

Chichester Organic Gardening Society

Newsletter 60
September 2012



NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE

After what has officially been the wettest summer for years, with one night the coldest in August since records began, some of us may well be suffering from waterlogged gardens and a less than record harvest. Farmers have been suffering even more. For gardeners, however, there is a bright spot: a recent newspaper article reminds us that we should plant British wildflowers ‘instead of fashionable Mediterranean varieties’ to protect native species. These help attract pollinators, and we have probably all seen bees and hoverflies coming to our herbs even more than to our ‘fashionable’ plants. So some of our weeds are paying their way.

As we are reminded, COGS has been in existence for 20 years, having been started in 1992, and certainly organic and sustainable cultivation is more mainstream than it was then. COGS has been active, with a change of place for its stalls: Parham (very successful) and shortly after you read this, we hope to repeat our last year’s success at the Weald and Downland. Many thanks, as always, to everyone for their help and support.

Next month is our AGM, and Rachel is valiantly standing for re-election, though with some reluctance, so if anyone would like to come forward she would be pleased. We are grateful to Tom Broughton for his masterly editing of the Newsletter for several years, and if anyone else would like to take over this task – the material being supplied in an almost-ready form – we should all be grateful.

At the AGM we shall celebrate our 20 years, with what we hope will be an extra-delicious and entertaining Harvest Supper. Also we shall have displays of photos of some of our landmarks during these years, beginning with our first ever exhibit at the Weald and Downland. Do come, and do bring a friend, especially if they might be interested in joining COGS.

The Committee

COGS MEMBERSHIP

COGS usually sustains its membership at around 100, but numbers are somewhat down at the moment. Throughout the year we lose a few members and we gain a few. It would be lovely if we could increase our number to a stable 110/120 members during the coming year, so let's have an active campaign to spread the word.

Thank you to those members who have elected to receive the Newsletter electronically, it certainly saves on paper and costs. If you haven't signed up to this yet then you can at any time - there isn't a time limit on it. Just email me at nina@nrglearning.co.uk and I'll add you to the list.

Perhaps you could consider renewing your membership via a standing order? The amount is completely under your control and is really just one less thing to have to deal with! You can do this on line or at your bank. The details you will need are:

Lloyds TSB

No: 1914064

Sort code: 30 91 97

In the name of Chichester Organic Gardening Society.

£5 subscription

RHS Concession Card

We now have just one RHS concession card, which gives the holder and a guest one third off the price of entry to the RHS Gardens at Wisley (except Sundays), Rosemoor in Devon, Harlow Carr in Yorkshire, Hyde Hall in Essex and Trebah in Cornwall. It also entitles us to one free group visit of up to 55 people per year to an RHS Garden. Nina Guilfoyle holds this card, so if you would like to borrow it, please contact her.

We have to pay a small fee for this card and it is only valid for a year, so if there is little interest from members, we will not renew next year.

Speakers and Meetings

We are always looking for suggestions for speakers. If you have any idea for speakers or visits, please let Vi Cowan, our Speakers' Secretary, know.

Raffles

A reminder that these are held at every meeting except May and October. Any good items, especially bottles, good plants, and 'gifts' are welcome.

Also at meetings:

Surplus, Gluts, whether plants or produce or no-longer-needed useful garden things, are also welcome. People can help themselves (for a small donation) – but please take yours home if no-one wants them!

A call for contributors

No, not for funds! But this is *our* Newsletter, and we would welcome interesting and relevant pieces by other members, which we can print. Do you have some special 'tips' or advice gleaned from your own experience, which you would like to share? If so do send, in first instance to penelopejohnstone@yahoo.co.uk or you can discuss at one of the meetings.

A reminder that COGS is now 20 years old, and Susan Maguire continues her account of the Society's beginnings:

COGS HISTORY – PART II

In October 1994 we had an organic wine tasting at the Harvest Supper, and some members went to see the fruit collection at Brogdale.

A highlight of 1995 was to enjoy Prince Charles' garden at Highgrove, a memorable trip. 10 years later a second trip was rained off but a third was successful.

So it continued, with displays in Chichester Library to publicise events, a stall at Stansted Garden show, talks, garden visits and wholefood orders from Infinity Foods at wholesale prices, which still happens four times a year.

After 10 years it was time for a change, and fortunately Pat Adams with creative, caring and very capable hands became the chairperson. We now have a splendid new committee and I would like to thank everyone involved for helping COGS to thrive, including Tom Broughton who set up the COGS website.

Awareness of growing sustainable healthy food without chemicals is becoming mainstream practice, due in part to small local groups such as ours.

