

# Saffron Walden Horticultural Society

NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2013

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Show Dates 2014

**Spring Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April**

**Summer Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June**

**Autumn Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September**

**All at Golden Acre Community Centre, Ross Close SW**

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 10am to 4 pm**

**Coffee Day & Open Garden with plant for sale in aid of MACMILLAN NURSES** at the home of Yvonne Law,

86 Goddard Way. S.W.

**1<sup>st</sup> October Evening Talks Start with a**

Talk by Nigel Start on Self-Sufficiency from your garden.

Don't forget to collect your

**Daffodil bulb** at the October meeting for the Daffodil competition at the Spring Show.

**5<sup>th</sup> November Talk** "You should have been here last week" by Margaret Lynch

**3<sup>rd</sup> December AGM – followed by a Social evening** and slide show of the shows and outings using our new Projector equipment

Please come. Venue, as usual

Bowls Club Abbey Lane at 8.00 pm.

See Handbook for all details.

If any member needs a lift to the Meetings, please contact a Committee member who will try and arrange this.

### Plant Stalls at Society Shows

There is a stall at every show selling members' surplus plants and produce for the benefit of the Society.

Members who wish to donate plants etc but are unable to attend the shows can tel. Kate Chambers on 01763 838754 to arrange collection

Our web site [www.swhortsoc.org.uk](http://www.swhortsoc.org.uk) contains photographs of shows and current information about the Society. Any photographs of Society events for posting to the site can be e-mailed to Annie Erdman at [annie@erdman.demon.co.uk](mailto:annie@erdman.demon.co.uk)

## Autumn Show

Despite the weather conditions we had a successful Summer Show with everyone doing their best to enter whatever was available in their garden. Hopefully, now that we have had rain and sunshine all the flowers and vegetables will be at their best for the Autumn Show on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September being held in the Golden Acre Community Centre, Ross Close, Saffron Walden. Entries must be staged between 8.30am and 10.30am and the show will open to the public at 2.00 pm with prizes being presented by the Mayor at 3.30 pm, followed at 4.00 pm by an auction of produce. Entry forms are in the handbook and on the website and should be sent to the Show Secretary, Yvonne Bishop, by Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September. **Please remember to mark on your entry forms any exhibits that are not to be included in the auction.** We are always happy to welcome new exhibitors and hope you will find something of interest from the show schedule in the handbook and if you want any help with staging your exhibits there will be plenty of people to help you. There are plenty of attractions at the show, apart from the exhibits, there is a plant stall and raffle. Tea, coffee and cakes will also be available.

**SHOWING TIPS – Important. Check your schedule** before leaving home to make sure that you have the correct number of exhibits for the classes you are entering, if possible take some extras in case of mishap. **HAPPY SHOWING.**

### Review of 2013 Outings

Three very different gardens were enjoyed by members during early summer. English Heritage's £20 million restoration of the formal gardens at **Wrest Park** surprised us by its huge scale and grandeur. We admired the largest and oldest wisteria in the country. The tulip beds of bright reds and oranges with huge peony heads looked stunning. **Ousden house** was a delight. The sun shone brightly on a series of wonderful gardens crammed full of flowers, especially aquilegias. The owners were very knowledgeable, willing to share experiences of their 15 years developing this lovely garden. Every area was different; from a huge natural lake (complete with a lovely sculpture of a racehorse and foal) to herbaceous borders over-looking a rural landscape. The owners kindly let us look around their charming house, where we had Lunch in an elegant dining room and in the suntrap courtyard. Finally two sunny hours were enjoyed wandering round the Abbey gardens in Bury St Edmunds.

**Ashdon Manor** is a secret gem, local to us. An intimate garden with stunning lily lake and bridge, peony beds, fruit garden, arboretum and other small unique gardens. Sitting areas and terraces with climbers and roses just coming into bloom continued to delight us all. We enjoyed tea and homemade cakes in the sunshine and extreme kindness of our hosts was much appreciated by us all. A super garden for the final visit.

**If you know of a similarly stunning local garden to visit next year, please tell Jackie.**