

NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2025

AFFILIATED WITH THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

KEW HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

KHS SUMMER SHOW – Saturday 23rd August, 2025

This year's Flower and Produce Show took place under warm and sunny skies and was a tremendous success! The weather does make all the difference. The marquee was bursting with all sorts of produce (including bananas for the first time!), art, cookery and craft – plus our special 'The Forties Revisited' section to commemorate VE Day – so very many thanks to everyone who put in entries. We are so thankful that the Show still inspires and celebrates our local community's interests and achievements, even after 80 years!





There were more exhibitors this year (146) and more visitors to the marquee (872) than last year and overall the KHS revenue was £8682 vs. £5054 in 2024. Final figures are still being calculated but the individual KHS stalls made the following sums – very well done everyone!

Teas: £2,327	Bric-a-brac: £903	Books: £804	Plants: £373
Raffle: £1105	Bar: £446	Tombola: £248	Auction: £1,387

Congratulations to our Show Organisers, Mandy Botta, Lisa Cleary, Siobhan Clegg, Janet Deboo, Alison Greenwood and Jo Wenham and their whole team, and particularly Phil Crocker, Mike Greenwood, Sue and Andrew Murray, Plum and Simon Cox, Grace Calvert and Alex Hithersay. Martin Deboo was our fabulous master of ceremonies again and our lovely jazz band kept us superbly entertained.







Our grateful thanks go to the Reverend Canon Dr Giles Fraser for presenting the cups and also to our President, David Collison, for running the auction. And, of course, to the whole KHS Committee, those who judged and clerked, and to the many other KHS members who volunteered and helped on the day, particularly Celia and Bob Fisher, Chris Morley-Smith, Charlie and Jane Shelton, Pauline and Malcolm Taylor and Linda and Gerry Bodily.

We were delighted this year to inaugurate a new cup in honour of Rene and Rea Granleese, huge supporters of the show in many ways and exhibitors for over 50 years. The cup has been designated for 'The Best Bean Exhibit' from the three bean classes – a favourite exhibit of Rea's over the years - and was presented to Chris Morley-Smith this first year.

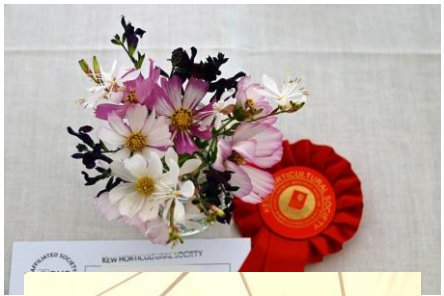


Here are all the 2025 Cup Winners. Congratulations!

CUPS AND WINNERS 2025

THE BANKSIAN MEDAL	**Of the Royal Horticultural Society to the exhibitor with the highest number of points in Horticulture**	**Ann Sandall**
LADIES' THRESHER CUP	**To the lady exhibitor gaining most points in Horticulture unless she has won the Banksian Medal**	**Carole Brougham**
MEN'S THRESHER CUP	**To the gentleman exhibitor gaining most points in Horticulture unless he has won the Banksian Medal**	**Stuart Webb**
DIAMOND JUBILEE CUP	**To the exhibitor gaining the next highest points in Horticulture**	**Chris Morley-Smith**
PRESIDENT'S CUP	**To the exhibitor gaining most points in the vegetable classes only**	**Chris Morley-Smith**
ASSOCIATION CUP	**To the exhibitor gaining second highest points in the vegetable classes only**	**David Bell**
NEWTON CUP	**For most meritorious vegetable exhibit**	**Andrew Murray**
KEENE CUP	**To the winner of Class 28 (a collection of vegetables)**	**Chris Morley-Smith**
IAN MACLEAN CUP	**For the winner of Class 25 (tomatoes 4, another)**	**Andrew Murray**
DR SPARKES CUP	**For the best fruit exhibit**	**Chris Langley**
TINKER CUP	**For the exhibitor gaining the most points in the dahlia classes**	**Stuart Webb**

