

GIFFORD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL SHOW

THE PESSIMISTS CONFOUNDED

The annual show of Gifford Horticultural Society, which was instituted in 1848, was held on Saturday, and proved a noteworthy exhibition despite the poor weather of the spring and summer. The show was this year held in a large marquee which had been pitched on the village green, and the formal opening ceremony was performed by Mrs Peel, Eaglescarnie.

The feeling of most of the visitors to the show in the course of the afternoon was that a marquee provides a much more appropriate setting for a display of flowers and garden produce than a hall. The entries numbered approximately 700 which is about the same as last year, and this was regarded as highly satisfactory in view of the difficulties with which gardeners had this year to contend. The flowers on display were extremely creditable, particularly the vases of cut flowers. Roses were noteworthy when the poor season is considered, and gladioli also provided excellent exhibits. It has been a bad year for vegetables, but outstanding here were the samples of potatoes on view.

SPECIAL AWARDS

The best exhibit in the horticultural section was a vase of polyanthus roses which gained the Centenary Rose Bowl for Mr J. Cockburn. Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society medal cards were gained by Mr Jas. McEwen, Eaglescarnie, in respect of the best exhibit of dahlias, and by Miss Grace Drysdale, Gifford, for her display of apples. The prizes to the winners of most points in the respective sections were won as follows:—Open — Mr Jas. McEwen (73 points); amateur — Dr Deverell, Gifford (53 points); cottagers—Mrs Richardson, Gifford (37 points); industrial—Miss Deverell (22 points). A feature of the show was a fine exhibition of roses by Messrs Dicksons & Co., Edinburgh, and at the close they sold the flowers on behalf of the funds of the Society. Many of the exhibitors also donated their displays, and Mr J. Fortune, Colstoun Mains, sold these by auction for the same object.

The industrial section, with the exception of the honey exhibits, was unaffected by the weather, and as usual proved a strong attraction. There were some excellent exhibits in the children's section, including noteworthy collections of wild fruits and two miniature gardens in which the ingenuity of the makers was apparent.

The judges, who had no easy task to perform were:—Horticultural section—Messrs J. Stewart, Edinburgh; and O. Clark, Alderston, Haddington; handicrafts—Mrs Taylor and Mrs Telfer, Haddington; baking—Mrs Steven, Under Bolton; and Miss Minnie Barr, Sheriffside.

PESSIMISTS AGAIN WRONG

Mr David Bell, president of the Society, presided at the opening ceremony, which took place in presence of a large gathering of visitors. He said it was unnecessary to introduce Mrs Peel to a Gifford audience, as she was well-known in the district for her good work.

Mrs Peel said it was always a great pleasure to her to visit Gifford show in order to meet old friends, to see new faces and perhaps most of all, to see the pessimists proved wrong. The first time she attended Gifford show was about 30 years ago, and every year since then, with the exception of the war years when there were no exhibitions, she had heard someone during the summer say gloomily that there would not be much of a show because there was nothing to show. (Laughter). These pessimists had always been proved wrong, the Gifford show having year by year confounded them. She had looked around the exhibits and thought they were excellent in spite of the poor weather conditions that had prevailed.

FESTIVAL YEAR

Mrs Peel, continuing, said this was Festival of Britain year. It was not intended that there should simply be a big show in London, as Festival Year was meant to demonstrate throughout the country the British way of life. If there were any overseas visitors she saw at the show was a true reflection of the British way of life, just as much as anything shown in London, Glasgow or Edinburgh. The interest in garden produce and flowers, and the friendly competition between neighbours and friends was the result of what they had themselves produced and did not represent anything that they had bought. The year 1951 had been chosen as Festival Year because it was exactly 100 years since Queen Victoria opened the first exhibition in London. She would remind them that Gifford Horticultural Society was in existence before 1851, and in that year was celebrating its third birthday.

That was something which Gifford people should remember with pride. She firmly believed that 100 years from now some of their great-grandchildren would still be saying gloomily during the summer that there would be no show, but she was convinced that there would be a show and that the pessimists would even then be proved wrong. (Applause). It was because she was an optimist that she wished the Society every success in the future, and she said she had much pleasure in declaring the show open. (Applause).

After Mrs Peel had been presented with a bouquet of roses and white heather by Helen Cockburn, she handed over the special awards to the winners.

