

Chairman's Chat

I expect, like me, you are wondering if there will be anything left for the show on 6th September. The weather has been singularly unhelpful this year! I am certainly trying very hard not to water too much but the plants are hanging in there. I'm being more diligent with feeding this year as well, to encourage new growth when it gets frazzled by the heat, eaten by the deer or weakened by the insects. ☺ Beans have definitely suffered. Despite the difficulties, can I please make a plea for you to bring plenty of entries. Many of the regular cup holders are not available to enter, which gives you a much better chance! We also want to put on a good show to the judges, who are like gold dust. One of ours is coming from Lewes, so let's make it worth his while and keep our good reputation. I have put the usual show hints and requests on pages 2 and 3. Do please read them as we need your help. Show procedures may seem pedantic, but it's tradition ☺ While on the subject, can I please clarify CLASS 61. I have omitted to say that the jar is a preserves jar, hence the weight guidance, which of course refers to the previous contents. Apologies for any confusion.

There was a very pleasant afternoon gathering of committee and regular helpers, in all about 18 of us, in my garden to celebrate Trevor Sear's 90th birthday. He has been on the committee for many years and still comes to our committee meetings to share his knowledge. He volunteered as Show Secretary during one of our zoom meetings in covid times, after we had sadly lost several committee members, and now advises the show committee. He has provided our banner on show days and our gazebos on village Fair days. Always with a smile and a sense of humour. There were some delicious cakes brought along (thank you everyone) and Trevor and Phyllis had a wonderful afternoon. Thank you, Trevor, Phyllis and Trevor's daughter Karen for supporting WGA for so many years. *Christine*



COMING UP

**SATURDAY 6TH
SEPTEMBER**

**AUTUMN
SHOW**

All the usual
goodies!

TEA

CAKE

GOOD COMPANY

**TUESDAY 16TH
SEPTEMBER**

BEN POPE

**How to make the
most of what
you've got**

A well qualified and
highly thought of
speaker. Should be
really interesting
Poster in the July
newsletter

**AGM ADVANCED
NOTICE
12th November
2025**

The committee have
just decided to
continue the popular
Fish and Chip supper
prior to an AGM
which we will try to
make as brief as
possible, or at least
interesting! So look
out for booking lists
for this

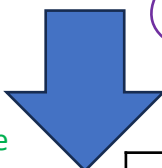
The show starts at 2.30. Please give us until then to complete preparations. Many thanks



SOME REQUESTS

We have a card machine but cash is welcome and actually very helpful.

Please return your Autumn Show cups and your ANNUAL cups on the morning of the show or on Friday between 6pm and 7pm at the hall. Any problems please contact us. Here is a reminder of who holds the cups.



ANNUAL TROPHIES

AUTUMN TROPHIES

Gordon Austin Cup	Louise Ashwell Symes
Hugh Chandler Cup	Catherine Bullock
Hickmott Cup	Louise Ashwell Symes
Jack Simmons Cup	Mary Grove
Moss Silver Rake	Jill Long
Grindling Cup	Catherine Bullock
Runner up	Jill Long
Miss Campbell-Tiley Cup	Catherine Bullock

Farnham Cup Gardener of the Year	Louise Ashwell Symes
Runner up	Catherine Bullock
Miss Farnham Cup for Cook of the Year	Christine Cox
E.J.Pullen photography Trophy	Kaja Van Walt
Shirley Pollock Memorial Trophy for outstanding contribution to the club this year	Trevor Searle

Many of you have offered to help with refreshments at our meetings. Please can you offer the following help at the show:

1.30pm 2 people:

Arrive to put the urn on and help set out the cakes, mugs etc This takes longer than you think and Jan and Barbara, who usually do this, are on the show committee and now have other responsibilities.

2.30 pm onwards : Serve at the tea table for 30 minutes

2.30-3.00

3.00 -3.30

3.30 -4.00

2 people

2 people

2 people

Please tell me your preference by email or phone if you can manage any of this and we will draw up a rota.

If you can give 15 minutes in the kitchen at any point to wash up that would be very helpful. Many of you do this anyway but the more the better! We usually wash up as we go along to make it manageable. There's no rule that says you can't help if you are not on the rota 😊😊😊

Contact us via admin@witleygardening.org

AUTUMN SHOW NEWS SATURDAY 6th SEPTEMBER

MUGS

The price for tea and cake will be slightly higher this year, to cover costs but we intend to serve the tea in mugs. Last year we appealed for you to donate any spare mugs to the club and we still need plenty of these, please. It's fine to bring them on the Friday, or morning of the show. Alternatively, bring your own mug for us to fill 😊😊

AN APPEAL: it would be brilliant if you could bake a cake for the teas in the afternoon. It will take some of the pressure off the committee, who will be setting up on Friday evening and Saturday morning. If you can help with this just send us a quick email. We will be very grateful. 😊😊

SHOW TIPS

- *Please do make use of the hints throughout the schedule. They are there to help.
- *Set up is in the back room where you will find all the vases and water.
- *When displaying in these vases it is useful to bring some newspaper to act as a stabiliser to keep the stems upright.
- *If the class requires e.g 3 of the same, try to find unblemished blooms which are as similar to each other as you can find. Place the blooms all facing forward. The same applies to veg and fruit.
- *If you know the variety, it's good for spectators to learn what does well, so it's helpful, but not essential, to put the variety on your entry card.
- *Remember to cover your food entries lightly with cling film.
- *For class 61, remember it is "floral art" so you should think about the colours you put together and the shapes of the flowers, height etc. You do not need to have grown the flowers yourself.
- *Most importantly, please ask advice if you need it!

GOOD LUCK!

ENTERING

You can enter online or, if paper is better for you then use the form in the schedule and put through my door:

Silver Glade, Gasden Lane Witley GU85QB

The deadline for entering has been extended until **12.00 midday** on Friday 5th.

Please do not go beyond this as it's not fair to the show secretaries and committee, as the rest of the day, including the evening, is spent preparing the entry cards and setting up the hall.

Many thanks, Barbara, Jan and Christine