

SPRING SHOW – Saturday 23rd March

We are now just days away from the first HIHS show of the year and the unseasonably warm weather will hopefully help all the Spring flowers to get going.

There are 88 different classes that you can enter, including the Daffodil Championship, a Marmalade cake and even a Mother's Day Card for the Juniors...so please have a good look and find something that suits your talents, and the time you have available.

The deadline for entries is 6pm on Wednesday the 20th March, and more guidance and information can be found on the web-site www.hihs.org.uk

Alternatively, you might be interested in coming along to work behind the scenes at the show, with volunteers always welcome. Please e-mail me on timpeller@hotmail.co.uk if you can help.

And finally, if none of the above are possible then do come along to the Community Centre in the park on the day of the show to support the Society - and enjoy the best tea and cakes on the Island.

Tim Speller Show Manager

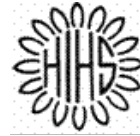
... whilst, dreaming of cakes....

Calling all cake bakers: Might you be willing to bake and donate a cake for our tea & cake stall at the Spring Show, please? This is one of our popular attractions on the day and trying to keep everyone well fed and watered is no mean feat. If you can provide a cake please message me - Very many thanks in advance.

Kay Hawkins kay28hawkins@gmail.com

and, finally

I'm looking for some horseradish root to grow on my allotment. Wondered if anybody has any I could have please? I am willing to give something in exchange e.g. strawberry runners, raspberry canes or rhubarb plant. If so please contact **Debbie on 02392 468454**



HAYLING ISLAND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER

CHAIRMAN'S JOTTINGS

The weather is up to its tricks again. We had that short burst of the "beast from the east", and now we have unseasonable warm weather, well for this time of the year, accompanied by more of the wet stuff. How the heck can the Members get their exhibits ready for The Spring Show on 23rd March?

The talk in January by Roger Hirons was most interesting, and indeed he sold some of his unusual plants.

I do hope that you receive this Newsletter prior to our Spring Show which will be held at the Community Centre on Saturday 23rd March, and as I am sure you are aware will feature daffodils.

The following Wednesday, the 27th March, there is a talk at the URC large Hall, it is entitled "Pests and Diseases", and is given by Ray Broughton. For further meetings please read Page 1 of the 2019 Year Book under the heading "Programme of events 2019/2020".

We now have a new roof on our large shed at the Trading Centre, and we have continued with the alterations to the layout of the main hut. Many thanks to the patient work of Pat Burden and Martin Clark.

The positions of Trading Manager and also Chief Steward remain vacant. The Trading Manager job has been cut back from the original job description, if you are interested please contact Martin Clark, or why not come along on a Thursday morning between 9 am and 10.30 am to discuss the job with Martin.

Many of you will know that John Lark has done sterling work for the Society in many areas. He feels that the time is now right for him to stand down, why not give him a call on: 9246 3538.

I have just heard from Rosy Raines with some details of the first outing. It is on the 30th May, and will be going to Leonardslee Gardens, it has just reopened to the public.

This Newsletter will reach you after the February meeting. It is hoped that Rosy will be at the Spring Show and the meeting at the URC Main Hall on Wednesday 27th March in order to take your bookings. Those of you who have access to a computer can keep up to date on the outings by using the Society's web site which is wonderfully managed by Norman Newton.

Last minute up date, I have heard from Peter Collett, one of our Members, and an absolutely brilliant fruit tree specialist, that he is standing down as the President of the Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies.

Peter is our longest serving member, well in excess of 50 years. He has exhibited and judged at every level, from local to national flower shows, and from federation allotments and gardens right up to Southern and National "Britain in Bloom" competitions. Peter also became a Member of the RHS Fruit Group. He is famed for having 50 variety of apples on one tree!! We are indeed fortunate and rightly proud in having Peter as one of our members. Stay well "young" man.

Bill Biggs, Chairman

TRIBUTE TO ANN AND BILL BIGGS

A special "thank you" to Ann and Bill for organising wonderful holidays. Our last one to Wales was certainly one to remember: beautiful National Trust properties, lovely gardens, river trips etc.

The highlight of the last trip was the Welsh Male Voice Choir and with John and Barbara Becks, daughter and son-in-law on violin and piano the musical evening was wonderful. It will be remembered for a long time to come.

What can we say other than a big "thank you". We are fortunate to have such caring people in the H.I.H.S.

Ron Duffield, President

team of 4 or 5 people. If you think you could help why not pop in and have a look to see what goes on.

Now the weather shows signs of improving and we all begin to prepare our gardens for the new season don't forget our vast range of composts, bark products, sand and grit that you can come and view in our newly roofed compost shed.

Don't forget the fertilisers and lawn care products, either in bulk or small cartons.

The shop area is also worth browsing, to see the changes and the new stock.

Our usual helpful staff will be there to advise and help carry your purchases to your car.

Good gardening,

Martin Clark, on behalf of the Trading Sub-committee.

100+ CLUB

Drawn numbers for December were: First 110 Second 15, and Third 92.

Drawn numbers for January were: First 78, Second 10, and Third 23.

The New Year in the 100+ club starts with the draw in March. Renewal letters have now all been delivered, so if you were a Member last year and have not received yours please let me know.

It costs just £12 a year (£1 a month) for each number held. Half of this goes towards the cost of running the shows, and the other half is for the prize money. The more Members we have the better the prize money!