See you on 24th September – Don't forget the **20th Anniversary** AGM on Monday 29th October.

Susan Maguire, COGS Founder Member

COMING EVENTS

Weald and Downland Countryside Show

COGS have again been offered a stand, and as it was so successful last year, we have accepted. The dates are **13th and 14th October**, a weekend when we hope the 'summer' will have given way to a mild sunny autumn

We shall again have a stand within the large tent; there are numerous activities and displays of falconry, dog training, heavy horses, and ploughing. Country crafts and products are on sale. It should be a really interesting and enjoyable event.

We are again asking for some members to help at the stand – not at all onerous, and good fun. Car passes and visitor entries are generally provided.

Please let Penelope know (771881) if you could do a shift.

On the same weekend, but only the **Saturday 13th October**, there is again the **Transition Green Fair**, which a number of us attended last year. It is held in the Assembly Rooms, and is a good way of linking with Transition and attracting local people who share our views. As COGS are already booked for the WDOAM, we are going to have some publicity at the Transition Fair, and offer to have some of theirs on our stall at Singleton.

PAST EVENTS

April Talk: Steve Peach

Steve is Conservation Ranger of Queen Elizabeth Country Park, which is a Forestry and National Nature Reserve, of geological importance and interest. It contains Butser Hill, is on the edge of the South Downs Way, and although the A3 goes through the centre of the reserve, the place is a haven for wildlife.

In his talk, 'Hedgerow Harvest', Steve took us through all aspects of the reserve, starting with its formation, by thawing after permafrost. Later, however, it became 'manmade', by sheep grazing – which means that no one plant is dominant, and it is possible to find 50 species within a 2 square metre plot. The site was used for thousands of years, and contains Bronze Age burial mounds. Along with old woodland, there are numerous yew trees nearby, which are good for birds. Steve showed us numerous pictures of examples of insects, of mammals including the hazel dormouse, and deer. Finally, the uses which humans can make of the various plants and trees: nettles, dandelion, marjoram, wild thyme; bramble is also a home for a rare bee; rosehips for syrup, silverweed for dyeing. The hawthorn he considers 'under-rated'; elderflowers are good for insects, and its berries for the birds, as well as both being used by us. Plantain can be used as a vegetable, and the inner stem of burdock is edible. Finally, the trees: beech for firewood, and lime for charcoal.

Steve's knowledge, experience, and enthusiasm were evident throughout, and some of us felt a visit to the QE Country Park would be an excellent idea.

Visit to Julie Goddard's Garden in Barnham, 25th June

A select group of 6 visited COGS member Julie's garden on one of the relatively dry evenings in June. With 3 young children, the garden has to fit around family life, so the look is free and easy with many of the vegetables being allowed to seed themselves freely. A long narrow garden, it is divided into areas which contain lawn and flowers, exotic banana plants and tree ferns, vegetables, a poly tunnel, and a forest edge complete with a medlar tree and chickens! Every part of the raised beds are planted and under-planted with either companion plants or quick growing salad plants. For all that it is still suburban garden size and was inspiring to see just what can be fitted into a garden if one is willing to be creative with the space. We learnt so many things: for example I did not know that watercress can be grown in soil and Julie said it had been happily self setting itself around her poly tunnel for 2 growing seasons. Julie also likes to use the leaves of sweet cicely to reduce the amount of sugar needed to sweeten rhubarb. It was a fascinating visit and it was particularly enjoyable to see the 3 children happily feasting on courgettes, peas, parsley and countless other vegetables – no problem with them getting their 5 a day!

Nina Guilfoyle

Visit to Tangmere Community Garden, 23 July

Sadly only 3 people turned up for a lovely evening learning about this marvellous project. As well as healthy vegetables in raised beds, a polytunnel growing a marvellous variety of crops, edible hedges, there were hens and people busy attending to the many different jobs that needed to be done. People of all ages were tending the crops and they could take away produce that they wished to eat – a marvellous atmosphere of co-operation and cultivation. This is their third year and the garden is still evolving.

Parham House “Grow Your Own Festival” – Sunday 12th August 2012

The day at the Parham ‘Grow Your Own’ Show on the 12th August will live long in the memories of those stalwart members of the committee who helped create the wonderful award winning display for COGS. Weeks of planning and preparation, an early start on the day, the hard work of packing the transporting vehicles, the unloading and setting up of the stand culminated in an exceptional, informative and attractive exhibition which drew a constant stream of visitors, many of whom asked for help and advice with their own gardening problems. Some of us found that we were rather challenged when it came to commenting on some of the more profound points raised. Perhaps another time we should have ‘I am not Monty Don’ embroidered on the Cogs official apron but it was touching to behold the faith shown in our expertise. The most challenging question of all, from a very earnest lady, concerned the nutrients in the soil which determine the growth of individual weeds. Apparently by studying the kinds of weeds growing in a plot one can determine the composition of the soil there. Perhaps this should become a COGS research topic!

