



Northampton & District Fuchsia Society NEWSLETTER



SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER / NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2020

EDITORIAL

This is the second newsletter produced since the advent of Covid-19. The last was released just after the country was locked down – now at least life is able to go forward on a more normal basis. We here in Northamptonshire have had a bit of a hiccup with a local food processing factory having had an outbreak but it seems likely we shall avoid a local lockdown.

Our September ‘kick-off’ meeting with its photographic and cut blooms competitions is cancelled but, although there are currently extra restrictions on social activities in our area, it does seem likely that the October ‘sports night’ at the Conservative Club will be able to go ahead.

This issue each year is usually one of the biggest with the results of our Fuchsia Show and the successes of our ‘showers’ at other shows around the country. Sadly, of course, our show had to be cancelled and all other shows have met the same fate. Instead the photographic archives have been dredged for a few memories.

My first digital camera was purchased in 2004. I remember we had all been made redundant by Birse, later acquired by Balfour Beatty, and I went down to PC World for a little retail therapy! The first time I used it was to record some of the exhibits and presentations at the show that year.

Included are some of the photographs from the shows up to 2009. If you can remember an exhibit or presentation that is not included let me know and, if I have a record I will include it in a later issue. Sadly, you will see some faces of members no longer with us.

In November we have our Annual General Meeting. A notice thereof is published in this newsletter.

It is also the time of year to remind you that it is time to renew your subscription. A form is included towards the end of the newsletter.

It is hoped that we shall be able to resume our usual programme of meetings from October onwards – even if a little ‘distantly’.

Keep Well, Keep Safe.

The Editor

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CRAMDEN NURSERY

THE GERANIUM & PELARGONIUM SPECIALISTS

A family run business growing Pelargoniums and Geraniums for over 30 years.

Now also selling Lavenders, Agapanthus and Penstemons.

The Nursery is open from March to August
Monday to Saturday - 9am - 5pm
Sunday from May to August - 10am - 4pm

Open Evenings and Talks available.

CRAMDEN NURSERY
HARBOROUGH ROAD NORTH
NORTHAMPTON NN2 8LU
Telephone: 01604 842365
www.cramdennursery.co.uk

ROLLING CALENDAR 2020/21 PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS

All meetings are held at the Conservative Club, 42 Billing Road, Northampton NN1 5DA commencing at 7.30pm

September 1st 2020 **Meeting Cancelled**

Welcome New Members; Open Evening; Cut Bloom & Photography Competitions

October 6th 2020

Meeting: Sports Night & Buffet

November 3rd 2020

Annual General Meeting

December 8th 2020 – N.B. 2nd Tuesday!

Christmas Party!

January 19th 2021

Care & Culture: Looking after your plants in Winter

February 2nd 2021

Meeting: speaker tba

March 2nd 2021

Meeting: speaker tba

March 16th 2021

Care & Culture: Bringing plants out of dormancy; collect your Society plant

April 6th 2021

Meeting: speaker tba

April 20th 2021

Care & Culture: Two tables meeting

May 4th 2021

Meeting: speaker tba

May 18th 2021

Care & Culture: Plant sale

June 1st 2021

Meeting: speaker tba

June 15th 2021

Care & Culture: Feeding, Watering and Growing On

July 6th 2021

Meeting: speaker tba

July 20th 2021

Care & Culture: Preparing your plants for the show; dressing; the dreaded paperwork

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ROLLING CALENDAR SOCIETY EVENTS FOR 2020/21

Tuesday November 3rd 2020

Annual General Meeting
Conservative Club

Saturday December 5th 2020

Christmas Fayre
Conservative Club

Tuesday December 8th 2020 – 2nd Tuesday!

Christmas Party
Conservative Club

Sunday March 7th 2021

Visit to Jacksons and Hawgrip Nursery

Sunday May 9th 2021

Malvern Spring Show

SATURDAY 7TH AUGUST 2021

FUCHSIA SHOW

ST CRISPIN SOCIAL CLUB NN5 4XD

JACKSONS NURSERIES

A good selection of young plants available from March to June.

Self-service greenhouse will be open from March 1st

Closed on Tuesdays

Send a large s.a.e. (2 x 1st Class) for list of plants or see

www.rhs.org.uk/Plants/Nursery-Plant-List?id=600&name=Jackson%27s%20Nurseries

Selection of our own compost available (replacement for Humber)

A range of other composts and Vitafeeds are also available

Clifton Campville, near Tamworth
Staffs B79 0AP
01827 373307

3 miles from Junction 11 M42

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Dear Members,

I hope you are all as well as can be expected during these uncertain times.

As things stand we agreed that we would next meet on October 6th for a social evening at the Conservative Club; this is dependent upon the situation at that time. If we are not able to have the social evening we will contact all members to inform them that the evening has been cancelled.

In the event of the cancellation, I will contact our committee members to discuss the present and future situation regarding the pandemic and we will have to decide what we do for the rest of 2020.

Whatever is decided, the committee will circulate the result to all members.

This is the present situation and I only wish I could be more positive, but we are all so uncertain of the future, even next week.

Please look after yourselves and I look forward to meeting everyone safely in the not too distant future.

