



Northampton & District Fuchsia Society NEWSLETTER



MAY / JUNE / JULY / AUGUST 2020

EDITORIAL

Welcome to your Summer 2020 issue of your Newsletter. What strange times we are in. I shall be posting this out directly instead of bringing it to a meeting. The words today seem to be 'unprecedented' as we 'ramp-up' our fight against Covid-19.

Although a full programme is shown on the rolling calendar all meetings are cancelled until further notice. You will be informed by email/website when it is decided the next meeting will be held. Will we still be social distancing at the time of our show at the beginning of August? Having got into the habit of giving people a wide berth it may take a time before we wish to be in a gathering again.

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

The Hardy Plant group, to which Maggie and myself belong, have cancelled all meetings and outings and are not now due to meet until September but it will be a shock to the system to be in a room of 70-80 people again. How many will attend that first meeting?

There is a reminder to return your trophies to Peter Pettitt but the logistics of that are not straight forward as we are to make only essential journeys for food, medical needs or work.

Occurring prior to all the current problems we lost two past members, Tony Loader and Hugh Lemmon. They will be greatly missed by all family and friends.

Hopefully everything will be back on a more normal footing by the Autumn and there is an announcement on page 7 about a different kind of meeting in October where those with some expertise with cheese and arrow can show off their prowess.

How did our Group come to be formed? Clive and Tracey Gould, much into Fuchsia Lore, have provided an article which details the very first meeting in 1967. Which raises the question why and when did we become a Society?

For the new members, and for the older members who have forgotten, the articles on Showing your Fuchsias and the Photographic Competition in September have been repeated towards the end of the newsletter. Also do not forget to enter the Cut Blooms Competition at our September meeting.

Keep Safe and Keep Well!

The Editor

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

Please note that all meetings are cancelled until further notice.

May 5th 2020

Meeting: David Garrett on Composting: Hot v. Cold

May 19th 2020

Care & Culture: Plant sale

June 2nd 2020

Meeting: Martin Hynes on Pest Control

June 16th 2020

Care & Culture: Feeding, Watering and Growing On

July 7th 2020

Meeting: Arthur Phillips on Fuchsias

July 21st 2020

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

September 1st 2020

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 2020

Meeting: speaker tba

April 20th 2020

Care & Culture: Two tables meeting

---ooo000ooo---

ROLLING CALENDAR SOCIETY EVENTS FOR 2020/21

Sunday May 10th 2020

Malvern Spring Show **SHOW CANCELLED**

SATURDAY 1ST AUGUST 2020

FUCHSIA SHOW

ST CRISPIN SOCIAL CLUB NN5 4XD

Tuesday November 3rd 2020

Annual General Meeting

Conservative Club

Saturday December 5th 2020

Christmas Fayre

Conservative Club - 10.0am to noon

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

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

ADRIAN PERKINS – GHOST DETECTIVE Meeting - 4th February 2020

Our first speakers of 2020 were Adrian Perkins, the author of the Ghost Detective books, with his friend Lewis Dellar, a parapsychologist.

Adrian's interest in ghosts began when he was six years old and had his first ghostly experience seeing an unexplained six-foot shape in his bedroom, which sat on his bed and left an imprint on the bed after it disappeared.

He explained that ghosts are a recording of a person. The shape will deteriorate after a time but sound and smell will be the last thing to go, hence still being able to hear/smell a presence after sightings have gone.

Spirits are more associated with religion and mysticism.

Adrian related some local ghost incidents:

At the Old Black Lion pub near Northampton station when new landlords arrive loud noises are heard in the cellar and kegs have been thrown around but, when they have been restacked, it happens again. When Adrian investigated he set up a tape recorder which picked up voices although the room was empty.

At the Green Dragon pub in Higham Ferrers there are numerous ghost stories and when local people were interviewed about their experiences they all fit events that have occurred historically.

Adrian's friend Lewis Dellar studies such stories scientifically and tries to provide logical explanations, as in the case of a woman in Kettering who reported furniture being moved in her house and food missing from her fridge while she was out. After many weeks of such happenings cameras were set up which eventually revealed a man dropping down from the loft hatch and doing the 'ghostly' deeds. He was the woman's aggrieved ex-partner who had a key to her next door neighbour's house.

It was a fascinating talk and, whether you are a believer or not, it was very thought provoking.

Dot Leeke

---ooo000ooo---

RETURNING TROPHIES

It is to be hoped that the current social distancing/self-isolating restrictions will be lifted in time for our Fuchsia Show to take place.

