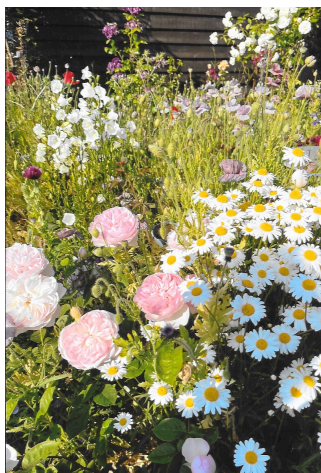


# Bethersden Gardeners' Society



## 2024 June Newsletter

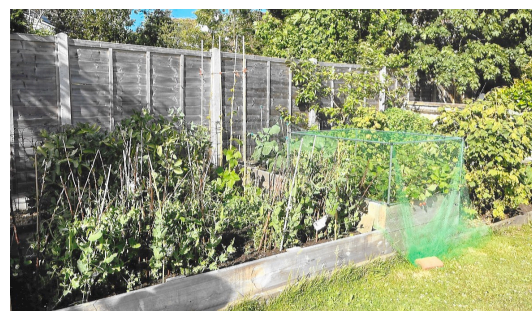
Welcome to all our members who have rejoined, and all our new members. We hope you'll enjoy the various activities and events that the Society runs each year. There's lots of information on our website: [bethersden-gardeners.org.uk](http://bethersden-gardeners.org.uk) or email us at [bethersden.gardeners@gmail.com](mailto:bethersden.gardeners@gmail.com).



### Jubilee Cups

Is your garden looking good at the moment? Why not enter some or all of it for either the Golden or Diamond Jubilee cup competition? Last year, Toyah Ridley and Ruth Gower won the cups. Maybe this year it's your turn?

More details on our website or in the schedule. Contact Jeanette if you want to have a go [j.l.jahnz@btinternet.com](mailto:j.l.jahnz@btinternet.com) or 07729 418275.



### Plant exchange & chat

We had lots of members bringing their spare plants along on 11 May and going home with something different. There was plenty of chat and advice being shared on topics ranging from growing potatoes to which tomato variety. Several members were creating raised beds and were pleased to take home some seedlings ready to grow on.



### 2024 Garden visits

Our first trip this year was to Copton Ash garden. A fascinating example of a well established, yet hidden garden with lots of spring interest and plenty for the wildlife. Twenty-two members enjoyed the visit and appreciated the tea and cakes.

**Our next visit is to Mt Ephraim on 19 June. And you could join our coach trip to Kew Gardens on 13 August (payment £40 pp at summer show or via BACS ref Kew & surname).**

Check the website and contact Jeanette for details [j.l.jahnz@btinternet.com](mailto:j.l.jahnz@btinternet.com) or 07729 418275.



## Success at the Show

Over 60 people came to the **Spring Show** this year, the hall was buzzing. We had a lovely cheese and wine supper, and admired all the wonderful exhibits. Despite the weather, the flowers looked superb. More than half of the attendees entered at least one class.

We had three classes where everyone joined in to judge their favourite exhibit. We also gave away plug plant pelargoniums for members to grow on and bring back to the Summer show where we can all vote for the best. Hopefully they are developing well, don't worry about using an 8" pot, some need more space! Congratulation to Susan Scullard who won the **photo competition** with blossom and bluebells, and Jenny Mitchell's duck photo was so cute. The list of winners is on the website.



**Our summer show is on 13 July**, check your schedule or our website for details and make a note in your diary to plan your entries the weekend before. We have a 'Tips for Showing' guide on our website (or from the Show secretary) and it really is very simple and great fun to enter something from your garden, or perhaps some cookery?

A few key things that you might be wondering about:

- If there is more than one item in a class (eg five carrots), then consistency of size and shape is really important.
- Size should be appropriate for the item, and not necessarily the biggest!
- Keep the roots or stalks on, e.g. roots on lettuces & cabbages and stalks on raspberries.
- Onions are shown 'as grown' in the summer, so don't trim them, but do clean the roots and present them tidily. In the Autumn show they are trimmed and tied neatly.

Don't forget to send your **potato in a bucket** crop weight with one photo to our **email by 5 July**, and bring your pelargoniums to the show.

Any question contact Helen on [bethersden.gardeners@gmail.com](mailto:bethersden.gardeners@gmail.com) or 07502 942836  
Website: [Bethersden-gardeners.org.uk](http://Bethersden-gardeners.org.uk)

**Diary dates for the Autumn - make a note now:**

*Saturday 14 September: **Autumn Show***

*Friday 4 October: **Supper evening & talk** from Guy Deakins on 'How to commit the perfect murder'*

*Friday 15 November : **AGM & talk** on bees from Mick Lynn*