Bob Malin

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**Have you visited your
Fuchsia Society's
website?**

www.ndfs.btck.co.uk

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ANNOUNCEMENT - SPORTS NIGHT Meeting – 6th October 2020

This notice appeared in the last Newsletter but it probably bears repeating. Ed.

Dear Members,

Just to let you know about our change of plans for the October 6th meeting.

The committee decided that, because of us not holding a BBQ night on the Friday after the show, we would instead hold a Sports Night at the Conservative Club on 6th October. This replaces our usual main meeting.

We have arranged with Debbie at the Conservative Club to have the Skittles table in the Churchill room and together with that, the Darts and hopefully a card table or two along with a buffet – it should be a good night.

I would appreciate it if you can let me know if you would like to attend. I know that in this uncertain time we cannot take anything for granted but nearer the time we will need to have some idea so that we do not order too much buffet food that will not be eaten.

Keep well and safe and hope to see you all at the meetings when they resume.

Kindest wishes,

Marilyn
Secretary/Social Secretary

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GROWING YOUR FUCHSIAS September through to December

September/October

If we experience prolonged, extremely hot weather over the summer months some of your fuchsias may come into flower a lot earlier than usual and the flowering period may be shorter. Watering can be a problem as plants may dry out very quickly and the leaves can be scorched by the hot sun. Care must be taken

as it is possible to overwater and your plants will suffer with root rot and subsequently die; it is very unusual for a plant to recover fully from being overwatered.

The autumn months are usually ideal for fuchsias, still fairly warm with high moisture levels. Although our plants may look a little 'down' at the moment, if given a single feed of a high nitrogen fertiliser, they will soon pick themselves up and give us another fine show of flowers right up to the early frosts.

Continue to fight the war against pests and

NENE VALLEY ORGAN & KEYBOARD CLUB

For over 35 years NVOKC have been producing electronic organ and keyboard shows to the public on the 3rd Monday of the month.

Top international artistes are presented, performing a wide range of music on state of the art instruments.

A NVOKC show is a superb evening for all in the comfortable surroundings of the Plough Hotel, Northampton NN1 1PF

Come along and join us one Monday.

Doors open at 7.15pm. Start 8.00pm. Finish 10.30pm.

For any further information call Matthew Bason 01933 420130

diseases. Provado Ultimate Bug Killer is very effective against greenfly and whitefly but is not now recommended for the red spider mite, the organic fatty acid type of insecticide can give some control on these. Alternatively, phytoseiulus persimilis is the most commonly used biological control for red spider mite and is now widely used in preference to pesticides. The Provado Vine Weevil Killer can be applied now – if not already done. This gives a very

good control of the vine weevil grub which can be devastating to our plants.

Cuttings can still be taken provided there is a little heat available; these will make splendid plants for next year but remember that we must keep these young plants, once rooted, in green leaf throughout the winter months and that means temperatures of 40-45°F.

November/December

November is the time to start your over-wintering programme. First job is to clean your greenhouse out (if you have one!). It is best to remove all your plants out of harm's way; they can easily be knocked over during the cleaning process. All staging, brickwork, glass and glazing bars should be thoroughly washed down; a power washer is ideal for this job if you have one. Take care, though, as a powerful jet of water can damage woodwork and even crack glass.

When introducing plants back into the greenhouse only take in those worthy of being over-wintered, and only after each plant has been treated with an insecticide and a fungicide; this also applies to plants being kept in sheds and garages, etc.

Fuchsia plants growing in containers, whether hardy varieties or not, must also be given winter protection. A hard frost will easily penetrate the sides of most containers, clay, wood or plastic, and so kill the roots. If the containers are too large to be moved the plants must be taken out and re-potted into something smaller.

All plants in pots should be allowed to dry off until the compost is just on the moist side; the laterals should then be reduced in length by about a half. To over-winter a plant in a 'dormant' state all foliage should be removed and they must be kept in a frost-free store, be it greenhouse, shed or garage. Check the plants regularly to see that they do not dry out completely.

Hardy fuchsias established in the garden should have their laterals reduced in length, again by about half; this will prevent the wind rocking the plants and causing root disturbance. The remaining short laterals will act as a barrier to the frost damaging the crown of the plants.

Triphylla types, e.g., Thalia, Coralle and Insulinde, require more warmth over winter, ideally temperatures of about 40/45°F. They are also best kept just ticking over in leaf during the winter months because they can be rather stubborn to break into growth in the springtime if allowed to go into complete dormancy.

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A COVID – DITTY

By kind permission of Elaine Baker of Great Doddington WI

March went out but in Covid came
 Everything cancelled at home we must remain
 Guidelines for living given daily
 By Medics and Politicians on the telly
 Who could have foreseen this plague
 No one safe and outcome vague?
 We hunkered down with wartime spirit
 Cancelled normal life as we knew it
 What to do? Lots of jobs needing a little
 dedication
 So much to achieve with no motivation
 Gardening, decorating, exercise to keep
 healthy
 Nothing to buy, so at least we'll get wealthy?
 We know that it is the right thing to do
 But it is not the life we wish to pursue
 Be optimistic we will eventually return
 To the life we had for which we yearn
 Meeting friends and sharing greetings
 To once again attend WI meetings?
 To laugh together and share our lives
 Little things the virus deprives
 For our health we must be content
 So just relax and be resilient
 Life may never be the same
 But look forward to when "We meet again"!!

