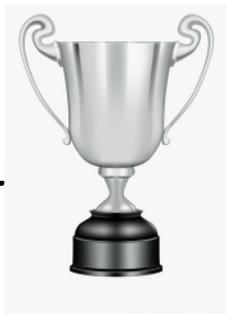


Chair Vija Vilcins
Vice Chair Kathy Aitken
Secretary Paula Traquair
Treasurer Ron Roffey



President Nicolas Bevan
Vice President Joyce Snipp
Vice President Jillian Smith



Charlton & Blackheath
Amateur Horticultural Society
70th Anniversary 2020
www.cabahs.wordpress.com

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2020

Welcome to our 70th Annual General Meeting, and our Platinum Anniversary! The agenda this evening is as follows:

- 1 President & Chair's welcome.
- 2 To confirm minutes of the 2019 AGM.
- 3 To receive the Chair's review of 2019.
- 4 To receive the Treasurer's report for 2019.
- 5 To elect officers and committee for 2019/2020.
- 6 To present the Show Table cup.
- 7 Any other business including Old Pond Garden project.

The Show Table Cup is presented to the member who earned the highest points in the year, and is a tradition that has been going since 1955. The cup will be on display on the Show Table tonight before presentation, do go and have a look at some of the engraved names of people who have won over the years - and become inspired! We hold a Show Table every month except when the Spring and Autumn Shows are on, and whether you want to compete or just bring something occasionally, please join in.

Membership subscriptions can be renewed tonight, and new members are welcome to join, but please do this after the business of the AGM has been completed.

Notes for your diary (also see **What's On** page of our website)

- **Hever Castle Kent -Snowdrop walk**, from 8 Feb onwards, self-guided walks.
- **Kew Orchid Festival**, until 8 March, free with normal entry fee (around £15)
- **Beth Chatto, a life in plants** a talk at the Gardens Trust Cowcross St EC1, 26 Feb 6.30-8pm £15
- **Potato day & Seed Fair**, Pennards Potatoes and many stalls, free event at the Garden Museum, Lambeth, 1 March.
- **Giant Houseplant takeover**, RHS Wisley, until 1 March, free with normal admission fee

Garden Visits 2020

Anna has arranged the first visit of the year, on Friday 1st May to the Beth Chatto Gardens in Essex. The wonderful gardens include the famous Gravel Garden, full of sculptural, drought-tolerant plants, and there are also woodland walks and a beautiful pond. The plant nursery and café complete a gardener's paradise! The cost is £23.50

which includes the coach and garden entry, and there may be the opportunity of a garden tour too. Place can be reserved with full payment tonight, see Anna by the plant sales table.

Another date for your diary - the next garden visit being organized will be to RHS Hyde Hall on Wednesday 5th August, details to come.

Old Pond Garden Restoration Project

Details of this exciting new project will be announced tonight, and the first "Launch" meeting will be in the Old Pond Garden itself on Sunday 23rd February at 11am. There is no commitment at this stage, so please just come along if you are interested. The Old Pond Garden is a fabulous resource (who doesn't secretly crave a walled garden?) and is crying out for a little love and care to become beautiful again.

(We would be grateful if you can sign up by the Noticeboard if you are likely to come so we get an idea of numbers, but the more the merrier).

Pat's 10 jobs for February:

1. You can renovate overgrown hedges now such as beech and hawthorn and can reduce by up to a half, but complete soon as birds will be getting ready to nest.
2. The end of the month is the time to cut back Group 3 clematis, those that flower in late summer and autumn eg viticella making sure you feed with some bonemeal and give a mulch with compost if you can. Shoots on these have been growing fast due to the mild weather and rain and if you don't hard prune back to 12 inches your flowers will be too high up.
3. Hardy shrubs that flower on new wood, such as buddleja davidii, can be pruned back now.
4. Also a good time to prune your roses and give them a feed. Aim to cut out any dead wood and prune to an outward facing bud. I have hacked back my Penelope shrub rose as it had become far too large for the space, and am praying I don't lose all the flowers this year!
5. Prune established Wisteria and Campsis now too, back to two or three buds.
6. Once flowers fade cut back flowers on winter flowering jasmine, which can put on amazing growth once the weather warms up.
7. Lift and divide snowdrops and aconites once they have flowered, as they can become very congested and will stop flowering. Mulch with leaf litter if available.
8. Don't forget to feed the birds who will be looking out for likely places to nest, but clear up debris under feeders to discourage rodents.
9. Sow broad beans, sprouts and shallots under cover now and tomatoes towards the end of the month, if you have a heated propagator.
10. Continue planting fruit trees and bushes if the soil is not frozen or waterlogged.

