

Ornamentals News



**AGM 2010- February 9th/10th
Hellidon Lakes, Daventry**

See page 2 for the agenda



Growing together™

December 2009

Trumpet blowing!



RHS Show Tatton Park 2009

Promotion

This is as fine an example of effective trumpet blowing as you could wish to find. The repeated success of the Tatton Park event shows us how we can continue to promote the use and apprecia-

tion of ornamental plants to the gardening public. Not just here but good work has been done by NFU with the prize winning, Penny Riley who again took the prize at Chelsea for her display of British produce incorporating bedding and other flowering

(Continued on page 4)

Save our Science— what next?

Many of you will have been aware of the recent Horticulture Week "Save our Science" campaign, and the continual headlines regarding our ever dwindling R&D funds and resources. All we really want to do is sell and grow plants but at the moment it feels like we're getting bogged down in the politics of looking after the future of our R&D funding.

Recently we have lost Efford, HRI Kirton and our fears that recent changes at Warwick HRI

will also result in a serious reduction of applied research being done there.

AHDB

Since the formation last year of Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) the statutory levy body, of which the HDC is our division. The 'Protected Crops Panel' was split between Ornamentals and Edibles.

(Continued on page 3)

Chairman's Notes



As I write these notes, there is the anticipation of the spring season about to start and for us the calm before the storm! I know many of you are poinsettia growers so I hope you are all having a productive season. I am aware of the issues regarding Bemisia, and rest assured that BPOA representatives along with Chris Hartfield of the NFU are working hard on this issue.

We had another fantastic year at Tatton Park with Derek and his team gaining a seventh gold medal! This is Derek's final year of designing and project managing the BPOA stand at Tatton and we must thank him and all the team for their hard work at producing such fantastic displays as well as engaging with the general public. I have attended and helped out at the stand for just the past two years but have been overwhelmed by the hard work and dedication that all the team put in; a personal thanks to you all.

Nominations

Now, on to the hard sell! I need a vice... and yes I mean a vice chairman. From my own experience I can say that the role of vice and then on to the role of chair of BPOA is not only worthwhile, but also enjoyable. The time taken up by the role is not as onerous as you think. So if you, or anyone you know might be interested please let me know. It will be voted on at the AGM and gives you the opportunity of learning the ropes. There will be elections to all the committees and if you are willing to be nominated apply to the office for a form.

Sarah Fairhurst

New Year, New Website, New Standards at BOPP



Changes are afoot at BOPP for 2010.

The BOPP Gold and Silver Grower Standards and the Packhouse Standard have been revised and were launched to the membership at the AGM in June, with the new versions effective from 1 January 2010, and the new BOPP website (www.bopp.org.uk) was launched on 11 December.

will find a bright new design with improved navigation and better accessibility to documents. For those considering joining the BOPP Scheme there is a new 'Join BOPP' section which guides them through the process, with background information, advice on the benefits of BOPP certification, and which of the Standards may be most appropriate to their business.

Website

Visitors to the new website site

(Continued on page 4)



AGM 2010- February 9th/10th - Hellidon Lakes Programme

The 2010 AGM / TT days will be held at the Hellidon Lakes Hotel, Daventry, Northamptonshire; the venue for the successful 2008 event.

Location

Set in acres of unspoilt countryside the hotel offers many modern facilities to suit our requirements. The restaurant has a good reputation serving delicious cuisine and for those who wish to burn off any extra calories why not take a dip in the swimming pool; try out the gym or the superb 27 hole golf course. Alternatively challenge your friends to a few frames in the 10 pin bowling alley.

There is easy parking and quick access to the M40 and M1. We look forward to seeing you in February and to the return of your completed booking form.

For further details on Hellidon Lakes log on to www.QHotels.co.uk



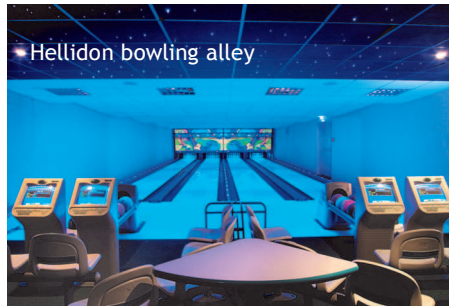
AGM 2009 in session

Tuesday 9th February

- 9.00am Technical Committee
- 10.00am Golf Tee off.
- 11.00am Marketing Committee
- 12.30pm Lunch
- 3.00pm AGM & Elections
- 7.00pm Pre dinner drinks
- 7.30pm Chairman's Dinner



AGM 2009 After Dinner Entertainment



Hellidon bowling alley



Hellidon—view of hotel and golf course

Budget & Accounts

Following a number of changes made in the administration of the BPOA, the Management Committee has been able to produce a reduction in costs which has enabled a balance of the account for the past year, 2008/9. The files have been sent to the auditors following the end of the financial year in October and accounts will be available for approval at the AGM.