"A GREAT DEAL TO THINK ABOUT"

Mr David Neilson, hon. treasurer of the Society, moved a vote of thanks to Mrs Peel. He said they would remember the 1951 show because Mrs Peel had opened it and in doing so had given them a great deal to think about. (Applause).

On the call of the Chairman, the officials of the Society, the exhibitors, the judges and Messrs Dicksons & Co., were thanked for their services in connection with the show.

The officials responsible for the success of the show were as follows:—President, Mr Bell; vice-president, Mr Jas. Fortune; hon. secretary, Mr John McVie, Haddington; hon. treasurer, Mr Neilson; hon. auditor, Mr Robt. McNaughton; assistant secretary, Mrs Bathgate, Broadwoodside; Council—Mrs Chisholm, Mrs Currie, Mrs Tait, Miss Weddell, Mrs Bell, Mrs Richardson, Mrs Bathgate, Messrs Richardson, Anderson, Cockburn, Walker, Brodie, Buick, McEwen, Hastie, Rowan. The following were the prize-winners:—

OPEN SECTION—PLANTS

Ferns—1 ———, 2 Mrs McEwen. Geraniums—1 R. Brodie, 2 Dr Deverell. Fuchsias—1 Dr Deverell, 2 Jas. McEwen. Early flowering chrysanthemums—1 ———, 2 Jas. McEwen.

FLOWERS

Cactus dahlias—1 Jas. McEwen, 2 Dr Deverell, 3 J. Cockburn. Decorative dahlias — Jas. McEwen. Vase dahlias — 1 Jas. McEwen, 2 Dr Deverell, 3 R. Brodie. Pompom dahlias—1 Jas. McEwen, 2 Dr Deverell. Gladioli — 1 Jas. McEwen, 2 J. Cockburn. Early flowering chrysanthemums (three vases) — Jas. McEwen. Early flowering chrysanthemums (one vase) — Jas. McEwen. Chrysanthemums (not disbudded) — 1 ———, 2 Jas. McEwen. Annuals — 1 J. Cockburn, 2 Jas. McEwen, 3 R. Brodie. Herbaceous—1 Jas. McEwen, 2 J. Cockburn. Cut flowers — 1 J. Cockburn, 2 Jas. McEwen. Sweet Peas — Jas. McEwen. Roses — 1 J. Cockburn, 2 R. Brodie. Border carnations — 1 ———, 2 Jas. McEwen.

VEGETABLES

15 potatoes — 1 Jas. McEwen, 2 ———, 3 Angus Fairgrieve. Potatoes (kidney) — 1 Jas. McEwen, 2 Angus Fairgrieve. Potatoes (round)—1 Jas. McEwen, 2 Mrs Simpson, 3 Angus Fairgrieve. Tomatoes — 1 Mrs Simpson, 2 R. Brodie, 3 J. Cockburn. Cauliflower—1 Jas. McEwen, 2 J. Cockburn, 3 Dr Deverell. Carrots (long) — 1 Angus Fairgrieve, 2 J. Cockburn, 3 Jas. McEwen. Carrots (stump) — 1 Angus Fairgrieve, 2 J. Cockburn, 3 Jas. McEwen. Onions — 1 ———, 2 J. Cockburn. Leeks — 1 J. Cockburn, 2 Jas. McEwen. Shallots—1 J. Cockburn, 2 Jas. McEwen. Celery—1 ———, 2 J. Cockburn. Turnips—1 R. Brodie, 2 Mrs Simpson, 3 Dr Deverell. Parsnips—1 ———, 2 Jas. McEwen. French beans — 1 J. Cockburn, 2 Jas. McEwen, 3 R. Brodie. Peas — 1 Dr Deverell, 2 Mrs Simpson, 3 J. Cockburn. Long beet—1 ———, 2 Jas. McEwen, 3 J. Cockburn. Round beet—1 R. Brodie, 2 J. Cockburn. Cucumber — 1 Jas. McEwen, 2 R. Brodie. Collection of vegetables — 1 J. Cockburn, 2 Jas. McEwen.

FRUIT

Cooking apples—1 ———, 2 Jas. McEwen. Dessert apples—Jas. McEwen. Hardy fruit—Jas. McEwen. Cooking pears—Jas. McEwen. Dessert pears—1 ———, 2 Jas. McEwen. Plums — Jas. McEwen.