KEW SOCIAL CLUB CUP	**To the exhibitor gaining most points in the Flowers and Plants classes 42 - 64**	**Stuart Webb**
NATIONAL DAHLIA SOCIETY CERTIFICATE	**For the best exhibit of dahlias**	**Stuart Webb**
NATIONAL DAHLIA SOCIETY CERTIFICIATE	**For the best dahlia bloom (the winner of Class 54)**	**Jack Docherty**
KEW CHALLENGE CUP	**For the first-time exhibitor gaining the most points in horticultural classes 1 - 66**	**Emily Foulos**
K.E.W. CUP	**For gaining the most points in Cookery**	**Jane Shelton**
THOMAS CUP	**For the best exhibit of jams, chutneys & pickles, classes 65 - 71**	**James Millar**
BURKE CUP	**For gaining the most points in Art and Crafts (excluding Photography)**	**Catherine Bates**
GOLDEN JUBILEE CUP	**For the best Craft exhibit**	**Alison Williams**
SCARBOROUGH CUP	**For the best Art exhibit**	**Cristine Feely**
CAROLINE FIELDING CUP	**For best photograph in the Show**	**Killian Hanlon**
WELCH CUP	**For gaining the most points in children's classes, age 6 and under**	**Maggie Gomez**
QUEEN ELIZABETH CUP	**For gaining the most points in children's classes, age 7 - 11**	**Beatrice Smith**
PAT THOMAS CUP	**For children's photography**	**Beatrice Smith**
FLORAL CUP	**For gaining the most points in Floral Art**	**Jane Shelton**
DAWSON CUP	**For the best exhibit in Floral Art**	**Jane Shelton**
SIR ARTHUR HILL CUP	**For gaining most points in the Show**	**Catherine Bates**



























Richard Ward tells us that he believes the record for the traditional bid for a jar of lemon curd at the auction was the £225.50 made this year!!



Future Events

KHS Holiday 19th – 23rd May 2026 – Gardens of Devon

Travel Editions and Mary Fisher have again come up trumps for us with a wonderful tour of gardens in North Devon. Please see all the details on the attached flier together with the application form, on which to secure your place for 2026.

After this holiday, Mary Fisher is standing down from organising the annual gardens tour. She has been overseeing it for many years and we thank her for all she has done to make these trips so enjoyable!

Fungi Walk in Kew Gardens Thursday 30th October – volunteer guide Janet Bostock will take a group of KHS members on a free walk to look at the autumn fungi in Kew Gardens. If you would like to join the group, please email Carole Brougham on carolebrougham.kew@gmail.com. (Reminder: Entry to the Gardens is free for Friends (plus a guest) and volunteers, but the entry fee is payable otherwise.)

Quiz Night – our annual quiz will take place in early February. Confirmed date to follow shortly!

Kew Theology and Gardening

Here are details of the next talk arranged by Kew Theology and Gardening.



Richard Ward's Gardening Tips for September

Autumn approaches! Gardening has been challenging after the driest summer for over 60 years. And one of the wettest winters before that. All we can do is plan ahead, buying or growing plants; weeding and pruning; and building up compost for mulching.

Order most bulbs now for autumn planting; propagate many shrubs by taking semi-ripe non-flowering growths, and also geraniums/fuchsias, ivies and the like for hanging baskets, planters and window boxes; scarify your grass to remove thatch- it will quickly green up as and when we get some good rain. Topdress and oversow worn areas in late September. Buy a water butt.

If you have impoverished borders, as well as applying several inches of rotted compost you can also add bonemeal in the autumn - this provides slow-release phosphate to aid wood ripening, flower bud and root development. Note - don't overdo it, and hoe it in, as foxes tend to dig where bonemeal is present, thinking there are bones buried! Don't apply nitrogenous fertilizers in autumn as they encourage soft new growth.

Below are a few 'items of interest.' Good luck. Richard.

Dwarf (1m) multi-stem sunflowers sown early June. Annual Tagetes tenuifolia - do they really ward off greenfly?





Membership News

C:arole Brougham writes:

'We had a successful membership drive at the Show this year with ten new members signing up. I would like to give an early reminder that subs are due in January. If you haven't already organised a Standing Order, please consider doing one for early January each year. This would be most helpful! Thank you in advance.'

Happy gardening to you all from the Editorial Team.

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