

Report from the Chair

AGM

This year's AGM was a significant one, both in terms of acknowledging the challenges facing the future of the Club, and in the election of our new committee, following the 'retirement' of key members after very many years of service. The change-over of officers was smooth, and seemingly well-received by those members present. Helen, Ros, Daphne, Patsy and Anne were thanked for their dedication and hard work and given well-deserved gifts and cards.

The Future of the Club

We know there are challenges ahead to keep the Club going. With member numbers down, we must find ways to maintain financial viability. To that end, our plan is to diversify slightly from the traditional format of meetings, not only to save money, but hopefully (and I hope I speak for everyone) to keep our focus and interest on the Garden element of the club. I personally have been inspired by the excellent talks and speakers since I joined [For me, the talk on Cacti was a surprising revelation, so much so that my little purchase won 1st prize at the show this year!]. I'm looking forward to the speakers we have coming in the next few months, and to the private garden visits to Caraway Barn and Tumblins.

I hope the highlight of our year, our annual outings, will still be possible, and that we can continue to share our love of gardening in a variety of ways. Getting our name out there has to be our goal, by fair means or foul, advertising in any way each of us can.

Here's to a successful way forward, with our new team and collaborative approach.

Denise Clark

Chair