In expectation of that will those members lucky enough to have won a trophy last year please return it (or them if you won more than one!) to Peter Pettitt when restrictions allow.

If you wish to have your name engraved on the trophy, or trophies if you did very well, then please arrange this yourself if shops open in time. This will have to be at your own cost!

---ooo000ooo---

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

TONY LOADER

It is with sadness we have to report that Tony Loader passed away peacefully in Angela Grace Care Home on 17th December, 2019 aged 85.

He, with his wife Val, had been active Society members for many years and they were in charge of producing the name tickets at the show where he won the novelty class in 1997.

He was an active sea scout and, before retirement was a plumber. He was also an accomplished organ player and taught some of our members to play.

Tony was cremated at Nene Valley Crematorium on the 13th January, 2020.

---ooo000ooo---

HUGH LEMMON OBE

Again with sadness we have to report that Hugh Lemon OBE died on 10th January, 2020 at Cransley Hospice, Kettering after a short illness aged 91.

Hugh was a great chap with a vast knowledge of growing the fuchsia. He was also a very keen photographer.

He was a member of the Northampton and District Fuchsia Society for many years and regularly won prizes at our annual shows. Hugh also won our photographic competition several times.

His late wife, Kath, made the huge Fuchsia Society banner that we have at the show.

Hugh was employed by the Foreign Office and spent many years abroad in India and Singapore.

Upon his retirement Hugh was awarded the OBE.

His funeral was held at the Counties Crematorium on 7th February, 2020.

---ooo000ooo---

GROWING YOUR FUCHSIAS

May through to August

May – June

Early May and your plants should now be growing strongly. Check your plants' root systems regularly and do not let them get pot-bound as this can result in premature budding. Pot up to the next size pot as soon as the roots begin to circle the bottom of the root ball. This is especially important if you are growing your plant as a standard.

Your plants are growing strongly so they must be fed regularly. A high nitrogen or a balanced feed should be given at almost every watering. Follow the instructions on the packet and do not overfeed as this can result in soft elongated laterals.

The correct watering of your plants is very important; too much water will kill a plant quicker than not enough. An over-watered plant can give the same appearance as a plant that is suffering from being under-watered so do not just add water to everything. Pick your plants up; experience with the weight of the plant will soon tell you what action is necessary.

Picking your plants up should be a regular occurrence, not only to check for watering but also to inspect for botrytis, greenfly, whitefly and red spider mites. Early detection of a problem is always beneficial. Treat any problems as appropriate; whitefly is usually a finger and thumb job but greenfly and red spider may need a spray treatment. Keeping the humidity levels on the high side in your greenhouse will also deter red spider.

Shading of your greenhouse is now very important. Temperatures can rise very quickly with just a few minutes' sun. Coolglass is an excellent liquid shading which can be applied with brush or sprayer; green shade netting is also very effective. All vents should be opened at every opportunity.

June is the best month for planting out your hardy fuchsias; prepare the soil well

incorporating plenty of well-rotted garden compost or similar material. To plant your fuchsia make a saucer shaped depression in the ground about 18 inches in diameter and 4 inches deep; your plant which should be well-grown, possibly in a 4 or 5 inch pot, is planted in the centre of the depression. The top of the root ball should finish up level with the bottom of the depression. Adding some blood, fish and bone fertiliser at this time would be highly beneficial. The plant is then watered in. Allow the depression to fill in naturally over the rest of the season; this will result in the root ball being some 4 inches deep and well established giving it good protection from winter frosts.

If you are going to show any of your plants this year keep an eye on the stopping dates; the backwards calendar issued with the last newsletter will give you the timing.

July – August

With the exception of plants being grown on the biennial system and those being grown for the later shows all stopping and potting on should now be just about complete. But our plants still need plenty of attention with watering, feeding and regular inspections for attacks from greenfly, whitefly and the dreaded red spider mite. Act immediately if a problem is found as any attack can quickly spread to the rest of your plants.

Be careful with watering. Pick the plant up and, if necessary, take it out of the pot to check the moisture level. Feeding should still be carried out at each watering but only at quarter strength. You could now be using Chempak 3 or Chempak Fuchsia Feed.

Always be cleaning your plants, removing any dead leaves and old flowers and generally keeping your plants looking tidy. Try and get them out in the open air if possible; they will really benefit from it.

