

## **OFCA Christmas card scheme**

The OFCA Christmas card scheme is running again this year, for those who would like a competitively priced card delivery service in the local Felixstowe area (includes Walton and Trimleys, but NOT Kirton). Cost is 25p per envelope – which must have FULL postal address please. Take your cards along to the Old Felixstowe Community Centre in Ferry Road from Wednesday 9th to Friday 11th which will be open from 9-11am; and on Saturday 12th between 10-12 noon.

## **Coach Trip to RHS Flower Show Cardiff**

A 3 day, 2 night, coach trip is being planned to visit the RHS Flower Show at Cardiff from Friday 15th – Sunday 17th April 2016. We will also be visiting RHS Wisley on our way to Cardiff; and the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew on our way home. Price of £190 per person sharing twin or double rooms, or £230 for single room includes coach, 2 nights' bed, breakfast and dinner at the Parc Hotel, as well as all entrances. Itinerary and booking forms are now available. Deposits will be taken by Cynthia Merry at our December meeting, after which the trip will be opened to non-members if there are seats still available.

## **2016 Programme of Speakers**

Our Programme of Speakers for 2016 has now been completed and you can see it on our website [www.felixstowehorticultural.co.uk](http://www.felixstowehorticultural.co.uk). We are delighted that Charlie Haylock is returning to talk to us and will be at our January meeting. Charlie will be speaking about the History of Spoken English. Let family and friends know that they are all welcome to come along. Visitors will pay £5 at this meeting.

# **Felixstowe and District Horticultural Society**

**Next Meeting – 8 December 2015**



**A.G.M.  
And  
Christmas Party**

## **Newsletter – December 2015**

Phone Queries: Please contact Caroll Wallace 01394 272695

## **Secretary's Message**

A Busy November meeting saw us welcome 11 visitors who were keen to learn about the history of the world famous Beth Chatto Gardens. David Ward who has worked alongside Beth since 1983 gave us a fascinating insight into the development of the gardens which were initially created in 1960 by Andrew and Beth. She is now 92 and frail but still keeps an eye on David and his team on a daily basis! Her husband was a great plant scholar and there is an archive page based on his travels on the website [www.bethchattogardens.co.uk](http://www.bethchattogardens.co.uk).

Beth brought her artistry in Flower Arranging to the planting of the gardens. It is still evident today in the use of the Triangle Principle used in Japanese floral art. The Gardens and the Nursery have grown up together. Propagation is at the heart of the business.

Beth won 10 consecutive Chelsea Gold Medals from 1977. After the gales of 1987 she decided to concentrate on developing a 2 acre woodland garden in order to replace the devastated wild area on the boundary. Today it is a beautiful addition to the water gardens.

A visit to New Zealand with Christopher Lloyd in 1991 inspired Beth to create a Gravel garden in the old car park. We saw a wonderful image of various hosepipe snakes wending their way around the muddy site! These areas are today filled with a glorious display throughout the year.

Recently an Education Trust has been set up at the Gardens so that future generations can benefit from this inspiring place.

Beth has written several books on each of the gardens she has created on the site which would make excellent Christmas gifts if your appetite has been wetted. Check out the website.

I look forward to seeing a great number of you at the Golf Club on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November for our Christmas Dinner. There will also be the traditional raffle, so if you are attending and have any seasonal contributions, they will gratefully received and add to the fun of the night. Ray will be back to join us, after his holiday.

Our next meeting is the AGM and Christmas Party in December – and I look forward to seeing you there for another great social evening. Jeremy may still have some bulbs for sale which will flower in time for our Spring Mini-Show.

*Caroll Wallace*

Visit our website [www.felixstowehorticultural.co.uk](http://www.felixstowehorticultural.co.uk)

## **AGM**

A reminder that our next meeting is the AGM and Christmas Party. We are delighted to have Jane Leighton and Julie (who are excellent singers/musicians) back to entertain us again this year. Please bring along a plate of finger food that you can share with everyone. The Committee will be providing soft drinks again this year. The AGM will start at 7.30 pm. Papers for the AGM will be forwarded out on email by Jeremy Pratt. Reports will be shown on the screen at the AGM.

**Committee** - We would be delighted to have some "new blood" on our Committee, so if anyone is considering joining our friendly Committee and would like to discuss it more, please contact me by 30th November by Tel: 01394 272695 or email: [carollwallace@btinternet.com](mailto:carollwallace@btinternet.com). It is true that many hands make light work, and we would certainly appreciate more assistance in keeping our Society running to peak level.

### **Agenda for the Annual General Meeting**

7.30pm 8th December 2015  
Old Felixstowe Community Centre

1. Minutes of AGM 2014
2. Matters arising
3. Chairman's Annual Report
4. Treasurer's Annual Report
  - Proposal to increase subs to £15.00
  - Proposal to increase tea money to 50p
5. Show Report
6. Resolutions
7. Election of Officers and Committee
8. Election of Auditors
9. Any Other Business

Visit our website [www.felixstowehorticultural.co.uk](http://www.felixstowehorticultural.co.uk)