

## **Akeley Gardening Club AGM 6<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

### **Chairman's Report**

Our membership for 2012 increased from 53 to 54. Would like to see some more members and the discounts at local nurseries are well worth the membership fee of £2 per year.

Our annual dinner was as usual held at the Bull & Butcher, which does always provide a good meal for village groups. We have booked again for this year for Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April.

On 30<sup>th</sup> April Cathy organised an evening demonstration and do it yourself session on hanging baskets at Preston Bissett Nurseries. This was something we hadn't tried before and they supplied tea and cake so if anyone would like to do it again this year please let us know. The nursery has a variety of events on offer and they seem very keen to have groups come along for demonstrations.

The plant bring & buy was held at the village hall on 19<sup>th</sup> May but it was a rather cold day and fewer people than usual came along. Could you please think ahead when planting seeds or propagating, and set some aside for the plant sale, if you can't come on the day you can always leave plants with one of the committee. We like to make a donation to a local charity from this event and our charity for 2012 was the Friends of Buckingham Hospital.

We held a 'meet the judges' evening at the village hall in June in preparation for the show and Gordon Cooke and Geoff Samwell provided some useful hints and tips for gardening and cooking classes.

Our thanks go Sandie & Dick for hosting the BBQ on 15<sup>th</sup> July – always one of our favourite events of the year.

We had a very enjoyable (if a bit damp) day at Birmingham Botanical Gardens on 12<sup>th</sup> August and this year we return to RHS Wisley.

The Annual Show was held on 8<sup>th</sup> September at the village hall. There were only 154 entries this year which reflected the extremely difficult weather conditions faced by gardeners - the committee very much appreciates the effort made by all those who did manage to find some fruit, vegetables and flowers in their gardens suitable to enter.

Much of the produce was auctioned for us after the show by Stan Bennett and the profit from the show was donated to the Buckingham Hospital League of Friends. The trophy for most points in the show was won by Mick Hurdman for the 9<sup>th</sup> year running. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the show – especially to our judges.

We went to The Bell at Winslow for our carvery lunch on 4<sup>th</sup> November. It was an excellent carvery, it is very easy to organise so we will probably go back there this year.

Sherri Holland  
Chairman