Any hardies planted out last month should be kept well-watered and a balanced feed applied every 2-3 weeks. It is essential to keep them growing well so that they form a good root

system to help them survive any hard frosts that we may have over winter. Give them an occasional insecticide spray to prevent damage from thrips and capsid bugs.

Hardies planted in the garden do not require stopping. A good hardy is self-branching and will produce plenty of laterals and, of course, lots of flowers through the summer and well into the autumn.

Good Growing and Showing.

---ooo000ooo---

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

www.ndfs.btck.co.uk

The website will show updates as and when it is decided to hold any further meetings.

---ooo000ooo---

TOP TEN FUCHSIAS - 2001 to 2018

From Fuchsia News Winter 2020 Carol Gubler writes:

'I have recently been contacted by Phil Hunt of Northampton Fuchsia Society with the following:

"I was very interested in your top 10 fuchsias annual lists in the BFS Journal and thought I would combine them for my own interest. I gave 10 points for a first in any year and then down to 1 for 10th place.

I found it interesting that the Doubles figured so highly."

Thanks Phil for doing this for us – it is fascinating – it really does help emphasise the changing trends in the fuchsias that are shown! Fuchsias that aren't shown so much now such as Shelford and Sophie Louise show their popularity in the past. Others that I thought had been shown so much over the years such as Twinny and Elma were evidently more of a one-year wonder!

Most Appearances

- 1 Lillian Annetts
- 2 Brookwood Belle
- 3 London 2000
- 4 Wigan Peer
- 5 Shelford
- 6 Alison Patricia
- 7 Border Raider
- 8 Sophie Louise
- 9 Rose Fantasia
- 10 Ernie
- 11 Lynne Patricia
- 12 Pink Fantasia
- 13 Katrina Thompsen
- 14 Lyndon
- 15 I'm in Charge
- 16 June Marie Shaw
- 17 Walz Jubelteen
- 18 Angela King
- 19 Anne Reid
- 20 Boogie Woogie
- 21 Kobold
- 22 Loves Reward
- 23 Shatzy B
- 24 Toby S
- 25 Ashville
- 26 Barbara Windsor
- 27 Elma
- 28 Maria Landy
- 29 Nellie Nuttall
- 30 Paula Jane
- 31 Twinny

Most Points (1st = 10, 10th = 1)

- 1 Lillian Annetts
- 2 London 2000
- 3 Shelford
- 4 Wigan Peer
- 5 Border Raider
- 6 Brookwood Belle
- 7 Alison Patricia
- 8 Rose Fantasia
- 9 Sophie Louise
- 10 Lynne Patricia
- 11 Ernie
- 12 Lyndon
- 13 Anne Reid
- 14 Katrina Thompsen
- 15 I'm in Charge
- 16 Walz Jubelteen
- 17 Shatzy B
- 18 Pink Fantasia
- 19 Toby S
- 20 Angela King
- 21 June Marie Shaw
- 22 Paula Jane
- 23 Elma
- 24 Twinny
- 25 Kobold
- 26 Loves Reward
- 27 Maria Landy
- 28 Boogie Woogie
- 29 Ashville
- 30 Barbara Windsor
- 31 Nellie Nuttall

Strangely, and quite separately, I had the same idea as you Phil and had done the same exercise – I just never thought of submitting the results to Fuchsia News. Pleasingly we did achieve identical results. The Editor

THE AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE

Meeting – 3rd March 2020

Our speakers were Pam and Chris Larsen who told us all about the fine work of the Air Ambulance Service which is entirely supported by public and corporate donations.

The East Midlands service covers Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Warwickshire, Rutland and Northamptonshire, covering 3,850 square miles including the M1, M6, M69 and M42 motorways, and 4 million people.

There is an average response time of 13 minutes and they attend an average of 6 missions per day. The helicopters fly lower than any commercial aircraft and take precedence over commercial aircraft too, except those carrying royalty.

They are crewed by a pilot and paramedics who are all trained in navigation. Paramedics do 2 years NHS work before flying and usually do 6 – 12 month contracts. They carry OB equipment, breathing apparatus, injury supports and defibrillators; each kit bag weighs 17kg.

Of the incidents attended 42% are road traffic accidents, 14% sport, 10% falls, 22% medical, 3% industrial and 9% other.

There is also a children's air ambulance service which provides support for critically ill children taking them to specialist paediatric centres or taking teams and equipment to hospitals if the patient is too ill to travel.

