



March

Monthly News Sheet

Stalham & District Horticultural Society

March 2021

1. As we are still in lockdown we will not be able to hold our annual Spring Show. Restrictions are still in place regarding the number of people who can meet together inside a building. Sadly this has big implications for the Shows and our monthly meetings. However at some stage this year we will hopefully be able to resume everything and we can get back to some kind of normality! I am sure I speak for all the Committee Members in that we look forward to seeing you all again at the earliest opportunity.
2. We have some sad news, Bunney Bindley has passed away. When I joined the Society 17 years ago she was then our Chairwoman and along her late daughter Joy, did a magnificent job in running the Society and both are sorely missed.
3. Also Iris Barnes has sadly died too. Iris had been an active member of the Society since 2004 and was a regular attendee at meetings and was very generous and kind in supporting the Society in so many ways. Cecily Bobbit has also passed away, although she hasn't been able to attend for a while, like Iris, she had been a very active member in her time and she too will be missed by those who knew her.

P.T.O



4. Our Christmas Lunch for 2021 has already been booked! It will be held on Sunday 5th December at How Hill in Ludham. The meal is normally 2 or 3 courses, traditional, or other options are available. The meal includes mince pies or tea or coffee to finish. Time, cost & food choices will be available later in the year. At least we will have something nice to look forward to at the end of the year!

5. Trying to be positive I have been busy with the Autumn Show Schedules & they have been updated class wise and have a fresh new look. I hope you will all approve. A head of it being available on the Society website or if you would just like a paper copy, then please contact me by e-mail on susancarter2@nhs.net or call me on 01692 581090 (after 7.00pm, Monday to Fridays) and I will put a copy in the post for you.

I am hoping to be able to have paper copies available in local shops etc. obviously this will depend on the owner and how they feel about that. I will aim to contact the people I have in mind for this once we are out of lockdown. We have a full range of Novice Classes which have been designed for you to "have a go" but not against the seasoned Show veterans! It's great to see that some people are doing this and the feedback from them is good.

6. As we go to press I don't know whether or not there will be a Plant Fair at the East Ruston Gardens in June. I am hoping there will be as I have been busy growing plants as this is the main money spinner for the Society. Fingers crossed there will be as it is a real fun event and there are lots of plant stalls and garden sundries and crafts for sale as well as refreshments! The stall we normally have there has apparently become "a must go to" as a place to find plants which are good quality, and unusual as well as having a huge variety to choose from. This is a real compliment for all the people who kindly donate to the stall, both members and non-members. So, if you are sowing seeds or re-arranging your garden, please still kindly put any spare plants to one side and pot them up as hopefully we can use them this year.

7. Again we are cancelling, this time it's the trip in June to Gardeners World Live/Good Food Show at the NEC in Birmingham as we currently have no monthly meetings and no idea if the Show itself can be held. This is normally a huge event and is packed with people, in all honesty I can't see it happening this year. However, again being positive we have our fingers firmly crossed for the trip we have booked in September to the RHS Gardens at Wisley in Surrey which are also holding a plant fair and the National Dahlia Championships. It's a wonderful event and there is so much to see and buy! Wisley has recently been re-vamped and improved so there will be better facilities to enjoy. As our Society is affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society, Stalham & District Horticultural Society members can have free entry, meaning you would only have to pay for the coach! Also we have a local pick up point in Sutton where we can safely leave our cars until our return, so no travelling to Norwich or Great Yarmouth to pick up the coach. Times, fare and other details to be confirmed.

P.T.O

Stalham Flower Arranging Group

8. This group is run by our Chairwoman, Mrs Joanna Berry and meets monthly in "The Stables" which is adjoining the Baptist Church, & is situated in Stalham High Street. At present, with the restriction still in place they are still unable to meet. However, you would be very welcome contact her to see what it is all about and how you can join when meetings resume. Please see our Society website for details www.stalhamhorticultural.co.uk or telephone Joanna on 01692 650321.

9. In June, St Michaels Church in Sutton are hoping to hold their Annual Flower Festival. If you have never been then please try to as local flower arrangers and members of our own Flower Arranging Group put on a display to help raise money for improvements to the church. Refreshments are also available. Watch this space for further details!