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

3rd November 2020

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 53rd Annual General Meeting of the Northampton & District Fuchsia Society will be held on Tuesday 3rd November 2020 at the Conservative Club, 42 Billing Road, Northampton NN1 5DA commencing at 7.30pm.

AGENDA

1. President's Welcome
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Minutes of the 2019 AGM
4. Matters Arising
5. Correspondence
6. Chairman's Address
7. Hon Secretary/Social Secretary's Report
8. Hon Treasurer's Report
9. Social Secretary's Report
10. Editor's Report
11. Show Secretary's Report
12. Membership Secretary's Report
13. Propositions
14. Election of Officers:
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Hon Secretary
 - c. Hon Treasurer
 - d. Editor
15. Election of Vice-Chairman
16. Election of Membership Secretary
17. Election of Show Secretary
18. Election of Social Secretary
19. Election of Committee Members
20. Appointment of Auditors
21. Any Other Business

Any Propositions or items for discussion under Any Other Business must be notified to the Hon Secretary at least fourteen days before the meeting.

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**PICTURES FROM THE SHOWS
2004**



Barry Cooke's full basket of Marinka awarded Best Pot or Exhibit in Show



Barry Cooke receiving one of ten awards!



Chris Burton, Barbara Meaden and Jack Johnson on the door



A view of the marquee



Watching the presentations – can you spot any familiar faces?



Denis Reeves receiving the Chris & Stuart Burton Cup for the best pot in the Intermediate Classes

2005



Unusually, perhaps, a *F. arborescens* awarded Best in Show, Best Pot in Classes 8-34 and Best Species entered by Barbara Meaden, below, being presented with a cup by our President, Ernie Sayers



The Novelty Class is not always won by one of the ladies – this was Bob Dickens' winning entry!



The Society Plant Class entries – Alison Patricia – won by Diana Dawson receiving her award below



President Ernie Sayers, Show Secretary Barry Cooke and Show Manager Michael Conroy



2006



This was to be Michael Conroy's year – his 8" pot of Sophie Louise was adjudged to be the Best Pot or Exhibit in Show and he took home a total of ten trophies!



Judy Campbell with her fan of Phyllis for which she was awarded the Pettitt and Daniels Trophy



For the Best Hanging Pot in the Show Bernard Hager was awarded the Peg and Stan York Cup



2007

No photographs for 2007 – where were we?

2008



Best Exhibit in Show was a 7" pot of Northern Dancer entered by Michael Conroy



Barry Cooke had most points in Classes 8-34



Pat Leahy's glass bowl of fuchsia flowers



Enjoying a break in the proceedings



2009



Dave Sharp received the Ray Campbell Cup for his F. arborescens awarded Best Exhibit in Show ...



Peg Thorn with the Harding Cup for Most Points in Beginners' Classes



... and the Barbara Watkins Chalice for his half basket of Leverholme



For her Beginners'/Intermediates Hanging Pot Noreen Clydesdale received the J A Tonnison Trophy



Three 5" pots of Border Raider were awarded a first for George Dawson



Barbara Meaden takes Cindy Lee's cake!



A good year for George Dawson with Runner Up to the Best in Show and Most Points in Classes 8-34



For his Best Standard in Show the Sayers Silver Trophy was awarded to Keith Ledger



The Adams Cup for the Best Pot in the 5" Classes to Clive and Tracey Gould – the tilt of the camera is deliberate to fit them both in to the picture!

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SUBSCRIPTIONS 2020/21

As we get older the time seems to pass faster and, yes, that time of year is here again.

This is a reminder to all members that subscriptions for the new year's membership are due **before** 1st October 2020. Please pay Peter Pettitt at your earliest opportunity.

Remember, only fully paid up members are entitled to vote at the Society's General Meetings – don't be left out!

Single £12.00
Double £20.00

Please continue to support your Society!

The application form is below. Please cut it out and give it/send it with your cheque/cash to Peter without delay. The address, if required, is on the form.



Northampton and District Fuchsia Society



Membership

**APPLICATION
RENEWAL**

Mr P Pettitt
9 Berrydale
Northampton NN3 5EQ
Tel: 01604 412637

To The Membership Secretary:

Would you please renew my / our membership for
2020/21

Subscription: Single £12.00 Double £20.00

Name _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

Telephone No _____

Data Protection. Your personal contact details are held by the Society for administration purposes only and will not be disclosed to anyone outside the Society.

THE NORTHAMPTON & DISTRICT FUCHSIA SOCIETY

PRESIDENT:

Mr Ernie Sayers Trefela, 29 Careys Road, Towcester, Northampton NN12 7NX
Tel: 01327 811645

PAST PRESIDENTS:

Leo Boullemier (Founder) and V. Evans Esq

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

Josie Lepper; George Dawson; Dave Watkins

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Clive Gould Phil Hunt