



# NOTTINGHAM AND NOTTS FUCHSIA SOCIETY SEPTEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

## JAYNE'S JOTTINGS

Now that all the shows have ended, I will soon be thinking of overwintering. I will however try not to make the same mistake as I did last year. Last year, I potted up a lot of my fuchsias – to make them more show-worthy, for example: -

- To bury the bottom branches to avoid gapping at the bottom of bush or shrub.

However, what I forgot to do was check the schedules and pot sizes as I found that by potting up resulted in them no longer being eligible for the classes I would normally enter! So I will have to have the schedules at hand this year to refer to!

Also, by transferring the plants into bigger pots result in the plants growing bigger and bigger and that has caused an issue this year, because at the height of the season, I was running out of space!

I had two hanging pots this year, which did really well – '*Marinka*' and '*La Campanella*' – I may now be tempted to try and create a couple more, if I can decide on the right cultivar! Watch this space!

Although it takes a long time, this overwintering business, it is a time for reflection, to consider what went well and, of course, what didn't. I also start planning what to do next year, I'm already contemplating starting off a spiral using some of my *F. magellanica* type cuttings, which is very robust and which I think will be ideal for this kind of shape.



## DOWN MEMORY LANE

### 2003 - 2010

2003 – Colin Pattinson suggested running demonstration table offering advice to the public – he has continued with this every year since!

2005 – Please see the article Steve Thompson put in the Newsletter, April 2005:-

### How About this for an Idea?

*In 2006 it will be 40 years since the late George Roe, our society's first President, introduced his first fuchsia. This was 'Lady Thumb', the well-known sport of 'Tom Thumb'*

*How about we commemorate this anniversary by putting on a display at our 2006 Annual Show of as many of the 44 fuchsias that he raised or introduced that we can find? I'm sure this would make a very interesting sight for us as members and also for the public visiting the show too. We might like the rare ones and take up growing them more widely!*

Hence in 2006....

**2006** – Thanks to the help and commitment of society members a display of George Roe cultivars was put on to commemorate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of George Roe's 1<sup>st</sup> cultivar - 'Lady Thumb'.

**2006** – Knitted items were sold alongside the cake stall and book stall.

**2007** - Ken Brown was offered the new title 'Honorary Life Past President' in recognition of all Ken's continued contribution to the society.

**2007** – Renee Wilson opened her garden in aid of the Stapleford Methodist Church, and our members were all invited.

**2008** – We introduced the free 'unnamed' cutting for the 1<sup>st</sup> time, which proved successful but it was decided it needed to be a single cultivar so that members could be clear when to stop pinching out etc.

**2009** – Introduction of the President's Cup – proposed by June Lemon (President at that time)

**2010** – Book Internet sales earned the society - £42

**2010** - Promotional events were held at Reuben Shaws and Moores Nurseries to help raise the profile of the Society.

**2010** – Beginners classes were introduced supporting our newer Society members – 9 attended the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

## ROLL OF MERIT/TRIVIA DATA

**Judges** – We have two judges; A BFS Affiliated Judge who judges the Fuchsia Classes and another judge who is an expert in his/her field judging the miscellaneous classes. This does seem to work for us.

**Presentation of Trophies** – Over the years, we have invited councillors and local Mayors to present the Trophies. We have also approached Pam Sisson, owner of Bardills Garden Centre several times and who has kindly donated trophies to the Society in the

past. More recently we have invited well known TV or Radio Presenters such as Dominic Heale and Stuart Dixon.

Since COVID, the presenting of Trophies has taken place at the August monthly meeting and our President, Geoff Smith has presented the Trophies.

**\*\*\* For a comprehensive list of Judges and Trophy Presenters – please refer to the noticeboard at the meeting. \*\*\***

## **PAST ARTICLE**

An extract from our Fuchsia Newsletter – May 2006 (originally in the BFS newsletter, April 2006): -

### **WORDS OF WISDOM**

- Once you are hooked on Fuchsias it is easier to give up smoking
- Listen to the speakers, watch how they do it and then do your own thing
- Most plants are easy to grow but most plants are difficult to grow well
- Limit yourself to 25 plants to begin with, they will grow and expand, oh all right then 50 plants and no more.
- Join a society, limit the number of varieties you grow and enjoy it.
- Do not grow too many plants and cultivars.
- Grow cultivars that are readily available in your area.
- Listen to the experts but use methods that work for you.
- And a question – Why doesn't glue stick to the bottle?