AMATEUR SECTION—PLANTS

Fuschia—1 Dr Deverell, 2 Mrs Richardson. Fern—1 Mrs A. Chisholm, 2 Mrs Richardson, 3 Dr Deverell. Begonia—1 Dr Deverell, 2 Mrs A. Gillies, 3 Mr Walker. Geranium—1 Mrs J. Richardson, 2 Dr Deverell, 3 Miss Drysdale. Foliage plant—1 Dr Deverell, 2 Mrs J. Richardson, 3 Miss Drysdale.

FLOWERS

Roses—1 M. Walker, 2 Mrs A. Chisholm, 3 Dr Deverell. Annuals—1 Miss Grace Drysdale, 2 Dr Deverell. Cut flowers—1 Dr Deverell, 2 Mrs A. Chisholm, 3 Mrs Bathgate. Herbaceous—1 Miss Drysdale, 2 Mrs Crawford. Phloxes—1 Mrs Crawford, 2 Mrs McNaughton, 3 Dr Deverell. Gladioli—1 Mrs Simpson, 2 Mr Walker, 3 J. Fortune. Antirrhinums — Miss Drysdale. Asters—1 ———, 2 J. Fortune, 3 Miss Drysdale. Pompom dahlias—1 R. Carr, 2 Dr Deverell. Decorative dahlias—Chas. Cook. Pent-

stemons—Dr Deverell. Early flowering chrysanthemums—1 Dr Deverell. Sweet peas—1 Dr Deverell, 2 Mr Walker, 3 Mrs Simpson. Border carnations — Jas. Fortune.

VEGETABLES

Peas—1 A. Fairgrieve, 2 Dr Deverell, 3 Mrs Simpson. Beans—1 Dr Deverell, 2 Miss Drysdale, 3 Mrs S. H. Smith. French beans—1 ———, 2 Dr Deverell. Tomatoes—1 Mrs Simpson, 2 J. Fortune. Turnips—1 W. Brown, 2 Miss Drysdale, 3 Dr Deverell. Parsnips — 1 ———, 2 Miss Drysdale, 3 Dr Deverell. Cabbage — 1 Mrs McNaughton, 2 Jas. Fortune, 3 Miss Drysdale. Cauliflower—1 Jas. Fortune, 2 Dr Deverell. Leeks—1 ———, 2 Jas. Fortune. Carrots (long)—1 Miss Drysdale, 2 Angus Fairgrieve, 3 C. Cook. Carrots (stump)—1 A. F. Stewart, 2 Angus Fairgrieve, 3 Jas. Fortune. Beet (long)—1 ———, 2 Dr Deverell. Beet (globe) — 1 R. Carr, 2 C. Cook, 3 Jas. Fortune. Shallots—1 Dr Deverell, 2 J. Fortune, 3 Mr Walker. Onions—Dr Deverell. Potatoes (round) — 1 A. F. Stewart, 2 Miss Drysdale, 3 Mrs McNaughton. Potatoes (kidney)—1 A. F. Stewart, 2 Mrs Simpson, 3 Dr Deverell. Three varieties potatoes — 1 Mr Walker, 2 Angus Fairgrieve. Shelled peas—1 Dr Deverell, 2 Miss Drysdale, 3 Mr Walker. Rhubarb—1 Mr Walker, 2 Mrs Simpson, 3 Mrs J. Richardson.

FRUIT

Cooking apples—1 Miss Drysdale, 2 J. Fortune. Dessert apples—1 ———, 2 J. Fortune, 3 Miss Drysdale. Pears—J. Fortune. Hardy fruit—J. Fortune.

COTTAGERS' SECTION—PLANTS

Window grown pot plant—1 R. Watt, 2 Mrs J. Richardson, 3 Mrs Buick. Foliage plant—Mrs J. Richardson. Fuschia—Mrs J. Richardson. Geranium—1 Mrs J. Richardson, 2 J. Hastie.

