



THE CORNWALL GARDEN SOCIETY

SPECIAL SPRING FLOWER SHOW
2011 SUPPLEMENT

www.cornwallflowershow.co.uk



A Spring Flower Show to remember

The Cornwall Garden Society's Spring Flower Show held at the weekend of 2nd & 3rd April at Boconnoc was yet another outstanding success, attracting as it did some 7,000 visitors to the county's horticultural showcase. As in recent years it was blessed with kind weather and more than 4,000 people attended the Saturday when the park and show ground were effectively full, while the changeable Sunday was nonetheless enjoyably busy.

Entries to the competitive classes were very buoyant, with the daffodils, camellias and rhododendrons putting on a particularly fine display. Only the magnolia section was slightly affected by the vagaries of the spring weather.

The show gardens provided a high quality and popular spectacle, with the Eden Project's ingenious and immaculately executed 'Living Room' made entirely out plants proving a worthy winner of the Banham Cup for this category (see below).

The selling nurseries did booming business as did most of the other traders; an indication of the Show's national reputation is borne out by the fact that 47 out of the 107 trade stands came from outside Cornwall, some from as afield as Kent and Norfolk.

Chairman of the C.G.S., Andrew Leslie, paid tribute to the show's director Debbie Evans and the army of the society members who volunteer to stage and steward the event:

'Debbie's efficient management ensured everything went exceptionally smoothly and the cheerful and willing spirit of the many volunteers ensured that the whole occasion was conspicuous for its happy atmosphere. It was pleasing to see new names on the prize list, especially in the Children's Sections which were very well supported. We are optimistic that the final accounts will show a healthy surplus which we will devote to our charitable purposes, and specifically to bursaries to help young professional gardeners develop their skills and knowledge.'

Giles Clotworthy



Boconnoc House and stalls



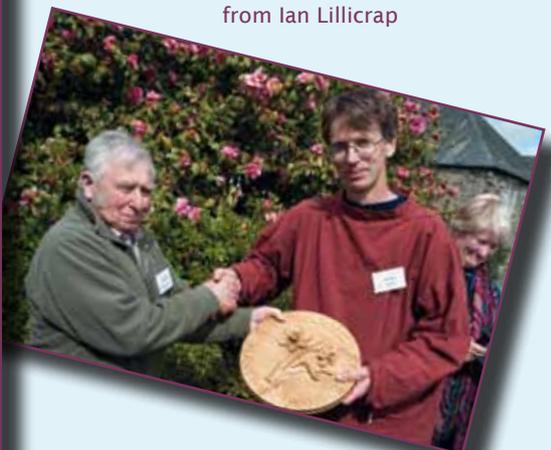
The view from Boconnoc House



Lunch-time outside the Long Marquee



Emma Ball, designer of the Eden Project's "Living Room" receives the Banham Cup from Ian Lillicrap



Desirable Plants receiving the new CGS Plantsman Award from John Mann for an *Epimedium Latisepalum x wushanense*

After the Bank Holidays, having enjoyed the lovely weather and the Royal wedding etc. it's time to write a little bit about this year's Show. Now it is bitterly cold and windy and the vest has come back out of the drawer and I do not want to be outside. How lucky we were yet again with the weather for the Show. The weather held out at the end of March and encouraged everyone to enter, even though it was a bit last minute. In the week prior to the closing date for entries I had received about half of those I would expect to have but, by closing date of 27th March, I had around 950 entries and had been out of bed every morning at 6.00 a.m. and almost dragged the Postman out of his van when he arrived. He has become quite good at guessing which letters are entries over the last few years. It was good to see several new names entering in various sections this year.

The camellias were spectacular but did show the hard time they had suffered in the cold winter by Sunday. Section A- the ornamental trees and shrubs were superb and the scent in that marquee was wonderful. The daffodils were also superb. We could do with some more vintage daffodils next year please - a new class this year. I am sure lots of you have them. It is nice to see a growing number of people entering these daffodil classes. As with every year, everything levels out depending upon the winter and early spring weather - more of this and less of that - and it is down to Sarah Gordon who has the difficult task of arranging the staging of the various classes to organise this. As you may appreciate, the Stable Yard buildings are not the easiest shapes to stage and mark out, but they have lots of charm and she has a good team of carpenters and drapers, but there is always room for new people to help her. Although we were not able to stage the Botanical Art Exhibition this year, the Photography section was spectacular and had more than double last year's entry and was beautifully staged in the Groom's House by Judith Hancock and her very competent team.

The Children did us proud this year. We had three classes, the Planted Boots and Shoes for under 8 year olds, the Decorated Wheelbarrows for School entries and the Miniature Gardens for 8-11 years. We had nearly 200 entries of individual children and schools! I think we need to thank all of the teachers, parents and helpers who encourage the children to enjoy gardening and entering our Childrens' Section and promote a love of growing things and the outdoors and also Trelawney at Wadebridge who donate the prizes.

Once again a wonderful Show and thank you for helping, for competing and for coming. I know that some of you do all of those things. If you have any comments to make regarding exhibiting at the Show please do let me know. We start our meetings for next year in the Autumn and the Schedule goes to print before Christmas. We are always happy to have constructive comments towards next year's Show. Rosemary Wakeham



Caerhays Castle
Winner of Treve Holman
Memorial Cup



The Ornamental Trees & Shrubs section



The Childrens' Classes
Planted Boots & Shoes
Miniature Gardens



Spring Flower Show Dates 2012
Saturday 31st March
Sunday 1st April



Ron Scamp's Narcissus 'Boconnoc'