

Goring Heath and Whitchurch Spring Show

Once again our talented residents managed to gather together flowers from their gardens, cakes and jam tarts from their kitchens, eggs from their poultry, handicrafts and artwork from their nimble fingers and photos from their albums and put on a wonderful display in Goring Heath Parish Hall on Saturday, 9th April. Considering the unseasonal weather so far this year, the number of daffodils on display was particularly impressive! Thank you so much to everyone who entered, to the judges who had the difficult (but we're told very enjoyable) task of 'ranking' the exhibits and to Sarah Hanfrey who did a great job with the refreshments. One tip for future exhibitors – if you're thinking of entering the Flower Arranging section, you are allowed to use bought flowers in your arrangement, they don't have to be home-grown.

The show was also well supported by the public who came along in the afternoon to see the entries, buy plants and raffle tickets and enjoy a cup of tea and slice of homemade cake. Several visitors came from further afield than Goring Heath and Whitchurch and we're very grateful to them for making the effort to join us – they were surprised at how many green fingered and artistic residents the villages boast, together with great cooks and photographers, and have promised to return to future shows.

The only disappointment was the lack of entries in the children's class *but* this doesn't detract from Sophie Bucknall's lovely drawing of a 'fantasy insect' which thoroughly deserved its First Prize. The number of children's entries has fallen away over the last few shows and we would urge parents, grandparents and anyone who enjoys doing art/craft/cookery with enthusiastic youngsters to encourage them to enter the children's section. After all, these very children are hopefully those who will, in the years to come, enter as adults and ensure that the village show survives for another generation.

A questionnaire was handed out to exhibitors and visitors asking for their views on when the shows should take place, whether any additional classes would be welcomed and whether they would be prepared to help out with any aspect of organising the show. A good number were completed and returned to the committee on the day but anyone who took it home to think about their answers can drop it in to a committee member (addresses are on the schedule) or scan it and email it to helwillis@aol.com. If anyone who normally exhibits at or visits the show but couldn't make it this time would like a copy of the questionnaire, please contact Helen Willis (email as above or phone 0118 984 3620). You don't *have* to put your name on the questionnaire but, if you are able to offer some help with the organisation of the shows, it would be very helpful to have your contact details!

Finally, the most important part of this report, the **cup and trophy winners**:

Betty Haytor Memorial Cup

Most points in Flowers Section

Dave Sexon

Floral Arrangement Trophy

Most points in Flower Arranging Section

Denyse Williams

Arts and Crafts Trophy

Most points in Art and Handicraft Section

Liz Gibson

Egg Cup

Most points in Egg Section

Sarah Dragonetti

Baking and Preserves Cup

Most points in Baking and Preserves Section

Sue Sexon

Photography Cup

Most points in the Photography Section

David Pearson

Douglas Allardyce Memorial Rose Bowl

Most outstanding exhibit in the Vegetables, Fruit and Flowers Sections

Sarah Dragonetti

Children's Cup

Winner of the Children's Section

Sophie Bucknall (aged 4)

Whitchurch Hill Trophy

Most points overall

Dave Sexon

Thank you again for your support and see you in September.

The Show Committee