

## **Akeley Gardening Club March 2015 Chairman's Report on activities in 2014**

Our membership numbers continue to fall with only 41 members for last year and despite an appeal in the Akeley News at the end of January no new members have come forward.

Our annual dinner was as usual held at the Bull & Butcher, which provided a good meal for us. This year's dinner is booked for Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March.

The plant 'bring & buy' was held at the Village Hall on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May and unfortunately, as it was so poorly supported by the village, we have decided not to have a plant sale this year. There were very few people who were able to supply plants for sale and only a small number of people came along to buy and have a cuppa and piece of cake. We were still able to make a donation of £50 to our chosen charity for last year - Buckingham CAB.

We did have a very enjoyable day out at the Malvern Spring Show - 33 people were on the coach, but very few of them were Gardening Club members. There was a shortfall of £66. We were surprised that this wasn't more popular as the cost was very reasonable compared to other coach outings in the area.

Our thanks go to Jackie & Joe for hosting the BBQ in July – always one of our favourite events of the year and the weather was excellent – almost as good as Joe's punch!

There were 165 entries this year at the Annual Show, which was less than in 2013. The committee very much appreciates the effort made by all those who entered and our thanks also go to the judges who give up their time for us.

Much of the produce was auctioned for us after the show by Jeff Samwell and the profit from the show (£50) was donated to Buckingham CAB.

The trophy for most points in the show was won by Mick Hurdman for the 11<sup>th</sup> year running. We had a lot of colouring picture entries from the school – Angela Hawker very kindly provided the line drawings and we delivered sufficient copies to the schools in Akeley and Chackmore.

We enjoyed our carvery lunch at The Bell at Winslow on 30<sup>th</sup> November, but will possibly go to Whittlebury Golf Club this year.

Sherri Holland  
Chairman