This was a very interesting talk about a most worthwhile cause.

Many thanks to Pam & Chris.

We raised an additional £38 in the bucket collection. Thank you to all who contributed.

Dot Leeke

---ooo000ooo---

ANNOUNCEMENT - SPORTS NIGHT

Meeting – 6th October 2020

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

---ooo000ooo---

SHOWING YOUR FUCHSIAS

Saturday 1st August 2020

Members are urged to make every effort to enter as many plants as they possibly can into our Fuchsia Show on Saturday 1st August.

'If in doubt bring it along' – it will look better on the show bench with all the other fuchsias than it does on its own at home.

Your Society Needs You!

Filling out the entry form

Fill out the entry form ensuring that you keep a copy for yourself. At this time making up a

list of your plant cultivar names would be very helpful. Forward your entry form to me, Bob Malin, by one of the methods indicated on the entry form, usually by post or, if you have a scanner, by email. Your entry should arrive by Wednesday 29th July. Late entries will be accepted only if there is space available.

Transporting your plants to the show

With just a relatively short journey involved I find pot plants are very stable using the appropriate plastic tray. Another practical method is to use shallow cardboard boxes with holes cut to the size of the pot. Hanging pots, baskets, half-baskets and standards all present different problems.

Times for staging of entries

Staging of entries can take place on Friday 31st July from 1.30pm to 8pm and on Saturday 1st August from 7.00am to 8.30am.

Arrival at the venue

Leave your plants in your car and have a walk around the room to see where your entries will be staged.

Collect your entry cards from the Admin table and hand a list of your plant cultivar names to Marilyn Daniels.

Bring your plants in and place them on one of the preparation tables. Dress the plants, removing any yellow leaves, faded flowers and seed pods. Ensure the plants are in clean brown standard pots. The exception is hanging pots as it is very difficult to obtain them in brown.

Staging the entries

To position your plant on the show table, use one of the empty saucers provided. Do NOT move other people's entries. If you have a problem staging your plant, ask the Show Secretary or the Assistant Show Secretary for assistance.

Place your entry card next to your plant with your name on the underside. Collect labels of the plant cultivar names from Marilyn Daniels and place them by the appropriate entry. These are not required for the Society plant.

Check that your plants have been watered.

To give your entry the best chance position the plant showing its best features to the front. Lift plants that have laterals touching the table with an upturned pot, plastic-coated wire or string.

Useful equipment to take with you

Small watering can; spare clean pots and saucers; twine, wire, split canes; labels and marker pen; cleaning cloths; mist sprayer.

Judging the exhibits

Judging of the exhibits will start on Saturday at 9am with BFS Judge Alan Solomon assisted by our Society stewards.

The Show Opens!

Doors to the show will be open for members and the public from 11am.

Presentation of Trophies

The presentation of trophies and awards will take place at 4pm on the Saturday. Would all members please try to be in attendance for the presentations.

End of Show

The Show will end at 5pm. Please do NOT lift your entries before then. Once the Show is declared closed and the members have had a chance to remove their entries the Show will be dismantled.

Please let us make it a great Show and give it as much publicity as you possibly can. So please spread the word and help to keep our Show tradition great!

Thank you.

Bob Malin

---ooo000ooo---

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

www.ndfs.btck.co.uk

The Show Schedule, Entry Form and
Backwards Calendar are available
to view and download.

---ooo000ooo---

WHERE IT ALL STARTED

This article, provided by Clive and Tracey Gould, is taken from The Fuchsia Annual 1968, its 30th year of publication, and was originally written by Leo Boullemier, Chairman of the Northampton and District Fuchsia Group. It was entitled:

Northampton 'does something about it'

At the request of many local fuchsia growers in the Northampton area for the formation of a Society to cater for their needs, BFS committee member, L B Boullemier, arranged an informal meeting on October 19th with the view of forming a group.

From the 95 invitations sent out 40 accepted, 24 were interested, could not attend but wished to be advised of further activities, and only two indicated no interest. Although 40 accepted, the room at the 'Racehorse Inn' (*on Abington Square, though now called The Black Prince? – Ed.*) was hardly large enough for the enthusiastic gathering of between 50 and 60 people and in a very short time the NORTHAMPTON AND DISTRICT FUCHSIA GROUP was electing its first officers:-

Chairman: L B Boullemier

Secretary and Treasurer: H R Hodge

with a committee of six. Secretary/Treasurer Hodge was soon installed at a table and busily engaged in collecting the first subscription of 7/6d (37½p).

