



## **NLWGA NEWSLETTER SPRING 2025**

### **Chairmans Report**

Welcome everyone to another year of gardening. I think we can all agree that climate change is starting to affect our gardening. We've had it wet and we've had it more wet with not as much sun as we would have liked. Yet we've still managed to get some results, just a little differently to usual. But that is what makes gardening interesting isn't it? Learning to adapt to changes and trying new varieties and ways – no gardener is too old to learn, maybe stubborn, but not too old.

I would like to give a big thank you to all you hut helpers, till operators and everyone else who helps out in any way throughout the year. We couldn't manage without you all. If anyone would like to volunteer for this new year please call into the hut and speak to us.

**Graham Yorke**

**Chairman**

### **NEWTON-LE-WILLOWS GARDENERS' ASSOCIATION FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW 2024**

Another great show this year. We would like to thank all who helped to make the show a great success. The hard work from all our members and volunteers culminates in a fantastic display of flowers and produce each year and one that we always look forward to.

This year we were really pleased that we had more entries in the Under12's children's photography category. However, we would love to see more novice Vegetable/Flower growers – those who have never exhibited. There is a prize and trophy for the best novice exhibit in the show and it is great fun!

There were a good number of visitors, all interested to see the exhibits, play tombola, purchase raffle tickets, and enjoy our homemade food at the cafe. All the judges did a sterling job and it was a busy time in the backroom when the results came in writing and displaying the certificates. Also witnessing sheer delight on faces of the exhibitors, especially the children, when awarded a certificate for their prize flowers, vegetables and photographs makes it all worthwhile. I am sure everyone will have lasting memories of a great experience at our show...long may it continue.

The major prize winners were:

The Royal Horticultural Society Banksian Medal	Chris Nightingale
Gordon Brooks Trophy	Richard Burniston
Dahlias Most Points (HK Jeacock Trophy)	Carol Moakes
Chrysanthemums Most points	Helen Dolan
Gladioli Most Points	Andrew Moakes
Roses Most Points	Christopher Nightingale
Pot Plants Most Points	Christopher Nightingale
Flowers Most Points	Christopher Nightingale
Fruit Most Points (Malcolm Greenhalgh Shield)	Alan Holman
Vegetables Most Points (Nigel Brooke Salver)	Richard Burniston
National Veg Society Silver Medal	Richard Burniston
NLWGA Shield	Richard Burniston
Photographic Challenge Cup	Eileen Suter
National Chrysanthemum Society Silver Medal	Helen Dolan
National Dahlia Society Silver Medal	Raymond Weeks
National Dahlia Society Bronze Medal	Richard Burniston
Top Vase	Helen Dolan
Top Tray	Jim Weedall
British Gladiolus Society Bronze Medal	Richard Burniston
Rose Shield	Christopher Nightingale
Arthur Green Perpetual Trophy	Jean Darbyshire

We could not put on the Show without sponsorship and we are very grateful to our main sponsor the Rotary Club of Newton-le-Willows, as well as Jewellery by Silvana, K G Loach (Horticultural), Haydock Park Golf Club, MJM, Think Ahead Community Stroke Group, Bents Garden & Home and Kings Seeds. We had two new sponsors this year, Sew-Drops and The Beauty of It. We also had numerous individual sponsors for some categories in the schedule. We are also grateful to Crownway Community Centre for letting us use the venue to host our show again this year. A massive thank you to you all. All donations are gratefully received and we would invite the Association members to sponsor one or more classes in next year's show e.g to sponsor one or more fruit, vegetable or flower class that is a particular favourite or in memory of a loved one who has passed away. If you would like to sponsor the show the list will be in the hut when we open in January. We would not have a show without the members, their family and friends in the community who exhibit items they have grown, baked, or photographed so please keep up the good work and encourage others to exhibit and support our show for generations to come. I'd encourage everyone to take part, particularly the children, roll on the next show so get planning now.....

**Marj McMahon (Show Secretary)**

## **2025 Show**

The 2025 Show categories for all fruit, vegetable and flower classes are in the Show Schedule which will be available from the beginning of June. You can also view all details on our website

[www.nlwgardeners.co.uk](http://www.nlwgardeners.co.uk) and Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/NLWGA>

For Photography the topics are: Cobwebs, Wheels and Bees

For Children's Photography Category: 'What I have grown' for Under 12's only. Can be via school, scouts/brownies, other children's groups or as an individual.

For Cookery (recipes given, see schedule):

Large cake = Cherry and Coconut Loaf

Small individual cakes to be notified later in the year. Details will be provided by email, or otherwise can be found on our Website and Facebook page.

## **The Hut**

Welcome back. If you have ordered seeds then enquire at the till when you are next in the hut. The potatoes and summer onions will be available from January 25<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't already heard, Ulster Prince and Swift potatoes were unavailable. If you ordered those varieties and haven't amended your order you can choose from the other varieties which we have spare.

We will be sowing vegetable seeds and the seedlings will be available from about April onwards. We welcome donations of spare seedlings from members for selling in the hut.

This year we are supporting Newton Rotary Club by planting crocus bulbs into pots in support of their 'End Polio Now' campaign. They will be on sale during January and February at £1 a pot.

Looking forward to seeing you all again soon.

**Sheila Yorke**

**Hut Manager**

Tel 07931270056 email: [graham\\_red@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:graham_red@yahoo.co.uk)

### **Hut Openings 2025**

Saturdays 4<sup>th</sup> January – 25<sup>th</sup> October 10.30 -12.00

Sundays 5<sup>th</sup> January – 26<sup>th</sup> October 10.30 – 12.00

Good Friday – April 18<sup>th</sup> 10.30 – 12.00 Coffee Morning

Bank Holiday Monday May 5<sup>th</sup> 10.30 – 12.00 TBA

### **Annual General Meeting**

This will take place at Crownway Community Centre, Crown Street, Earlestown WA12 9DA on Thursday January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7.30pm. All members are welcome.

### **Trips**

We have decided to organise a visit to Bridgemere Garden Centre near Nantwich on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May. The cost will be £22 but if you want to see the 19 show gardens there is an additional charge of £7. For more information leaflets will be available in the hut.

The second trip will be to RHS Bridgewater on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July. This is a different time of year from our other visits and at this point in the year there should be a lot of interesting things to see. As with previous visits the entrance is free due to our RHS affiliation. We are limited to 55 places and people will make their own way to the garden. Once inside you are free to stay as long as you like. There are free guided tours with set times. Those who are interested should book a time slot on arrival.

### **NLWGA Annual Show 2025**

Our annual Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Show will be on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September at the Crownway Community Centre, Crown Street, Earlestown, WA12 9DA

Happy Gardening!!