

WESTON HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

September 2024

Dear Members

September is upon us and the nights are drawing in and temperatures are falling. Our Summer is passing and early Autumn is here.

It is very important to continue dead-heading annuals e.g. cosmos, lavatera, marigolds and tithonia to extent their flowering until late October. Similary dahlias need daily dead heading to prolong them flowering until the first frosts appear.

The vegetable patch has done very well this year with good yields of runner beans, onions. beetroots, garlic, sweet peppers and outdoor tomatoes. On the downside I don't have much luck with lettuces, I have a glut of them in Spring and early Summer, but I cannot get lettuce seeds to germinate when the temperature rises in Summer. I would welcome any advice. It may be an idea to have a meeting to discuss our failures and successes in the growing season. We may be able to resolve our problem plants for next year.

The dreaded tomato blight has appeared this week in my garden. I have been cutting back the infected leaves daily and hope that the green tomatoes will ripen, or I will have to take the tomatoes off the plants to ripen on a window sill.

We held our Annual Show on August 10th at St Paul's Church Hall. Entries were very similar to last year's entries. This year the flowers and pot plant entries were up with the vegetable numbers down. Photography and Homecraft entries were similar to last year's entries,

The following Trophies were awarded:

Best in Flower Section; Jane Bird- Planted Tub.

Best in Vegetable Section; Mr Humphris- Trug of Vegetables.

Best in Pot Plant Section; John Chapman -Foliage Plant.

Best in Homecraft Section; Zoe Richards - Victoria Sponge.

Best in Photography Section; B Mangena - My Pet Brown Spaniel.

Children's Section; U6 Corinne McDermott – Animal made from vegetables – Giraffe

U11 Aoife McDermott – Animal made from vegetables – Turtle

Our speaker for the June meeting was Lesley Pattenden, and her talk was entitled 'Bee Keeping and a Taste of Honey'. Lesley was a very knowledgeable and entertaining speaker, and I am sure we all went home and looked out for the bees to visiting our gardens.

Our September Meeting **will not** be held on Thursday 12th September but on **Thursday 19th September**. We are going to visit Milton Cemetery at 6.30pm to have a guided tour of the cemetery/arboretum. Mr Steve Clarke is a woodland expert and tree specialist.

We will meet at the top car park which is off Lower Bristol Road, not Milton Road, The car park only has spaces for 10 cars so it may be easier to park on the road and walk down to the car park.

There are toilet facilities at the cemetery. If you could let me know if you are able to attend we may be able to arrange for tea and biscuits after the tour.

I can be contacted on my mobile 07983691157 or on my email 1951chapman@gmail.com if any more information is required.

Kind regards,

John Chapman,

Chairman