

Mayfield Horticultural Society

The most important Horticultural Society event in June is of course the Rose Show, so I will keep my part of the column as short as possible to allow Dinah Stoodley, the organiser, plenty of space for details of this lovely show.

The annual spring plant sale was held in May on a breezy but sunny day. It happened to coincide with the day of the May Fair in the High Street but was scheduled for the morning rather than the afternoon. There was a wonderful array of plants and £469 was raised for funds. Many thanks to all who contributed or purchased plants, or helped on the day.

June is also the month of the annual outing. Most of the places on the coach to Hyde Hall and Glen Chantry gardens on June 12th have been filled, but if anyone is keen to find out if there are still vacancies please phone Roy Botting on 873174.

A new initiative to involve children in growing plants is being developed in both the Pre-School and Primary School in Mayfield. The Horticultural Society also hopes to provide an impetus by giving some of the children a pack containing a busy-lizzie plant and three small leek plants, together with growing medium and instructions so that they can grow something pretty and something edible for themselves. There will be a class for the best busy-lizzie in the July show and for the longest leek in the September show so we hope to see quite a few of them again. These are just two of many classes for children in the shows including craft items, cookery, photography, painting etc. Please pick up your show schedules from Jason's, Libra or The Shopping Basket. These contain details of the Rose Show on June 20th, the Summer Show on July 18th and the Autumn Show on September 26th. Don't forget the Novelty Dog Show is back at the Summer Show (July) and will start at 2.30pm near the Memorial Hall. Members should have already received their schedules and a letter from our chairman John Logan in which he mentions the plans for a "Celebrity Coffee Morning" next February. Well-known local writer and broadcaster Sarah Raven has agreed to come and speak on "Year Round Vegetable Growing". Hilary Newman will now speak in January on climbers and wall shrubs. More in future newsletters of course but pencil in Saturday February 27th 2010 now for Sarah Raven's talk - it is sure to be popular.

If you are interested in joining the society (£3 annual subscription) please contact membership secretary Janet Wood on 868209.