FLOWERS

Cut flowers — 1 Mrs J. Richardson, 2 Mrs A. Chisholm, 3 A. F. Stewart. Sweet peas — 1 Mrs J. Richardson, 2 Mrs A. Chisholm, 3 J. Hastie. Asters—1 Mrs M. Kerr, 2 R. Carr, 3 Mrs A. Chisholm. Dahlias—1 R. Carr, 2 Mrs J. Richardson, 3 A. F. Stewart. Antirrhinums — 1 E. McLennan, 2 Mrs A. Chisholm, 3 A. F. Stewart. Roses—1 Mrs A. Chisholm, 2 Mrs Trotter, 3 Mr Walker. Phloxes — 1 Mrs J. Richardson, 2 Mrs A. Chisholm, 3 Mrs Rowan. Pentstemons—1 Mrs A. Chisholm, 2 Mrs J. Richardson. Pansies — 1 Mrs A. Chisholm, 2 Mrs J. Richardson. African marigolds—Mrs J. Richardson. Calendula—Mrs J. Richardson. Border carnations — Angus Fairgrieve.

VEGETABLES

Potatoes—1 Alex. Fairgrieve, 2 Angus Fairgrieve, 3 Mrs M. Kerr. Peas—1 Mrs M. Kerr, 2 R. Carr, 3 Mr Walker. Shallots — 1 Alex. Fairgrieve, 2 Mrs A. Chisholm, 3 R. Carr. Cabbage—A. F. Stewart. Turnips—1 Mrs A. Chisholm, 2 Mrs J. Richardson, 3 Alex. Fairgrieve. Carrots — 1 Alex. Fairgrieve, 2 Angus Fairgrieve, 3 J. Hastie. Beet—1 R. Carr, 2 Mrs J. Richardson. Lettuce—1 Mrs A. Chisholm, 2 J. Hastie, 3 Mr Walker. Broad beans—1 ———, 2 R. Carr. Pot Parsley—1 Mr Walker, 2 R. Watt, 3 Mrs J. Richardson.

LADIES' SECTION

Bowl of flowers—1 Miss McNaughton, 2 Rosemary Crawford, 3 Miss Deverell. Spray—1 Mrs J. Richardson, 2 Miss Deverell, 3 Bridget Crawford. Decorated dinner table — 1 Miss Deverell, 2 Mrs Crawford, 3 Mrs Bell.

HONEY

Flower—T. Auld. Extracted — 1 T. Auld, 2 Mrs G. White.

INDUSTRIAL SECTION

Small fruit—1 (equal) Mrs R. Tait and Mrs Smith, 3 Mrs J. Richardson. Large fruit—1 Mrs R. Tait, 2 Mrs J. Richardson, 3 Mrs Hastie. Redcurrant jelly—1 Nan McLaren, 2 Mrs Hastie, 3 Isobel McLaren. Blackcurrant jam—1 Mrs Currie, 2 Mrs Bathgate, 3 Mrs Kerr. Raspberry jam — 1 Mrs Buick, 2 Mrs Trotter, 3 Mrs D. Brown. Strawberry jam—1 Mrs J. Richardson, 2 Mrs Walker, 3 Bessie McNeil. Rhubarb (ginger)—1 Miss Deverell, 2 Mrs Auld, 3 Mrs Currie.

BAKING

Girdle scones—1 Miss Nan McLaren, 2 Mrs Trotter, 3 Mrs Buick. Oven scones — 1 Mrs Cockburn, 2 Miss Deverell, 3 Mrs Buick. Dropped scones—1 Miss Deverell, 2 Isobel McLaren, 3 Nan McLaren. Queen cakes—1 Mrs Trotter, 2 Miss Deverell, 3 Nan McLaren. Gingerbread — 1 Miss Deverell, 2 Mrs Tait, 3 Mrs J. Richardson. Fruit cake—1 Nan McLaren, 2 Mrs Walker, 3 Mrs Reilly. Iced biscuits—1 Mrs Trotter, 2 Miss Deverell, 3 Mrs Richardson. Shortbread—1 Mrs Trotter, 2 Miss I. Weddell, 3 Miss Nan McLaren. Fruit tart — 1 Mrs Walker, 2 Mrs J. Richardson, 3 Mrs Trotter.

