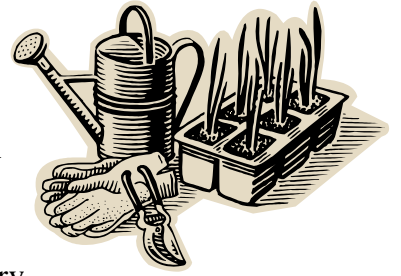


HOPTON AND DISTRICT GARDEN GUILD

Newsletter August 2020

SINCE MARCH.....

First of all I hope you have all stayed well over the past four months and have kept busy in the garden! It seems a very long time since our last meeting in March when Kath Reynolds entertained us with her talk on 'glorious food', but as I am sure you will understand it has been necessary to suspend Garden Guild meetings until such time we all feel safe to resume.



We have of course missed our wine and cheese party, otherwise known as the AGM, but telephone conversations have confirmed that all officers are willing to continue for the time being until we can reschedule the AGM and complete a formal vote! I have also completed the provisional annual accounts for the Garden Guild and can confirm that we are in good financial shape at the present time. The Mick Matthews silver salver is normally presented at the AGM to the overall winner of our monthly competitions. The points scored this year are as follows:- Jill 1st with 34, Pauline 2nd with 31, Jan Bennett 3rd with 21, Marg Brammeld 4th with 20 and Jan Wakeman 5th with 18 points. Under the circumstances I will make the presentation to the winner on your behalf to maintain social distancing rules!

With regard to a restart date for Guild meetings, Jill has spoken with many of you in order to best gauge the feelings of our membership on this matter, and it seems that the majority would feel unhappy with returning to the village hall before Christmas. That being the case we will cancel all speakers and meetings for the remainder of 2020 and review the situation in January. I have copies of the risk assessment and booking policy for the village hall from the Parish Council which would currently permit a maximum capacity of 15 people (according to advisory body ACRE recommendations), with associated distancing and cleaning precautions. For what it is worth my own feeling is that in order to maintain the 2 metre social distancing rule the hall capacity would be considerably less than 15 making meetings unviable. Please let me know if you would like copies of these documents or if you have any comments to make.

Other News

It is with great regret that we announce that one of our long time members, **Netta Parks** passed away on Tuesday 4th August.

We would normally promote village hall events in this newsletter but the Tuesday morning **coffee club**, the Monday **knit & natter** group and **Pilates classes** are all currently suspended.

Please stay safe, let us know your news and we look forward to seeing you soon

Tim