

Q2 2023

LHS Newsletter

Our Show

The Spring Show

The Spring Show and AGM was a great success with a remarkable display of different flowers and vegetables. It's always nice to see what people can come up with so early

in the season and has become an annual sign that spring – and the new growing season – is really here.

We hope you enjoy the photographs of some of the exhibits that are in this issue.

The AGM was a lively affair with reports from the president and committee and some excellent questions from attendees.

A very important step was taken when Phil Smith agreed to become chairman for the next year, a position we have lacked for some time. Some words from Phil are below.



BBQ 25th June

Save the Date! We are having a BBQ for all our members on Sunday the 25th

of June after the Store closes (12:30), so please do come along and take the chance to socialise, enjoy a bite to eat and soak up the June sunshine (fingers crossed!).

It will be held at the grassy area next to the overflow car park by the Store.

Please bring your own food and utensils and we'll provide the BBQs to cook on and a supply of tea and coffee.

Come to the BBQ



Phil's Report

Chairman's Update

Hello everyone,

At the Society's Annual General Meeting on 15th March, I took on the vacant role of Chairman for the coming year so that the Society has a leader to coordinate the tasks that need to get done for LHS to remain a successful and viable organisation.



For many more years than I have been a member, Roly (Edwards) has, with the support of his wife Pam, led the Society as Chairman and we owe them both a great debt of gratitude for the huge effort that they have put in to making the Society the success that it is today.

Everyone needs to understand though that Roly has now stepped aside from leading LHS on a daily basis and therefore more of us need to 'step forward' to take a more active role in running the Society.

As I said in my Committee Report to the AGM, we have a problem that too much of the load of running the Society has been falling on too few shoulders. The Committee consists of just SEVEN people to do all the tasks. The rules of the Society envisage up the THIRTY members on the Committee, focussing on the different aspect of running LHS.

So, I and all the Committee are hugely grateful to David Leach for answering the call to assist Euan (Niven) with the Hon. Treasurer role, so that he can focus more on managing the Stores. Thank you, David.

I am similarly delighted that Stephen Williams has volunteered to coordinate the tasks that are needed to organise the Annual Show in September. Thank you, Stephen.



However, Stephen needs help because organising the Show is a major undertaking. Before he retired, Roly documented all the tasks that need to happen and all the initial planning including booking the Hall and the Judges has been done. But now please will those who enjoy "showing" and want the Show to continue please volunteer to help Stephen with the planning over the next five months and the organisation on the day. Stephen can be contacted at show@leatherheadhortsoc.org.uk



The next role that we need assistance with please is Publicity. David Wells has for many years maintained the relationships with the advertisers who support the annual production of the LHS Handbook, as well as printing the posters for events that we run. He wishes to hand on to someone else, so I'd be really grateful if someone with an interest in this aspect of supporting the Society would offer to learn from David this year with a view to taking on the role next March.



If you'd like to know more, please contact David at publicity@leatherheadhortsoc.org.uk

We are achieving record-breaking sales at The Store this Spring, thank you to everyone who works to make that possible.

So, if you're buying from The Stores, please don't forget to volunteer for YOUR contribution to keeping it going on at least one Sunday in the season as either a Helper or Cashier. Just sign up on the rota that's displayed.



*Phil's Gardening
Update*

I hope your early sowings have survived 'Dry February' and 'Wet March'. My Broad Beans, sown at the end of January are doing very well under Enviromesh, as are the



Early Peas that I sowed in toilet roll inners for

undisturbed, eco-friendly transplanting. The eagle eyed can also spot the first inter-sowing of Radish!

My earliest tomato sowings are coming on strongly in the greenhouse and this heritage outdoor variety 'Sub Arctic Plenty' are now hardening off in the Spring sunshine.

Finally, my early spinach (note the defences of 'Slug Gone' and crushed egg shells!) and lettuce are now planted out,

again protected from inclement weather by Enviromesh.

We've also had two or three harvests of fresh rhubarb already this season!

Happy Gardening to all ... In the last couple of months we've made great progress with securing the continued success of the Society.

Please volunteer to help because this is a volunteer organisation, and your contribution will be really appreciated.

Phil Smith

Chairman

If you have any gardening updates that you'd like to share, please send them to us at communications@leatherheadhortsoc.org.uk



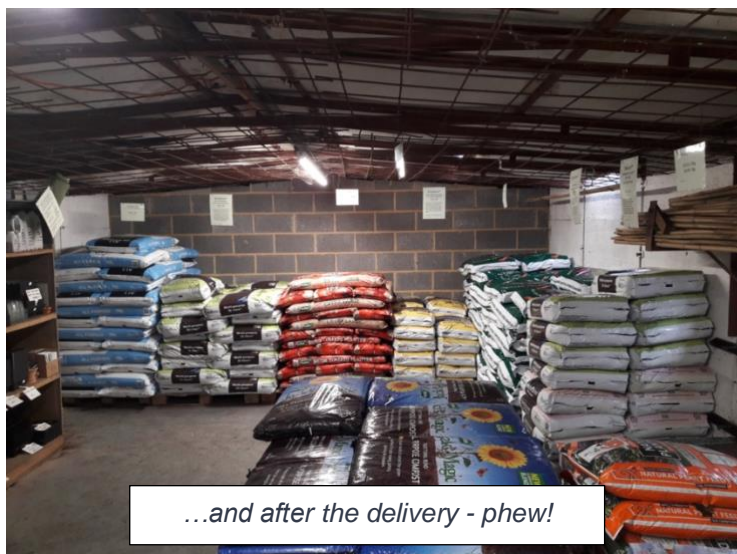
Stores News

The Stores

Many thanks to all our customers who came to the Store and helped us achieve record takings last Sunday. We ran out of Growbags last week, but we will have more going forwards.



The Store before a delivery...



...and after the delivery - phew!

We want new members to join LHS so if you know of keen gardeners or allotment holders who aren't members, please tell them about us.

New products recently arrived:

Ultrafine Woven Insect Mesh 3m wide x 100m – the mesh size is 0.28mm x 0.79mm so white fly and carrot fly can't penetrate and it's ideal for protecting all your cabbages etc. Cost £3.80/metre.

Osmacote Exact 5gm tablets. Cost £1.80 for 25 tablets. These tablets release fertiliser over 5/6 months and are ideal for hanging baskets and pots – apply 1 tablet per litre of pot or basket. The Amazon price is over £5.00 for 25 tablets.



Mypex woven Ground Cover with gridlines is stocked in 2 widths:

- 1.0m wide @ £0.50 per metre – good for paths
- 3.3m wide @ £1.65 per metre

Finally, the Store Rota always needs volunteers.

So, please look at the board when you next visit the Store and put your name down for a Sunday morning duty. The volunteer list is available at the Store or please email Euan with the dates you can help: euan.niven@btinternet.com or phone Euan on 07966 522 534

We keep our prices low by running the Stores with volunteers. This benefits all our members. It's a sociable and worthwhile way to spend just one or two (or more) Sunday mornings each year.

And Finally

The RHS and NVS (National Vegetable Society) magazines are available to read or borrow in the Store, so grab them next time you are there.

As ever, if you haven't already done so, come down to the Stores and renew your membership. It's just £4 for the year, and that's per household, not per person. That gets you access to the Stores for the year where the prices are lower because it's run by our members and for our members.

