

MELKSHAM GARDENERS' SOCIETY

2009/2010 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As I reflect over the past 12 months and the achievements of the Society, so much has happened.

Membership:

We ended our first year as the Melksham Gardeners' Society with 78 fully paid up members, 19 of these were allotment holders.

All our monthly meetings attracted visitors most of whom became members or intend to become members during the 2010/11 year.

Brief resume on the highlights of our first year:

Our first talk last March, allowed me to introduce myself as Chairman. I gave a short talk on the restoration of the rose garden at Lacock Abbey, when I was gardener there. Colin Bush from Whitehall Garden Centre talked about preparing garden tools and machinery ready for Spring.

Other highlights included:

A most successful plant swap, Quiz and Ident, which we will be repeating in May. Our first annual Coach trip in July to the RHS Garden Wisley where we viewed the demonstration and trial gardens. It was a good day enjoyed by all (and it did not rain!).

September 5th was the day of our first Annual Show, and we were extremely pleased by the number of entrees, especially childrens' classes, the day ended with the presentation of certificates by the Mayor, Richard Wiltshire. This year the Show will be held at the Assembly Hall.

October 27th was Apple Day when I talked about the history of the Apple. This was followed by apple tasting and sampling some of the juices we produce on the fruit farm. Members were also able to sample a selection of delicious apple dishes thanks to Mark's culinary expertise.

Our last talk of the year was a demonstration by Flowers in Focus of Christmas decorations, which we all had a go at making our own Christmas wreath.

Finally, I would like to thank all the Committee members for their guidance and help. Your commitment and enthusiasm makes the Society the success it is.

I look forward to working with you during another challenging 12 months.

Simon Taylor, Chairman
30th March 2010

