

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT BLACK PEAR GARDENING CLUB 2013-14.

OUR PROGRAMME BEGAN AT THE AGM LAST YEAR WITH A VERY INTERESTING TALK BY DEREK WALKER ABOUT HIS GARDEN LITTLE LARFORD.

DESCRIBING THE PLANTING OF THIS HALF ACRE GARDEN WITH THOUSANDS OF TULIPS AND BEDDING PLANTS IN PREPARATION FOR THEIR OPEN GARDEN.

IN DECEMBER WE ENJOYED A CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT THE BOUGHTON PARK GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB.  
(DONT FORGET TO BOOK FOR THIS YEAR)

THIS JANUARY THE WEATHER WAS KIND TO US SO YOU WERE UNABLE TO ESCAPE MY PRESENTATION OF THE DUTCH FLORIADE 2012.

JENNY MACGOWAN PRESENTED GARDENS OF JAPAN TO US IN FEBRUARY WITH SOME STUNNING PHOTOGRAPHS.

IN MARCH PATRICK CLEMENT GAVE AN EXCELLENT PRESENTATION ABOUT THE WORKINGS OF THE HALESOWEN WILDLIFE GROUP AND REVEALED SOME OF THE LENGTHS HE GOES TO ACHIEVING HIS WILD LIFE PHOTOGRAPHS.

A VISIT TO ASHWOOD NURSERY AND TOUR OF THE GARDEN BY JOHN MASSEY, WOULD I THINK BE A HIGHLIGHT OF ANY GARDENERS YEAR.

WE WERE NOT DISAPPOINTED. EVERY ONE WHO WENT CAME AWAY IMPRESSED.

THE GARDENER'S MARKET IN MAY WAS A LITTLE DISAPPOINTING FROM A FINANCIAL POINT OF VIEW, ALTHOUGH WE DID RECRUIT 3 NEW MEMBERS.

WE PAID FOR AN ADVERT IN THE LOCAL PAPER THIS YEAR IN THE HOPE MORE VISITORS WOULD COME, THAT AND THE ADDITIONAL COST OF RENTING POWICK HALL HAD A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON THE BOTTOM LINE.

THE COMMITTEE HAS DECIDED NOT TO ADVERTISE IN THE PAPER NEXT YEAR, AND TO RENT THE HALL FOR A SHORTER PERIOD. IF THIS IS NOT SUCCESSFUL WE WILL HAVE TO CONSIDER AN ALTERNATIVE EVENT. THE GARDENER'S MARKET IS A LOT OF WORK FOR THOSE INVOLVED. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THOSE OF YOU WHO HELPED. IT IS MUCH APPRECIATED BY THE COMMITTEE.

I VISITED BOTH POWICK AND CALLOW END PRIMARY SCHOOLS DELIVERING OVER 200 FLYERS PUBLICISING THE CHILDREN'S FREE SUNFLOWER SEED PLANTING STALL.

DISAPPOINTINGLY NO CHILDREN FROM THE LOCAL SCHOOLS CAME ALONG.

WE HAVE TO THANK ST PETER'S GARDEN CENTRE FOR DONATING THE SEED AND COMPOST.

IN JUNE WE VISITED "THE CROSS" AT VERY SHORT NOTICE DUE TO A BEREAVEMENT AT THE ARRANGED VENUE.

THANK YOU TO BRIAN AND MEGAN TAYLOR FOR MAKING US MOST WELCOME WITH A LOVELY GARDEN, AND OF COURSE TEA AND CAKE.

LOOK OUT FOR THEIR OPENING FOR THE NGS NEXT YEAR.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ROGER AND BARBARA PARKER WELCOMED US TO THEIR GARDEN IN JULY, A WEEK LATER THAN PLANNED DUE TO A TORRENTIAL RAIN STORM. THE ONE ACRE GARDEN WITH 4 PONDS, FLOWER BEDS, BOG GARDEN, ORIENTAL AREA AND VEGETABLE PATCH, PLUS GREENHOUSES AND POULTRY IS ALWAYS A SURPRISE TO VISITORS BEING SITUATED AT THE END OF A CUL-DE-SAC IN ST JOHNS.

CATHY KINDLY HOSTED A COFFEE MORNING, IN AUGUST  
RAISING £92 FOR CLUB FUNDS. THANK YOU CATHY.

OUR AUGUST OUTING WAS TO THE YEO VALLEY ORGANIC  
GARDEN, SOMERSET. THIS HAS TO BE ONE OF MY FAVOURITE  
GARDENS. THE DESIGN, HORTICULTURAL SKILL , RESTAURANT  
AND WHOLE ETHOS OF THE PLACE IS VERY IMPRESSIVE.

PENSTEMONS WERE THE THEME FOR OCTOBER'S TALK BY  
GREEN JJAM NURSERY. MANY MEMBERS COMMENTED ON HOW  
ENJOYABLE IT WAS TO HAVE A TALK INVOLVING LIVE PLANTS.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK DOUGLAS GREGOR FOR CONTINUING  
HIS WORK IN MANAGING THE WEBSITE FOR US.

IT IS A VERY USEFUL COMMUNICATION AND PUBLICITY TOOL.  
IF YOU GOOGLE WORCESTERSHIRE GARDEN CLUBS THE BPGC  
COMES UP 2ND & 3RD BEHIND THE NGS, WHICH IS NOT REALLY A  
GARDEN CLUB.

PLEASE VISIT THE WEBSITE TO SEE PHOTOS AND REPORTS OF  
ALL OUR ACTIVITIES.

LASTLY I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE COMMITTEE FOR THEIR  
WORK , ESPECIALLY JUNE GITTINS, KEN AND AUDERY WEBB AND  
IRENE WHO ARE ALL STANDING DOWN THIS YEAR.  
KEN AND AUDERY HAVE SERVED ON BOTH THIS COMMITTEE AND  
WITH OUR PREVIOUS CLUB AND FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS AS  
PROGRAMME SECRETARIES.

IRENE WAS INVOLVED IN ESTABLISHING THE ORIGINAL CLUB  
AND WAS ITS CHAIRMAN FOR 3 YEARS.  
THANK YOU. YOU WILL ALL BE MISSED.

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS, 87 THIS YEAR, FOR  
SUPPORTING THE BPGC, I HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED THIS  
YEARS EVENTS, I LOOK FORWARD TO NEXT YEARS PROGRAMME  
ARRANGED BY ROGER AND BARBARA.