## **WHAT ELSE HAPPENED 50 YEARS AGO?**

6<sup>th</sup> – Dolores O'Riordan born  
13<sup>th</sup> – Stella McCartney born  
17<sup>th</sup> – Jens Voigt born  
18<sup>th</sup> – Lance Armstrong born  
20<sup>th</sup> – Henrik Larsson born

# POEM OF THE MONTH

*This poem was included in our Fuchsia Newsletter – August 2006, courtesy of The Felixstowe Fuchsia Society: -*

TAKING PART	
Matilda had some Fuchsias She tended them with care Although not huge like some she'd seen She thought them 'pretty fair'	She stood her 'Seventh Heaven' On a table near the door It only had a few blooms now Although she'd prayed for more.
Along came Fred from up the road He said 'cor they look grand Why don't you take them for display Come on, I'll lend a hand'	The visitors they loved it Thought its beauty most supreme Matilda she felt ten feet tall And almost like the Queen.
So up to Bluecoat School she went With trepidation lest The other members' plants were fine And hers looked second best.	The moral of this tale is Take part and do your bit And like Matilda's fuchsia Yours too could be a 'HIT'

# FUCHSIAS IN MY GARDEN



My fuchsias, this year have been flowering non-stop, even through the severe heatwave, I am pleased to say that they have been a joy. Better planning and arranging within the garden will be my priority in 2023.

# GROWING FUCHSIAS

*This article featured in our Newsletter – October 2003 and originally in the BFS Fuchsia News in 1992: -*

There are two basic things required to get your fuchsias through the winter:

1. They must be kept frost-free, even hardy ones. If they are in a planter or pot they will have their roots 'frosted'. They can be stored successfully in a heated greenhouse or other suitable room or building, provided they are kept at approximately 40 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. Their compost must never be allowed to dry out.

Initially, plants should be put outside from the end of August or early September to allow the wood to ripen/harden off prior to a light pruning of the soft green growth.

Start to reduce watering but still add a little potash to the water to help harden the wood.

When the leaves start to 'yellow' cut off or hand pick off all the leaves. This helps in the control of pests which will over-winter on any which remain on the plant.

Completely immerse the top of the plants (not the pot) in a solution of Systemic Insecticide and Fungicide.

Continue to withhold water allowing the compost to become barely moist.

Additional covering with newspaper or sacking can be used in very severe weather to keep frost at bay.

Keep an eye on the compost, never let it dry out. Use tepid water only when the plant is dry.

This applies to all fuchsias except that Standards should be laid on their sides and turned regularly to prevent sap becoming dormant on one side of the plant only.

*By Geoff Smith*

# SOCIETY NEWS

At our Last AGM, November 2021, Derek Shaw announced that unfortunately, he would be resigning as Treasurer at the end of 2022. We therefore are searching for a new Treasurer. Derek has kindly put together the following Job description. If anyone is interested, please let one of the Committee Members know. Of course, this will be on the Agenda at this year's AGM in November.

## **Duties of the Honorary Treasurer, Nottingham and Notts Fuchsia Society**

To maintain the bank accounts of the Society (held at NatWest, Long Eaton & NS&I investment)

To maintain an annual account to support the income & expenditure account. (currently an excel double entry workbook & supporting documents)

To prepare an annual statement of account for the AGM in November \*. (The financial year for the Society is November 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>.)

\* Ensure accounts are audited by the competent person approved at the previous AGM prior to presentation at the AGM.

The duties of the treasurer require the post holder to have some storage space (for the financial archive) and access to excel & word computer files, the internet and e-mail would be advantageous.

	Action	Responsibility
1	Pay Bills	Treasurer
2	Monies to Bank	Treasurer
3	Pay Room Fees	Treasurer
4	Pay Speakers	Treasurer
5	Maintain the accounts	Treasurer
6	Financial Statements for Committee Meetings	Treasurer
7	New Member subs	Treasurer
8	Register members	Treasurer
9	Create floats for plant Sales and Show	Treasurer

Actions 1-6 all year.

Action 9, as required, for standalone plant sales and the annual show.

Actions 6 & 7 merge with Membership Secretary duties as does the annual renewal of subs, issuing of cards etc. Membership Secretary post currently held by treasurer.

**Our Next Meeting will be on:**

**25 OCTOBER 2022**

***HOSTAS***

***By***

***Robert Barlow***

## **A TRIBUTE TO QUEEN ELIZABETH II**



It is with great sadness that I end this month's newsletter with a Tribute to the late Queen Elizabeth II. It doesn't seem that long ago that we were all celebrating her Platinum Jubilee. 70 years of true commitment to the role. There have been moments of reflection and outpouring of grief across the country, across the Commonwealth and in fact across the World. Our Queen will be greatly missed. May she **REST IN PEACE.**

**QUEEN ELIZABETH II – 1926 – 2022 – RIP**