

Akeley Gardening Club March 2014 Chairman's Report

Our membership for 2013 was 49 - a few less than our 2012 membership of 54 so we would like to see some more members - 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 provided a good meal for us. This year's dinner has yet to be booked but we are hoping the new landlords will be able to accommodate us.

On 15th May Cathy organised an evening demonstration and do it yourself session on hanging baskets at Preston Bissett Nurseries. This was something we had first tried in 2012 but as only 4 members attended we are unlikely to organise it again

The plant bring & buy was held at the village hall on 18th May and although the weather wasn't kind to us we did raise enough money to send £100 to Willen Hospice our charity for 2013

Our thanks go to John & Sue Norman for hosting the BBQ in July – always one of our favourite events of the year and 26 of us enjoyed a very sunny afternoon in the garden.

There were 185 entries this year which was an increase of more than 30 on 2012 - the committee very much appreciates the effort made by all those who entered. It was also encouraging to see some children entering the general show classes with vegetable and cookery exhibits.

Much of the produce was auctioned for us after the show by Mr. Stan Bennett and the profit from the show (£100) was donated to Willen Hospice.

The trophy for most points in the show was won by Mick Hurdman for the 10th year running. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the show – especially to our judges.

Our coach trip was to RHS gardens Wisley on 15th September.

We went to The Bell at Winslow for our carvery lunch on 24th November. We are considering one of the local golf clubs for this coming year's carvery – just for a change.

Sherri Holland
Chairman