

# Abingdon Horticultural Society

## 2025 Summer Newsletter

### Number 128

#### **Chair Report - David Bingley**

Blooming June is nearly over! Hot and dry, getting the pots and baskets watered is taking a time and the allotment is like a dust bowl! Please support the 'Summer Garden Gallery' – it will be great for members to see the results of our hard work. Thanks (in advance) to David H for keeping the gallery updated and Suzanne for collating the newsletter.

#### **Summer entries & Autumn Show 2025 - Barbara Bingley**

Class 83 - Summer entries - Hanging Baskets and Containers. Please note there is NO entry fee for class 83.

Please let Barbara have your entries for Class 83 by Wednesday July 23rd - judging will take place on the 24th or 25th.

Recent changes to the show schedule mean we no longer judge members' gardens. However David Hastings has kindly set up an online gallery to enable us to submit photos of our summer gardens. Please send your photos to: [summer-gardens@abingdon-hort-soc.org.uk](mailto:summer-gardens@abingdon-hort-soc.org.uk)

#### **Autumn Show Saturday 6th September**

We are looking forward to a well supported show this year. Please look at the schedule on our website and see the classes you might enter. If you are a new member please ask if you have any questions about presentation of an exhibit. We also have stewards to help you on the day.

There is a new cake recipe to practise - Manor House Cake - and six classes of Photographs including 'something beginning with 'H' & a water reflection to capture.

We would love to have more entries from the under 16s who are also free to enter any class.

And all entries are free!

Barbara  
01235 521338  
[the\\_bingleys@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:the_bingleys@yahoo.co.uk)

#### **Treasurer & Members Secretary Report - Karen Fisher**

Thank you to all who donated plants and came to buy at this year's Plant Sale.

I can confirm the amount the Society raised was £584.75, so well done to everyone.

Our membership currently stands at 117 members. 72 single members and 45 Family members.

## **Remaining plants from our Plant Sale**

We donated the remaining plants to Rush Common School for their Plant Sale and the lady who collected the plants was delighted with them and messaged Suzanne later to say thank you and that they had raised £170 at their Plant Sale.

## **Trips 2025 - Robin Carter**

The second trip this year is to Bledlow Manor Gardens near Princess Risborough on Thursday, 24th July 2025. If you would like to go on the trip to Bledlow Manor Gardens but haven't yet booked in, the closing date for doing so is 1st July.

## **Holiday - Suzanne Hamblin**

We have 30 people who are booked for the holiday to North Devon visiting the houses and gardens including RHS Rosemoor - 21st to 26th September 2025, which is great and everyone has now paid their holiday balance.

We will be visiting:

- The University of Bristol Botanic Garden, Bristol BS9 1JG - on our way - half day
- RHS Rosemoor, Torrington - full day
- Marwood Hill Gardens, Guineaford, Barnstaple EX31 4EA - full day
- Arlington Court (National Trust), Barnstaple EX31 4LP - full day
- Hartland Abbey, Nr Bideford EX39 6DT - full day
- Knightshayes (National Trust) Tiverton EX16 7RG - on our return journey - half day

We will be staying at The Dilkhusa Hotel, Wilder Road, Ilfracombe EX34 9AH on a Dinner Bed & Breakfast basis. The Dilkhusa Hotel has a unique story behind it; originally bought by a Raj as a gift for his wife, it was named as 'Dilkhusa,' meaning 'House of the Happy Heart' in Hindustani. Situated in a great seafront location in Ilfracombe, the hotel is across the road from the wonderful Jubilee Gardens which contain the fascinating Ilfracombe Museum and the Landmark theatre, and it is just a short walk to the attractive working harbour and town centre.

All of the single rooms have been taken for the holiday but there are twin and double rooms available if anyone else is interested in joining the holiday, please contact Suzanne Hamblin either by email [suzanneis@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:suzanneis@hotmail.co.uk) or 07490 581673.

## **Obituary**

We have received the sad news that Vera Wakefield passed away on 16th of June aged 96. Vera was a long standing society member who regularly attended our talks, shows, trips and holidays. We send our condolences to Vera's family at this sad time.

## **Requests**

If any members have any useful garden tips, tasty menus they wish to share or any other items of interest they would like to have considered for the next newsletter then please forward these to Suzanne Hamblin, [suzanneis@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:suzanneis@hotmail.co.uk) for future newsletters.

Donations for the raffle and our Autumn Show would be greatly appreciated . Barry and Diana Wiggins, who organise the raffles, would like to thank all those who have already donated this year.

Anyone who has unwanted packets of seeds please bring them along to a talk to pass on to members who would like them.

### **Help Wanted**

If you are interested in joining the committee please come forward, it does not take up much time and would help support the society.

### **Blue Sky Eco Cafe**

Susan Hammersley, an AHS committee member, is one of the volunteers who open the Blue Sky Eco Cafe on the first Tuesday of every month (except January and August) from 12 noon – 2 pm at Long Furlong Community Centre OX14 1XP. Menus and more details are available at <https://blueskyecocafe.org.uk>

### **Sponsor**

Charlton Park Garden Centre - Wantage, sponsors our Society by supplying us with plants for raffles. Their Garden Centre has an extensive range of quality plants and garden requisites. They also bring a wide range of seasonal plants and bulbs to the Abingdon Market on a Monday. We hope you will continue to support them.