Micawber

The balancing of the accounts according to the principles laid down by Mr Micawber “..Annual income twenty pounds, annual expenditure nineteen nineteen six, result happiness...” is a matter which we have taken to heart and we believe that we will be able to budget for modest expenditure in the key areas of our tasks such as Marketing and Technical in the coming year. If you have proposals for these primary activities please let us know via a committee member or send a note via the website www.bpoaonline.co.uk.

Simon Davenport

BPOA Golf Day

11TH September 2009

Combining an annual event which commemorates my father, Bill; this year's golf day was held in bright sunshine on the beautiful West Surrey golf course near Godalming. Eight golfers played in total and much appreciation must go to those who came from as far away as Lancashire and the Isle of Wight just for the day.

Paul Dixon playing in the West Island Label team walked away with the prestigious trophy on what was his wedding anniversary. Thanks must go to his understanding wife who must, I am sure, have been very pleased with the bottle of wine he also won for being nearest the pin on the short but difficult, par 3, 12th.

The West Island team captained by former chairman Phil Austen triumphed, taking away the first team prize with a total of 85pts. closely followed by a team of immense experience, containing both Brian Crosby and Gary Shorland who totalled a fantastic 80pts.

I realise the venue was not ideally situated for the majority or perhaps the timing so close to the Four Oaks Show played its part in the low turn out. Your suggestions for 2010 would be appreciated especially from any allied trade members that would like to help on the day.

It was a fantastic day although

with few members; I know those who participated this year all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Please let us have a few more next time. Thanks

At the coming AGM we will again have the possibility to try the Hellidon course and this time we will have a few places available free of charge to early bookers. We can offer to give one free place in a party of four to any company which books four players. Get your forms returned as soon as possible.

Nigel Wait

HDC/ BPOA Technical Seminar

Taking Control 10th February 2010

Following this years successful HDC/ BPOA technical event which concentrated on diseases of bedding plants, especially impatiens downy mildew, the event for 2010 will focus on pests of bedding and pot plants. A number of speakers have been gathered together for the event and they will cover a range of important pest problems and their control. A feature of the event will be tobacco whitefly and its control, the pest once again this year being a problem on many poinsettia crops.



Taking Control

*Controlling the most important pests
of the protected ornamentals industry*

HDC / BPOA Technical seminar 10th February 2010 Hellidon Lakes



- 9.55-10.00 **Introduction to day.**
Mike Smith, BPOA Technical Committee Chairman
- 10.00-10.30 ***Bemisia tabaci* - Managing the international pest.**
Richard McIntosh, Fera.
- 10.30-11.00 ***Bemisia tabaci* - current and future control methods on poinsettia crops.**
John Buxton, ADAS.
- 11.00-11.15 **Refreshment break**
- 11.15-11.45 **New approaches to microbial control of insect pests in protected ornamental crops.**
Gill Prince, HRI Warwick.
- 11.45-12.15 **The future of thrips control on protected ornamental crops.**
Jude Bennison, ADAS.
- 12.15-12.30 **Presentation discussion.**
- 12.30-1.30 **Lunch**
- 1.30-2.00 **Looking back at 2009— a summary of the main pest issues on bedding and pot plant crops.**
Neil Helyer, Fargro.
- 2.00-2.15 **Broad mite - a pest of increasing significance on protected ornamentals.**
John Buxton, ADAS.
- 2.15-2.45 **Spray application techniques - getting the basics right to ensure good levels of pest control.**
Tim Wilson, Brinkmans UK.
- 2.45-3.00 **Ornamentals pesticide website - a practical summary of available pesticides.**
CSL speaker to be confirmed.
- 3.00-3.30 **Presentation discussion and seminar summary.**
- 3.30 **Refreshments and depart.**

HDC is a division of the Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board

S.O.S.

