

CSGGA Newsletter

October 2023



RHS Affiliated Membership Number: 10570237

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Next Month's Talk – Wildlife Garden Forum – 9th November 8pm in the Memorial Hall, School Lane, CSG

Annual General Meeting

We welcomed 34 members to the meeting. The reports from both the Chairman and the Treasurer were considered and the Committee, as shown at the foot of this newsletter, was elected as was Richard Bolton as the . We were delighted that two new members, Gill Aikens and Vicky Mogford, were elected to the Committee. Jan Bradley stood down as Secretary, but will remain on the Committee, and Gill Aikens was elected into that role. Caroline Jackson also stood down from the Committee. We thank them both for their dedication, enthusiasm and commitment to the Gardens Association over many years.

The Minutes of the Meeting will be emailed to members

once they are available.

After the formalities of the meeting, we enjoyed a drink, some nibbles and a garden themed quiz to allow time for the judging to take place of the wonderful entries to the Autumn Show.



More photographs of the exhibits will be available on our website shortly or see our Facebook page [Chalfont St Giles Gardens Association FB Group | Facebook](#)

Autumn Show 2023 Results

| | | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
|----------|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Class 1 | Vase of Asters, 3 blooms | Margaret Dykes | NA | NA |
| class 2 | A spray of Fuchsia blooms, | Caroline Jackson | Peter Bentall | Raj Patel |
| Class 3 | Vase of Roses, 3 blooms, 1 variety | Caroline Jackson | Peter Bentall | Mary Holloway |
| Class 4 | Chrysanthemums, 3 blooms of any kind, may be mixed | NA | NA | NA |
| Class 5 | Any other flower, at least 3 stems, can be a mix of varieties | Vicky Mogford | Peter Bentall | Caroline Jackson |
| Class 6 | Dahlia, 3 blooms, 1 variety | Margaret Dykes | Caroline Jackson | NA |
| Class 7 | 3 Apples, dessert or cooking, 1 cultivar | Claire Hodgson | Janet Worley | Peter Bentall |
| Class 8 | Any other fruit | Margaret Dykes | Sam Patel | Peter Bentall |
| Class 9 | Tomatoes, same variety or 1 truss, any type, with calyx in a dish | Caroline Jackson | Janet Worley | Margaret Dykes |
| Class 10 | Trug or basket of salad plants, at least 3 varieties, not more than 60cm x 30 cm | Caroline Jackson | NA | NA |
| Class 11 | 1 Pumpkin / Winter squash or Gourd | Alan Fenton | Chin Fenton | Margaret Dykes |
| Class 12 | Cook's Delight, trug or basket of mixed vegetables, at least 3 varieties | Jan Bradley | Peter Bentall | Chin Fenton |
| Class 13 | Flowering Pot Plant (in flower) can be indoor or outdoor, including bulbs & orchids | Chin Fenton | Moiya Stroomer | Eleanor O'Connor |
| Class 14 | Foliage Pot Plant – (No flowers) can be indoor or outdoor, max pot size 8 inches | Eleanor O'Connor | Caroline Jackson | Claire Hodgson |
| Class 15 | 3 bunches of culinary herbs, different kinds | Peter Bentall | NA | NA |
| Class 16 | Mixed Foliage Display (No Flowering Material) in a vase or jug. | Margaret Dykes | Gill Luker | Claire Hodgson |
| Class 17 | Cactus or succulent, pot no to exceed 20 cm | Peter Bentall | Margaret Dykes | Mary Holloway |
| Class 18 | Bonsai tree, pot not to exceed, 15 cm | Sam Patel | Raj Patel | NA |
| Class 19 | Carnivorous plant, any variety, pot not to exceed 15cm | Caroline Jackson | Raj Patel | Peter Bentall |

Congratulations to Caroline Jackson who was the overall winner and was awarded the Fenton Cup. Congratulation also to Margaret Dykes who was awarded the Banksian Medal as the member who received the most points in both the Spring and Autumn Shows for 2023,

M's Action Diary for October

- Cut back buddleia, lavatera and tall roses by half to prevent wind damage.
- Plant spring flowering bulbs, bedding and perennials.
- Clear summer bedding plants from beds and borders and place on compost heap.
- Dig up gladiolus corms and store over winter in a cool dark place.
- Lift dahlia tubers after first frosts. Cut back stems and stand them upside down for a couple of weeks to dry before laying in a tray of dry compost. Store somewhere cool and frost free.
- Keep lawns free of fallen fruit and leaves.
- Empty ceramic post and bring under cover to prevent frost damage Plain leaves appearing on variegated plants should be cut back.
- Sow sweet peas.
- Weeds will still be growing so remove as many as you can before they set seed.



Green Gardening Tip – Nectar-rich Bulbs

As we prepare our gardens for winter, it's important for our wildlife we also plan for Spring. Planting nectar-rich spring bulbs now will ensure there's plenty of food for bees when they wake up in the Spring. Choosing varieties that are rich in both nectar and pollen will be a lifeline for the first emerging bumblebees, some of which come out from hibernation as early as February. Plant a succession of spring bulbs which will flower over a long period, not only will you enjoy the welcome colour to brighten your day but attract a greater variety of pollinators. Bulbs to choose for a pollinator friendly feast include: snowdrops, winter aconite (although both best planted "in the green" in Spring) crocus, snake's head fritillary grape hyacinths, and camassias. To see how we have helped the pollinators in our village, see the next article!



Nurturing Nature – Bulb Planting

As part of our Nurturing Nature initiative, we were fortunate to receive grant funding from the Parish Council to buy bulbs for the village. Planting commenced earlier this month when members of the Gardens Association joined the two beaver colonies to plant crocus and snowdrops around the War Memorial by the Reading Room, at the Memorial Hall and along the footpath behind Shakman House and on a small verge by Up Corner Close. We also planted wild daffodils and fritillaries along the verge adjoining Pheasant Hill and along Riverside Walk, the footpath behind the village pond.



We also received a donation of several trays of winter-flowering pansies from Yaldens, which were planted around the Memorial Hall and behind Shakman House.

Thank you to all involved.

Well-being Event

We also participated in a wellbeing event organised by the Revitalization Committee in the Memorial Hall, where we extolled the many health benefits of gardening. We were delighted to attract several new members. Margaret brought some quinces and Raj a bonsai plant for the display. We made use of our new Gardens Association banner and showed a slide show of our events and activities including the holidays and outings.



Your CSGGA Committee

Chairman and Membership Secretary:

Briony Wickenden Mulberry House, 54 Milton Fields, Chalfont St Giles, HP8 4EP 01494879482

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Secretary:

Gill Aikens, Roughwood, London Road, Chalfont St Giles HP8 4ND 01494 873113 gpaikens1@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Margaret Dykes, 4 Roughwood Fields, Roughwood Lane, Chalfont St Giles, HP8 4AA 01494 874511

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Committee Members:

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| Jan Bradley | 01494 874704 |
| Mary Holloway | 01494 875793 |
| Eleanor O'Connor | 01494 875646 |
| Sam Patel | 01494 875319 |

New Committee members are always welcome. We are a friendly bunch! Please contact a committee member to find out more if you're interested in joining us.