HANDIWORK

Jumper—1 Mrs Currie, 2 Miss M. K. Weddell, 3 Mrs Anderson. Baby's jacket — 1 Mrs White, 2 Mrs J. Richardson, 3 Mrs Auld. Wool gloves — 1 Mrs J. Richardson, 2 Mrs Auld. Men's socks—1 Mrs J. Richardson, 2 Miss Deverell, 3 Mrs Currie. Embroidered article—1 Miss Deverell, 2 Isobel P. McLaren, 3 Mrs Currie. Something new from something old—1 Mrs J. Richardson, 2 Mrs M. Kerr, 3 Miss Deverell. 5/- article (S.W.R.I.)—Mrs Auld.

Chutney—1 Mrs Currie, 2 Mrs Hastie, 3 Mrs Deverell. Hen eggs—1 Mrs Bathgate, 2 Mrs Currie, 3 Bessie McNeil. Mixed salad — 1 Miss Bathgate, 2 Nan McLaren, 3 Miss Deverell. Cold sweet—1 Mrs Hastie, 2 Miss Bathgate, 3 Mrs Tait.

CHILDREN

Embroidered article—1 Betty Brodie, 2 Jean Richardson, 3 Marion Armstrong. Knitted article—1 (equal) Janet Bathgate and Jean Fortune. Plasticene model — Helen Chisholm. Handwriting (under 10)—1 Helen Chisholm, 2 Robert Rendel. Over 10—1 Jean Tait, 2 Betty Brodie, 3 Kay Thomson. Wild flowers — 1 Helen Chisholm, 2 Jean Tait, 3 Jean Richardson. Wild grasses—1 Helen Chisholm, 2 Betty Brodie, 3 Eliz. Hunter. Wild fruits—1 Helen Chisholm, 2 Betty Brodie, 3 Jean Tait. Miniature garden—1 Helen Chisholm, 2 Eliz. Rendel.

Minute of Committee meeting held in the
Hall on Thursday 1st November 1951 at 6.30p

Present.

Mrs David Bell in the Chair.
Mrs Bathgate, Mrs Richardson, Mrs Gait, Mrs Bell
Miss Weddell, Mrs Armstrong.
Messrs Richardson, Cockburn, Walker, Brodie, Buick,
McEwan & Rowan & Neilson

Minutes

The Secretary read the minutes of the committee meeting held on 19th October 1950 and this was approved by the meeting and signed by the President.

Financials
Report

Mrs David Neilson presented his Annual Financial Report showing a loss of £23-10-8 over the year's working and a credit bank balance of £53-5/- compared with £76-15-8 at the beginning of the year. These accounts which had been passed in correct by the Auditor, Mr McNaughton, were duly accepted. The Treasurer then read to the meeting the Auditor's notes on the accounts as detailed in the appendix to this minute. [The President thanked Mr McNaughton for his careful consideration of our financial position and for his helpful suggestions for the future.]
The loss on the Show itself ~~was~~ a lecture was £55-2-1 but the profit on Whist & Dance was £31-11-5.

Business.

The President suggested in view of the losses sustained on the Flower Show during the past two years that it be held in the Hall next year. Mr McEwan

proposed that as there would be less space available, the Open section be cut out altogether. After some discussion it was decided that this recommendation should be put to the A.G.M.

Raising money

Mr Bell offered to open his garden one day as a means of raising money for the Society.

Two Whist Dances were arranged for the 1st Feb & 28th March.

An Entertainment Committee was elected consisting of the ladies of Committee & Messrs Fortune, Brodie & Richardson.

It was proposed that a summer outing be arranged next year, details to be arranged later.

Business

Alteration in Show regulations. Item 9 reading "only one member in each household may show in any competition, excepting the section applicable to children and industrial section" should now read "applicable to children, ladies & industrial sections".

As some confusion had arisen over unclaimed exhibits in the last Flower Show, it was decided to ask competitors to specify clearly on the staging labels if their exhibit was for sale and stewards should take special care when clearing away.

Resignation of Secretary

Mr McEwan's resignation was accepted with much regret and the President moved that the gratitude and appreciation of the Committee should be recorded in the minutes for the work he had done during his term of office.