Thank you for braving the tail end of Storm Dennis and coming to our AGM tonight.

Our next meeting will be on March 16th, when we will have a talk by Russell Bowes on the "Dig for Victory" campaign. (There will be a Show Table at that meeting ☺)

Contact us on: cabahshortisoc@gmail.com



Charlton & Blackheath Amateur Horticultural Society

Founded 1950

69th FINANCIAL STATEMENT Year Ended 31st December 2019

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
	£	£
INCOME		
Members subscriptions	1,245	1,120
Raffle profit	393	430
Sales table	389	475
Garden visits	290	69
Donations (net)	30	-
Plant Fairs	619	394
TOTAL INCOME	<u>£2,966</u>	<u>£2,488</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Hire of rooms	491	400
Speakers	600	325
Special Lecture (net)	361	-
Affiliation Fees	151	147
Public Liability Insurance	75	75
Photocopying	289	208
Printing Stationery etc	26	65
Refreshments	47	36
Miscellaneous	122	30
Donations (net)	-	57
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>£2,162</u>	<u>£1,343</u>
NET PROFIT	<u>£804</u>	<u>£1,145</u>

FINANCIAL POSITION As at 31st December 2019

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
	£	£
ASSETS		
Current Account	6,654	5,921
Cash in Hand	84	13
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>£6,738</u>	<u>£5,934</u>
LIABILITIES		
Balance brought forward	5,934	4,789
Net Profit	804	1,145
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>£6,738</u>	<u>£5,934</u>

**CHARLTON & BLACKHEATH AMATEUR
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

**Summary of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Society held on
Monday 18th February 2019 at Charlton House SE7, commencing at 7.30 pm.**

Ms Vija Vilcins in the Chair.

- 1 President's Welcome:** The President welcomed members to the AGM and urged members to respond and make suggestions at the meeting.
- 2 Chair's Welcome:** Vija welcomed everybody and had a slide show to accompany her review.
- 3 Chair's Review of 2018:** The Chair said the society wanted to increase our membership and to consolidate our finances and we have succeeded in doing both. We had a variety of speakers and we value feedback from members on how these talks are received. Our Spring show was successful and we decided to introduce an arrangement of spring flowers in a teacup. We raised £262 at the Horn Fair and sold all our plants at the Greenwich Parksfest. We are very grateful to members for donations of plants to sell at these events. There were outings to Sissinghurst and Hyde Hall and photos are on the website. Anna organised a 'secret garden' visit. Our website and Facebook page are becoming more popular. We have made significant donations to the Greenwich and Bexley Hospice this year. We introduced a members' coffee morning to meet at Charlton House which has proved very successful. We are keen to give members the benefit of our success. One way of doing this was to give away a bag of Pipit bulbs with every bag of bulbs which was bought in the autumn. Towards the end of the year a number of members also became involved in Charlton House's Moon Garden venture. We dealt with the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation effectively.

To sum up:

- 1 We will continue to build on our successes and review what makes the most significant difference to the work we do.
- 2 We will continue with our two main public events and use a high profile speaker at least once a year.
- 1 The Society will be 70 years old in 2020 and this calls for celebration. We have had a very successful year, thanks to the hard work of our committee and the members who consistently support our efforts.

The President thanked the Chair for her review and said he wanted to record our thanks for the contribution she has made to the society.

- 4. Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer reported a profit for the year of £1145 and total funds amounting to £5934. He reviewed the significant details that contributed to the result.
- 5. Election of Officers and Committee:** The Chair and existing members of the Committee were re-elected en-bloc. The President conducted the election of Officers and members for the ensuing year. In addition Kay Pemberton was elected to stand on the committee.

The Chair thanked the President for overseeing the election of Officers and the Committee and gave special thanks to Jane Dyer for running the raffle at our meetings. He announced the winners of the Show Table.

- 6. The Show Table Cup:** The Chair presented the cup to Kathy Aitken, Annie Hart came second and Joyce Snipp came third.
- 7. Minutes of the 2018 AGM:** The minutes of the 2018 AGM were approved as a true record.
- 8. AOB:**
 - a. The Chair announced we would be going to Wisley in May.
 - b. She asked members to send their photos to Kathy and she will put them on the website.
 - c. We have a suggestion box and ideas have been gratefully received, including a summer picnic in the grounds of Charlton House (if permissible).

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.35 pm.