are also in the front of the Schedule of Shows booklet.

Can I please remind all members that their subscription for 2022 is now due and therefore can you please send your subs to Tony Field our Treasurer. A lot of members have previously paid their subs together with entry fees at a show, however with no shows in 2020 and reduced numbers attending at 2021 shows a lot of members have not paid for a couple of years and it is therefore questionable if they still want to be members of Surrey Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society. In view of this can you please make sure that your subs are paid and received by 31 March 2022, if you wish to continue as a member. With high printing and postage costs I am sure you will appreciate that we cannot continue sending documents out to people who have not paid. If you have an email address can you please let us have it.

The Committee would like to wish all members good health and an excellent growing season and hope to see you at one of our shows.