If you would like to join, new Members are always welcome. For more information and an application form, visit the website www.hihs.org.uk or contact me as the club organiser.

Hazel Phillips 023 9246 3803

TRADING CENTRE

From Sunday 3rd March The Trading Centre is open:

**Sundays and Wednesdays between 9.30 and 12.00.,
Thursdays 9.00 to 10.30.**

The compost shed roof has been replaced and the stock re-organisation was completed, with better product labelling and more visible pricing, just in time for opening.

Seed potatoes were delivered ready for our first opening and onions followed close behind. If you ordered potatoes or onions these are ready for collection.

All the spring bulbs have been delivered; there are 20 varieties to choose from. The popular varieties are selling fast so buy early to avoid disappointment.

We have had our initial supply of Spring stock and the follow-up order is expected shortly. There are some new products on offer so come and have a look; you may find just the thing you've been looking for. If you find we don't stock what you want, please ask for your needs to be added to our order list, together with your contact details. If we can help, at an economic price, we will.

The response to the request for a new Trading Manager has been abysmal, nobody has come forward. Although the Trading Centre has been set running for the year, it lacks management for the future. This is a role for somebody who wants to make a difference and contribute for the goodness of all Members of the Society. Although this role has previously been filled by men, a lady could manage this job equally well. As the Trading Centre is now organised for the coming season this would be an ideal time for a new Trading Manager to take control and have a stress free learning period.

The job description is available on the website, Facebook and by Email request to HIHS.Trading.Centre@gmail.com
Your help is urgently required.

We are still looking for two people to help out in the compost shed during Wednesday and Sunday opening. You would be part of an existing

ADVERTISING AND SPONSORSHIP

Hello everyone,

By now you will have had a chance to take a look at the new Horti Year Book 2019, and I'm sure you will agree with me that it is a really great publication filled with all you need to know to enable you to enter classes at our three Shows this year.

As Advertising and Sponsorship Officer I am particularly pleased with the adverts this year. In addition to our lovely faithful advertisers, there are a number of newcomers, which not only freshens the book up, but also provides adverts for useful services, etc. for which you may want to take advantage.

If you do use any of the services provided by our advertisers don't forget to mention that you saw their advert in the Horti Year Book, this will go a long way when I try to persuade them to advertise again next year 😊

Perhaps you, or someone you know, would like to take out an advert in the 2020 edition? If this is the case, then please contact me on 02392 460700. I do not start my advertising campaign until September but can always reserve you space ahead of time. The cost is £25 for a small advert, £50 for a half page and £100 for a full page.

I am always looking for new Sponsors, these people enable us to provide the prize money at the Shows as well as the actual cost of putting on three Shows a year. Their contributions also help towards our Growing Together project, details of which can be found on page 57 of the Book. If you would like to be a sponsor, you are credited in the Book on page 5, and your name is also displayed on a board outside the exhibition hall at each Show, then please contact me. You can pledge any amount of money, and we are always most grateful to you for your support.

Many thanks, and I hope to see you all at the Shows this year, and please do not hesitate to speak to me if I can help your business by placing an advert in our publication.

Maggie Martin, Advertising and Sponsorship

SPRING SHOW 2019 RECIPE - OPEN

WHITE CHOCOLATE AND STRAWBERRY MUFFINS

Ingredients

300g (11oz) self-raising flour
1 tsp baking powder
175g (6oz) caster sugar
2 eggs
225ml (7½fl oz) milk
100g (3½oz) melted butter
2 tsp vanilla extract
100g (3½oz) white chocolate chips
12 tsp strawberry jam
Icing sugar, to dust



METHOD

Line a 12-hole muffin tin with paper muffin cases. Preheat oven to 200c/180fan/400f/gas 6.

Put all the ingredients except the chocolate chips and jam into a large bowl and whisk with an electric whisk until smooth.

Stir in the chocolate chips.

Divide half the mixture evenly between the cases, spoon 1 teaspoon of jam on top of each one, and then spoon the remaining mixture on top.

Bake for 25-30 minutes or until well risen and lightly golden brown.

Dust with a little icing sugar.

SPRING SHOW 2019 RECIPE - MEN ONLY

MARMALADE FRUIT CAKE

Ingredients

125g (4oz) softened butter
125g (4oz) soft light brown sugar
375g (12oz) mixed dried fruit
1 tablespoon marmalade
250ml (8fl oz) warm water
250g (8oz) self-raising flour
½ teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
1 teaspoon mixed spice
2 eggs, lightly beaten



METHOD

Preheat oven to 160c/140fan/325f/gas3.

Grease and line a 20cm (8") cake tin.

Place the butter, sugar, mixed fruit, marmalade and warm water in a saucepan and bring gently to a simmer over a low heat. Simmer for just 3 minutes, and then allow to cool.

Sift together all the remaining dry ingredients, including the self-raising flour, the bicarbonate of soda and the mixed spice, into a large mixing bowl.

Now add the cooled fruit mixture to the flour, then add the eggs and mix together thoroughly.

Pour the cake mixture into the prepared cake tin and bake in the oven for about 1 hour - 1hour 10mins.

Leave the cake to cool for 10 minutes and then remove from the tin, peel off the lining paper and set aside to cool.