The majority of members were from Northampton although Wellingborough, Kettering, Towcester and Brackley were well represented by keen growers, many of whom were already members of the BFS.

The first and foremost object of the Group is to TALK FUCHSIAS; other suggestions and aims being:-

- (1) To help and encourage all classes of growers, especially the beginner.
- (2) To discuss and cover all aspects of cultivation.

- (3) Regular Monthly Meetings.
- (4) Newsletters.
- (5) Lectures and talks both by national names and our own members.
- (6) Members panel for questions and answers.
- (7) To hold our own Annual Show.
- (8) Visits as a group to BFS Shows and Fuchsia Nurseries.

It will be noticed that attention was paid to Capt. Cash's request that the word GROUP be used instead of Society. A minute was passed at the meeting for the Group to be affiliated to the BFS.

To make the first evening interesting Mr Boullemier brought along some hundred blooms and organised a small competition by producing a board of 12 unnamed fuchsias and offering a free BFS subscription for 1968 for the first correct entry. Unfortunately, of the many entries made, no one was all correct; *Elizabeth* was the 'stumbling block' which was confused in many cases with *Mrs Rundle*.

A large specimen plant of *Gartenmeister Bonstedt* was purposely brought along without its label, all but one member stating without doubt it was *Thalia*. I remember having a long discussion at the London Show with BFS Secretary, W G Sharpe and Tom Thorne over this very subject, it being very difficult to tell them apart.

Having the meeting at an 'Inn' seems to prove very popular by the way members made use of the 'refreshment bar' during the interval. The first and very successful meeting was concluded by the new Chairman showing some of his own slides dealing with various exhibits at shows, specimen blooms and propagation, but not too many, 'these are just to whet your appetite'. It was unanimously agreed we should hold our first full meeting in November.

This is Northampton's answer to Capt. Cash's 'DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT'.

---ooo000ooo---

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

Meeting – 1st September 2020

In September each year the Society holds its annual photographic competition. We wish to encourage members to enter photos in the classes in which they will be judged. The competition is intended as fun, so here are a few hints from the judges.

Taking photos

Now is the time to start taking your photos and even improve your technique.

Firstly, get to know your camera and its controls. Maybe look at the guidance leaflet that came with the camera. If you wish to use the controls set at 'auto' that is fine but you will take better photos if you try the other controls. We do not expect members to have the latest or most expensive cameras as all models of digital cameras can take terrific shots. It is the photographer that composes the photo, not the camera with lots of features.

For practice, take lots of photos of anything - it need not be a fuchsia at this stage - as we just want you to follow our guidelines. Take shots from slightly different positions, move nearer or further away and try the zoom control. Avoid distractions in your photos like bright colours, windows or door frames, posters, etc., that are not needed in the photo. Now look on the camera's screen and see the difference this makes. Delete the shots you do not want, this could be most of those you have taken, but it shows you are improving. Only keep your best photos.

Now try photographing plants, using the guidance notes above, and see how much better your shots have become. To help you there are always books and magazines on photography in charity shops and elsewhere. During the Society meetings look more closely at slide shows to see how photos have been composed.

Printing photos

Photographs can be in either portrait or landscape format, with or without a border.

The photo should be well exposed, in focus, not cluttered by other material but with the subject taking up most of the available space. To make it 'look right' the subject does not need to be in the centre of the photograph as it may include a group of flowers.

If you have your own printer, use the paper size advised, 7" x 5". Photo paper need not be expensive; why not buy at a Pound shop, Aldi, or Lidl? You will be surprised how good your photos can look. If you wish, use the 'compatible' ink cartridges specified for your printer to avoid paying for the more expensive branded inks but read the guidance notes for your printer.

If you prefer to use commercial printing, such as at Boots, etc., they will be printed on first class photo paper but check that they offer the size of paper that you need.

Selecting photos for the competition

Having a selection of photos gives the opportunity to show your best shots. Again, see the first paragraph under 'Printing photos' above for hints and be certain your photos meet the requirements specified in the rules below. Enter your name and class number on the back of the photo. If you wish you may write the details on a sticky label that can later be removed. Hand your photos to the judges before the start of the meeting. Entry is free to members.

How the judges 'judge'

It makes our job more interesting if there is a good selection of photos to be judged and the modern digital camera makes it easy for everyone to have a go.

