

Chair's AGM report November 2021

When I took over the Chair from Richard Spilsbury in November 2019 little did I or anyone else know what was about to happen in 2020.

I hope that the email updates and phone calls helped in a small way to remind members that the GHS remained open despite what was happening during the Covid Pandemic and gave light at the end of a very dark tunnel.

The Decorated Christmas Tree event in Christmas 2020 was suggested and organised by Bill Hamblin. The event was very successful. Peter Seabrook sourced the tulip bulbs which the Committee and members distributed to all our members. Bill organised a decorated gardens weekend over Easter.

Following a successful Welcome Back event in August 2020, our next face-to-face meeting was not for another 8 months. The first Speaker meeting was on a Sunday afternoon in April 2021 at the Galleywood Heritage Centre on Galleywood Common.

It was lovely to see the pots of tulips bulbs that members had grown.

Since May we have been meeting regularly at Keene Hall.

Thank you to everyone who has attended our speaker meetings this year.

My two highlights of this year have been the Summer Show in July and the celebrity speaker meeting with Tom Hart-Dyke in October.

Thank you to everyone who entered the show and also to the visitors in the afternoon.

Let's hope for better weather in 2022 and a larger number of entries and visitors.

Unfortunately our finances have taken quite a battering this year, and we have had to make some savings. We have found ways to save money, such as by having Committee members at the house of myself and my wife.

For this society to continue in the future we need to increase our membership by increasing our appeal to gardeners of all ages.

The Summer Show schedule will be re-written and slimmed down in the hope of having more entries for our Summer Show from a wider range of gardeners of all age ranges.

We are working on producing a new programme for 2022, which is nearly completed.

Thank you for attending this evening.

Do you have any questions?