

Points scored in our April Mini-Show

Ray Martin 16
Caroll Wallace 14
Rachel Bischoff 11
Enid Castle 10

Congratulations to Ray our Chairman on winning the Spring Cup and a big thank you to all 15 entrants who took part in the Spring Show. A reminder that all points from the Spring Mini Show will be carried forward to be added to the points scored at our Autumn Mini Show. The member with the highest aggregate score will be awarded the Elizabeth Davy Cup.

Charity Money £5.35

“Felixstowe Sings Out Against Cancer”

Is a concert in memory of Wendy Crampton who worked so hard for many years for Cancer Research UK.

Date: Friday 24th April

Venue: River of Life Church- 2 Carr Road. Felixstowe

Time: 7.30pm

Cost:£10.00 Adults £5.00 U16

Tickets are available from: J&C Webb and Abbeygate Lighting or by calling 01394 270093

Hope to see you there!

Free to Good Home!

A green plastic compost bin, please contact 01394 272695 if you are interested. Also offers invited for 50m of Seep Hose, which is no longer needed.

Seafront Gardens

Rachel Bischoff and Liz Ablett went down to the gardens yesterday to ‘get involved’ with the redevelopment project. Rachel will update us all at our May meeting, but I understand that the gardens are progressing well. Thanks for representing us ladies.

Visit our website www.felixstowehorticultural.co.uk

Felixstowe and District Horticultural Society

Next Meeting – 13 May 2015



Cathy Watson Easy Care Border Planting

Newsletter – May 2015

Phone Queries: Please contact Caroll Wallace 01394 272695

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The Chairman says

A disappointingly small number of members attended the fascinating talk by the Stour Valley Lavender Company (see Carol's report below), but I'm sure that everyone who did come along enjoyed the evening.

The Spring show was fairly well supported, especially in the 'Mystery daffodil' class. There were some excellent entries of the two 2015 varieties, Fortune and Ice Follies but also a few of last year's Sir Winston Churchill. The mystery tulip class was a real mystery because I bought a sack of mixed Darwin tulips but what grew were all purple! Carol was the only one who managed to enter the class with a superb pot of blooms, but I'd be interested to hear how the others turned out? Mine were purple like Carol's but grew very poorly. My hyacinths were superb, very fragrant and completely finished two weeks ago! We'll just have to try again next year!

We've been selling flower pouches to members over the last two months, I would love to see as many entries in the pouch class as possible so that we can see a lovely 'wall of blooms' at the show in July. Angela and Jeremy along with their 'team' are well on with preparations for the show. Please, please, please, let's all support them by entering as many classes as we can to ensure the continued success of our annual show.

I'm sure you're all busy, sowing seeds, taking cuttings and getting ready for a flowerful summer. **Spare seedlings and cuttings** will be very welcome for our stand at the **OFCA Summer Fair** on 13th June. As members of OFCA we benefit from greatly reduced rates on hall hire and part of our membership agreement is to support the OFCA Fair. **Any plants or produce** (rhubarb and broad beans are always very popular) will be very welcome on the morning of the Fair, or please give me a call on 07867973229.

Hopefully, I'll see many of you at Malvern Spring show. We'll be in the Plant Societies Marquee on the junction of Avenue F and Row 4.

Spring is a great season, I hope you're all able to get out into the garden and enjoy it.

I believe that membership of our Society is very worthwhile; we have some excellent speakers at our meetings, our trips are great value and well supported. Why am I saying all this? Well, we'd love it if more people shared the benefits! Tell your friends and neighbours, bring them to the meetings and help us make our Society even better.

Ray Martin

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Secretary's Message

Our entertaining speaker Mark DeRoy and his wife Adrienne formed The Stour Valley Lavender Company twenty years ago when there were only three in the country including Norfolk Lavender. There are now twenty nine Lavender farmers in the UK. In order to stay on friendly terms with Norfolk Lavender they decided to concentrate on producing organically only the finest medicinal essential oil together with only the finest culinary essential oils.

We learned that the extraction method of obtaining these oils has remained the same for the last 4000 years! In the 17th century Lavender was considered as a perfume for men and it was not until Queen Victoria expressed her love for it that it became a women's fragrance.

Lavender oil is apparently the most complex of all oils and a very good quality English Lavender plant contain such elements as Limonene (lemon), Ginger and Geranium amongst its many components.

Lavender oil is the only essential oil which can be applied directly to the skin without dilution. Its many uses include sleep enhancement, skin moisturiser, insect repellent, perfume, bath oil, moth repellent---- in fact it is a wonder oil!

Medicinal Lavender oil is a natural pain reliever for joint pain and can also be used to control toothache and to reduce skin scarring.

With twenty years of lavender growing experience, Mark gave advice on cultivation, which included planting it in a sunny situation in a light free-draining soil. In Spring it is best to cut plants back hard to 20cm/6inches to prevent straggly/woody plant growth. The prunings can be used as cuttings to produce more plants. Using this regime ensures the best flower production in summer.

Many members queued in the interval to buy some of the interesting products available.

Mark and Adrienne will be at the Hadleigh Show on 16th May and also at Helmingham Hall Spring Plant Fair on Sun 24th May, where they will be hoping to sell vast quantities of their delicious Lavender Ice Cream!

Looking forward to seeing many of you on our exciting coach trip to Malvern Spring Show, which is before our next meeting. Cathy Watson from Katie's Garden Centre will be joining us at the 13th May meeting to talk on Easy Care Border planting – and will hopefully have a great range of plants for sale as well.

Carol Wallace

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