Although judging is largely subjective, we apply the guidance notes shown above to each photo. Is the photo in the right class, is it well exposed, is it in focus, clear of clutter, the minimum of distraction, does it use most of the space in the photo, and is it generally 'looking right'.

You are not limited to entering just one photo, or just one class and we do not expect 'perfect' photographs that would only appear in photography magazines. At the NDFS meeting,

once the winners have been declared, we will both be available should you wish to discuss the techniques in any photos. Even if you do not win this time around, it is still a valuable experience to enjoy taking photographs.

And finally ...

Good Luck!

The Judges

---ooo000ooo---

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

THE RULES

1. You may enter up to three photographs in each class.
2. Enter your name and the class number on the back of each photograph.
3. Maximum size of your photograph to be 7" x 5" unmounted.
4. Fuchsias to be correctly named where possible.
5. Closing time for entries is 7.15pm on the night.
6. The Judges' decision is final.

---ooo000ooo---

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

THE CLASSES

- Class 1 A close-up of Fuchsia flowers showing not more than THREE open blooms. Buds and foliage are permitted.
- Class 2 A branch of a Fuchsia plant showing a number of open blooms. Buds and foliage are permitted.
- Class 3 A well-grown Fuchsia plant in any type of container or display. Multi-pots are permitted.
- Class 4 Any floral display consisting of single or multiple plants of any type in containers or growing naturally.

---ooo000ooo---

FROM FUCHSIA NEWS - WINTER 2020

From Arthur's (Phillips) Articles

The Colour Fuchsia

While musing on what to write, my sister-in-law suggested I should look at why and where the colour *Fuchsia* originated. So, after a little research:

In 1856 aniline dyes were first used to colour fabrics, and the first colour was mauve, but mauve faded in sun light so more research was carried out and the colour now known as fuchsia was born, although there are many differing shades based on the base colour.

Wikipedia says that the colour fuchsia is named after the flower of the fuchsia plant. I cannot think of any fuchsia that has blooms of that particular colour; some may have partial *Fuchsia* colour in the bloom, but I cannot think of a bloom that is total *Fuchsia*.

The closest I can think of is Display but does anyone have any other thoughts?

Bud Selection:

You need to be fairly brave to do this. It means looking at your fuchsia plant and working out which buds are all of about the same size. Then removing everything that is larger including any open blooms. The buds then left on the plant **should** all open at the same time. If you are intending to exhibit the plant this should be carried out approximately two weeks prior to the show.

A little tip I have tried with some success is to water the fuchsia well in that intervening two-week period, this I have found that this helps to swell the buds giving larger blooms. If the blooms show a reluctance to open, withdraw *All* water a couple of days before the show, letting the plant almost wilt, you will find the buds are all starting to open, because the plant thinks it is going to die and wants to open to allow pollination. Restore the water and you **should** have a beautiful fuchsia in full bloom to put on the bench.

---ooo000ooo---

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

SOCIETY OFFICERS:

CHAIRMAN:

Bob Malin 68 North Western Avenue, Kingsthorpe, Northampton NN2 8HL
Tel: 01604 459478
eMail: robert.malin1@ntlworld.com

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Peter Ryder 55 Glenfield Drive, Great Doddington, Wellingborough NN29 7TE
Tel: 01933 279003
eMail: ndfseditor@gmail.com

SECRETARY/SOCIAL SECRETARY:

Marilyn Daniels Shambles, 13 Sedgwick Court, Northampton NN3 8HR
Tel: 01604 450499
eMail: marilyn.ndfs@gmail.com

TREASURER:

Phil Hunt 51 Northleigh Grove, Market Harborough, Leicestershire LE16 9QU
Tel: 01858 433967
eMail: philandchrishunt@gmail.com

EDITOR:

Peter Ryder 55 Glenfield Drive, Great Doddington, Wellingborough NN29 7TE
Tel: 01933 279003
eMail: ndfseditor@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Peter Pettitt 9 Berrydale, Northampton NN3 5EQ
Tel: 01604 412637
eMail: pamandpeterpettitt@yahoo.co.uk

COMMITTEE:

Wendy Addington	01604 495311	Dot Leeke	01604 620941
Clive Gould		Tracey Gould	

SHOW SECRETARY:

Bob Malin 68 North Western Avenue, Kingsthorpe, Northampton NN2 8HL
Tel: 01604 459478
eMail: robert.malin1@ntlworld.com

SHOW COMMITTEE:

Clive Gould Phil Hunt