

Bethersden Gardeners' Society



2022 Spring Newsletter

Please join us for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations on George Field on Sunday 5th June from 12.30. The Gardeners' Society will have a BBQ and a display - do come and have a chat.

Annual dinner

Members enjoyed good food and good company at our annual dinner in March.



Spring Show

Our Spring Show has also been and gone already - this year is flying by. We had a wonderful spread of food provided by Jeanette Jahnz with help from the committee. We also had some lovely exhibits on show, a plant exchange and a raffle. Our numbers were small but a good time was had by all those that attended and the quiz provided an opportunity to display our gardening knowledge or lack of it! All good fun. Congratulations to Helen Medlock for winning both the cups with her tulips and savoury tart.

Spring Photo Competition

We had some lovely photos sent by members showing 'the essence of spring'. The worthy winner was Susan Scullard with her lovely robin 'Singing in the blossom'. Andrew Frisby was second with 'Spring in Godinton Park' (bottom right) and Eleanor Shenton came third with 'Spring in the garden' (below).



Visit to Charlotte Molesworth's garden

Twenty five members took the opportunity for a tour round Charlotte and Donald's fascinating topiary garden in Benenden. The garden was beautiful, with many unusual flowers and shrubs in an informal setting, contrasting and complementing the spectacular topiary which has been developed over almost 40 years. A road closure and a spot of drizzle didn't stop us making the most of the visit, and enjoying home made cake and a cuppa.



Survey

We are really keen to understand what our members would like from the Gardeners' Society and we need more members to complete our survey. We are keeping the survey open until after the Summer show to allow more of you to contribute, so if you haven't got around to it yet there is still time. We will publish the results later in the year, and use the information to plan next year's programme of events. For those of you yet to respond, hard copies will be at the Jubilee event, on the Hever trip and at the Summer show. Or you can just ask for a copy or for the link to an electronic form. We would like to hear from new members who have just joined us, as well as longstanding members, everyone will have ideas to contribute. Please email the society on bethersden.gardeners@gmail.com or contact Eleanor directly on 07812 131408 if you need help in accessing either version.

Next events in 2022

If you are quick, you might still be able to book a seat for the coach trip to **Hever castle and gardens on 15 June**. Many of you may remember the wonderful talk at our November AGM given by the head gardener at Hever, Neil Miller. There were so many great photos, now is your opportunity to see the gardens for yourself. The cost is £29 per person (RHS members can have free entrance to the gardens (not the Castle) and therefore pay £15.50 for the coach). Jeanette needs to have the numbers and payment by **1 June**, so contact her on 07729 418275 or email j.l.jahnz@btinternet.com.

Our **Summer show will be on 16 July**, so start thinking about your fruit, veg and flowers that are already growing in your garden. Don't worry if they aren't perfect, its fun to enter and compare notes on each other's attempts! And if you enjoyed entering the WI cake competition for the Queen's platinum jubilee, you can have a go at some of the cookery classes in our summer show! Or just come along and enjoy the afternoon with friends.

Don't forget to nominate your garden, or a friends garden, for our **Jubilee Cup competition**. All or a part of your garden can be entered for the best flowers/shrubs or vegetable/fruit plots. Enter anytime before 30 September, whenever the garden is looking its best. Details in the schedule, on the website or contact Jeanette on j.l.jahnz@btinternet.com.

Have a look at our new website <https://www.bethersden-gardeners.org.uk> or look in the schedule for details of the next events.