



FHS Newsletter February 2025

Welcome to the February newsletter for news and details of forthcoming events.

Monthly Meetings

Our January meeting took the form of the Society's Annual General Meeting. Many thanks to all those who came. After hearing the reports of 2024, the meeting elected the committee for 2025. The results of which are at the end of this newsletter.

Our President of many years, Mike Austen, decided to retire at the end of 2024. After discussion, the meeting decided that the role of President and therefore vice-presidents were no longer required by the Society, and the Constitution was changed to reflect this. If anyone wishes to see the Constitution, please contact Judith Foulkes. Thanks to Mike for his service to the Society.



The meeting also heard from Gillian Wraw who is our school project liaison person. It seems that the students are keen for the project to continue, and Gillian works hard to help them – mostly every week. She asks if anyone can offer an hour on a Wednesday lunchtime – any help and expertise would be welcome. The young people love to have adults involved, especially anyone who can show them. They are continuing to grow vegetables and edible plants. Any seeds would also be very welcome and still there is a request for tools.

The evening finished with a photographic slide show of our activities of 2024.

Dr Clive Nuttman will be joining us at our February meeting on **19th February**. Clive will be talking about 'the wonderful world of pollination'; a talk that introduces the subject of pollination and pollinators, the issue of food security, and the value of 'free pollination services' to humans.

All members will need to re-join the Society now

You can do this by looking at the FHS website and completing the online membership form and paying the subscription (£15) by bank transfer. Our bank details are: Account name: **Faversham Horticultural Society**. Sort code: **560051**. Account number: **00548626**. Please use your name as the reference.

You can also join in person at our next monthly meeting with cash, cheque, or card for your payment.

All members need to complete the 2025 membership form to comply with the data protection rules.

If you have not renewed your membership by the end of **March 2025**, then your details will be deleted from our membership list, and you will not receive further newsletters or information.

Thank you to those who have been swift in re-joining or joining for the first time. Welcome to our new members!

Please note that we have not increased our annual subscription, but we will be asking for £5 for members and £8 for non-members for our monthly talks. Escalating charges to the Society are difficult to absorb and we feel that our evenings are of good value.

Spring Show

Our Spring Show will take place on the **22nd of March**, so be sure to start your preparations now. The schedule is now available as the booklet and can be viewed on our website at www.favershamhorticulturalsociety.org

As the tombola did so well at the Autumn show, once again we are requesting any contributions. Maybe an unwanted Christmas gift? We are happy to collect things from now on – just bring along to the February or March evening meeting. Or get in touch with one of the committee to arrange collection/delivery. We will also be at the Alex on Friday the 14th February from 11.30 to 1 pm.

If you are able to help with setting up the Show or on the day itself please let Judith know; all are welcome and the more we have helping the easier it becomes.

Finally – advance notice

We have booked **Sue Kent** from Gardeners' World to talk to us as our celebrity Speaker this year.

This will be on **15th October** in the Gatefield Hall, at the Alex. Put the date in your diary now! Tickets will be on sale in June. More to come soon.

Committee Members 2024

Chairperson: Judith Foulkes – 07710 521462 (leave a message)

Treasurer: John Mulford

Secretary: Pamela Scott

Other committee members: Mary Cole, Carolyn Marriott, Gerri Ford.

Contact is by email to showsec@favershamhorticulturalsociety.org

Or see our Facebook page – thanks to Nicky and Scarlett Silby. More to come on there soon.