Gifford Horticultural Society

Notes on Accounts for the year to 30th September 1951

The accounts for the year close with a balance in hand of £53.5/- compared with £76.15.8 at the beginning of the year, showing a reduced balance on the year's working of £23.10.8. The following gives the comparative figures for 1950 and 1951 -

1950	1951
Show Expenditure — £130 9.6	Show Expenditure — £136 3 8
Show Income — 119 10 4	Loss on Lecture — 2 16 0
Loss on Show — £10 19.2	£138 19 8
Profit on Show and Dinner — 21 19.7	Show Income — £53 17.7
Increased balance — £10 0 5	Loss on Show and Lecture — £55 2 8
	Profit on Show & Dinner — 31 11 5
	Decreased balance — £23 10 8

The Show Income is down by £35.12.9 mainly accounted for by £10 for John Park House and £5 from Malcolm Brown Memorial Fund not being paid, donations being down £10.15.6, gate money being down £7.3.9 and drawings from Ice Cream and Minerals being down £2.18.6. In a wet day the drawings at gate and for Ice Cream & Minerals would no doubt have been less.

The Show Expenditure has increased by £5.14.2. Printing, advertising and paper cost £27.18.1 an increase of £5.6.3. Cost of manure & is £1.5/- higher and there are various other increases. The large money paid was £63.2.6 compared with £72.1.6 a reduction of £8.19/- but in a good season possibly £80 to £85 would have had to be met and that with no great increase in income. The staging account for 1951 has not been paid and the payment of subscription to the Royal Botanical Horticultural Society has not been made. The loss on the lecture was £2.16/-.

The income from lunch, drinks and dance has increased from £21.19.7 in 1950 to the very satisfactory figure of £31.11.5 in 1951.

In my Report of 18th October 1950 I stated that the expenditure for over £90 of large money and the large outlay for Manure & it would seem to be more than the Society could afford without running the risk of the balance being depleted and this still appears to be the position. Some reduction in expenditure can perhaps be made but if the show is to be continued on the present lines an increase of income must be obtained. The accounts show how difficult it will be for this to materialise.

Robert McNaughtan.

Gifford, 30th October 1951.

Minutes of Annual General Meeting
held in the Hall, Gifford on
Thursday 1st November at 7.30 pm.

Present. Mr David Bell in the Chair.
All members of Committee with the exception of Messrs Fortune & Anderson.

Minutes Minute of A.G.M. of 19th October 1950 was read and approved.

Financial Report The Treasurer presented his Annual report showing a loss of £23.10.8 on the year's working and a credit balance of £53.5/- compared with £76.15.8 at the beginning of the year. These accounts which had been passed ^{as correct} by the Auditor, Mr Robert McNaughtan were duly accepted.

The Treasurer then read to the meeting the Auditor's notes on the accounts. The President thanked Mr McNaughtan for his careful consideration of our financial position and for his helpful suggestions for the future.

Appointment of Officials.

The following office-bearers were elected -

President - Mr David Bell (unanimously re-elected)
Vice President - Mr James Fortune
Hon. Secretary - Mrs Armstrong
Hon. Treasurer - Mr David Neilson
Hon. Asst. Secretary - Mrs Bathgate
Auditor - Mr Robert McNaughtan

Members of Committee.

Ladies - Mrs Bell, Mrs Richardson, Mrs Currie, Mrs Galt
Mrs Chisholm, Mrs Crawford, Miss Robert Weddell
Men - Messrs Richardson, Lockburn, McEwan.

Rawson, Buick, Boadie, Hastie, Walker, Stone,

New Patrons.

New patrons to be added to this year's schedule are -

Brigadier Weston

Mrs McQueen, Townhead

Mrs Hamilton, Sheriffsaid

Mrs Ian Henderson, Newhall

Miss Croall, Cousins office.

Business

The suggestion was put by the President to the meeting that the Flower Show be held in the Hall next year to help ease the financial position. After some discussion it was decided to try the Hall next year and to cut out the open section altogether as the space available would not be sufficient to meet all requirements.

A suggestion was made by a member that the Society should buy a marquee from the Naafi Stores, the cost of which would be not more than the expense of hiring one annually. This was discussed but it was felt the erecting and dismantling of the marquee would be an additional expense and it was decided not to consider the matter further meantime.

The date of the Show was questioned, August being considered rather early by some. Some discussion arose over this but it was decided ultimately to keep the fixed date, i.e. the 3rd Saturday in August to save coinciding with neighbouring villages.

The Treasurer was asked to write for £10 from the Trustees of the John Galt Memorial Bursary.

David Bell