—what next?

(Continued from page 1)

The government, whose focus is now on food security, has sidelined ornamentals; the only non-food crops they seem to be interested in are bio-fuels.

Defra has pulled the plug on the Horticultural Link programme, and is now focussing on the Technology Strategy Board (TSB), which seems to have no interest in our sector. At the moment it seems all we're left is the HDC levy money, which is nowhere near enough.

Bolstering funds

The industry now has to find ways to bolster our levy money. One idea that is being pursued is to set up an outside 'accountable body', which would manage the funds on our behalf, having tendered for a fixed period of up to 5 years to deliver the program. A larger pot of money would give R & D providers the confidence to invest in people and facilities for the future. With Neil Bragg as the HDC chairman, we can be confident that our voice is being heard and he is working very hard to find new ways to build up our funds.

The HTA is also fighting the case for the ornamental sector, and I would like to thank Tim Briercliffe for his help in writing this article and of course Neil Bragg.

We have an excellent technical committee, which will be vocal and proactive in challenging whatever changes are around the corner. I would like to thank them all for their support over the past two years as I step down from the chair of the Technical Committee at the AGM.

Mike Smith

Trumpet blowing!



North West Group seen here honouring members who have produced the prize winning Tatton Park exhibit with a presentation given to members of the team who worked so hard. Those in the picture from l to r are Stewart Jackson who helped to present the gifts to: Sarah Smith, Derek Smith, Peter Botting, Barbara Smith, Edwin Smith and Peter Halman

(Continued from page 1)

plants supplied by BPOA members.

Around the country, growers have been organising displays and getting press coverage with some of our most reliable supporters in the press such as Peter Seabrook.

Of course, we have also seen

some varied and creative promotional work done by the FPA as part of the Plant Colour Now campaign supported by donations from a number of members to whom we must express our grateful thanks.

In future, the marketing committee will continue to emphasise the importance of displays and related direct promotion as the Tatton and Chelsea Shows.

New office in Chichester

After many years of tireless service Dawn Smith has ceased to act as the Executive Officer for BPOA and will instead devote her attentions to her other business interests. Dawn has expressed her wish to continue her involvement with the BPOA and she will retain a place on the committee.

The BPOA is most grateful for her invaluable contribution over a number of years and the management recorded its thanks to her in their committee meeting.

BPOA offices are now located in Chichester at Newlands Nursery (the home of Parigo Horticulture and Roundstone Nurseries) as well as the sales office of Holly-acre Plants Ltd which is the company now providing the ad-



ministration of the association.

All enquiries may be made to the executive officer, David Fox (seen here l. with Simon Davenport r.) either via the email address or post box shown below.



Growing together™

BOPP update

(Continued from page 1)

Members can keep up to date with BOPP news, and keep abreast of new items on the website through the new 'What's New' section. The Members area has also been reorganised to make it easier to locate documents.

Standards revision

The BOPP Grower and Packhouse Standards have been revised in response to changing member requirements and to address new legislation brought in over the past 3 years. The Silver and Gold Grower Standards have been updated and rationalised into a single document to avoid the need for extra manuals, complicated record numbering etc., aiming to simplify the Grower Scheme. Changes have also been made to the structure of the Grower Standards as follows:

The Silver Grower Standard is now termed the **UKAS Certification Standard**. This Standard has been benchmarked against the GlobalGAP Flowers and Ornamentals Protocol and certification will give UKAS approved BOPP and GlobalGAP certification.

The **Gold Standard** is now the **Continual Development Standard**. Businesses can select the Continual Development Standard without having to first achieve UKAS Certification. Members are given scores and comments against each clause of the audit, to enable them to measure their successes and improvements year on year, helping to develop their business.

The **Packhouse Standard** has been updated to address new legislation, largely amending or deleting clauses rather than adding new clauses.

Compliance levels have been rationalised across all BOPP Standards. Businesses will now fail their audit if they have one or more 'major' non-conformances and / or over 3 'minor' non-conformances.

Jill England

BOPP Technical Secretary



With all good wishes to you, your family and colleagues for a Merry Christmas & a prosperous New Year



BPOA is a specialist producer group within the NFU

British Protected Ornamentals Association
PO Box 691
Chichester
PO19 9NA

Telephone 01243 784699

Email bpoa@btconnect.com

Web www.bpoaonline.com