Sale of our plants was slow at the start but by some canny reductions and well honed sales techniques, we were able to make £36 for funds. Not bad, as that was not our primary purpose for the day.

As the day wore on a kind of informal rota system evolved so helpers could slip away to browse the other exhibits, the fantastic interior of Parham House and the productive, well tended walled garden, supervised by the Head Gardener Tom Brown. The romance and beauty of the setting, bathed in sunny warmth, added to the enjoyment of the day, as did the llamas, the hens, the allotment society display, the other horticultural society stalls, the garden centres stalls, and last but not least the IOW Garlic Farm, who doggedly appear at every show in the south east. It was indeed a bonus to be able to stock up with elephant garlic. There were also talks given by local gardening experts, and members were able to attend some of these.

This slipping away from time to time was not, however, without its hazards. Sadly one inexperienced helper had not listened carefully to instructions and was mortified to learn that she had sold a jar of raspberry jam, WHICH WAS NOT FOR SALE, being one of only two precious jars that had been painstakingly produced the previous day. The loss of their jam was deeply felt but graciously forgiven, and perhaps forgotten, in the excitement and wonder of the arrival of Mr J Barnard and Tom Brown, bearing aloft a gleaming trophy.

The trophy, given by Lady Emma Barnard, was for the best Horticultural Society display in the Show and the thrill of winning it really made our day. Members gained an inkling of what it must be like to win gold at the Olympics. I do not know how many of us knew we were actually competing for anything, but that does not detract from the achievement, the joyful surprise giving added value to an already wonderful, unforgettable day out.

Susan Sinnett-Jones

(Many of us know West Dean Gardens well and often visit this delightful place, so we print here a copy of a Press Release from June 2012. Jim received his award at Hampton Court on 2nd July)

Jim Buckland, Gardens Manager, receives prestigious RHS Award

Near Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0QZ

www.westdean.org.uk

Jim Buckland arrived at West Dean Gardens in 1991, an Honours graduate of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and having already had a career encompassing the management of historic and public gardens in both UK and Australia. What he and his wife, Gardens Supervisor, Sarah Wain found was a Garden devastated by neglect and the tragic storms of 1987. Over the past 21 years they, with the support of a small permanent gardens team - about half the number that would have been employed in its Victorian heyday – and an army of volunteers have ensured that the 90 acres of grounds have undergone a bold redevelopment designed to bring the nineteenth century gardens into the twenty-first century. This huge undertaking has been acknowledged by the Royal Horticultural Society who have recognised this achievement by awarding Jim Buckland the RHS Associate of Honour, which will be presented at this year RHS's Hampton Court Garden Show.

“The award is conferred to someone who has given distinguished service to horticulture in their professional working life, Jim Buckland is being honoured for the work he has done at West Dean in the transformation of a neglected garden into a great showpiece, which

will encourage and inspire all visitors.” Eoin Redahan, RHS continues. “The work Jim has achieved, particularly, in the Walled Gardens and Victorian Glasshouses is exemplary.”

Jim Buckland: “I am both delighted and honoured to be awarded the RHS Associate of Honour “for distinguished service to Horticulture” and accept it as an accolade for all who have shared in the work of the redevelopment of West Dean Gardens over the last two decades.

Firstly for my long suffering wife and partner in crime, Sarah Wain, who has inspired, cajoled and admonished as necessary over our 25 years of working together; secondly, to the consistently excellent and hardworking gardens team at West Dean in all its variations over the last 21 years; thirdly to my manager and colleague, Simon Ward, Agent to the Edward James Foundation, for his counsel and patience throughout the project and finally, to the unwaveringly supportive Trustees of the Foundation who have been brave enough to commit to the long term future of the gardens.”

Anyone for Cabbage?

Just in case we did not realise how important our growing activities are,

And for anybody who doesn't fully understand the Euro situation, it is explained very simply below.....

Pythagoras' theorem - 24 words.

Lord's Prayer - 66 words.

Archimedes' Principle - 67 words.

10 Commandments - 179 words.

Gettysburg address - 286 words.

US Declaration of Independence - 1,300 words.

US Constitution with all 27 Amendments - 7,818 words.

EU regulations on the sale of cabbage - 26,911 words

Weather Aftercasting?

The dreadful summer may have improved by the time we go to print, but the *Radio Times* to cheer us up in its 14-20th July edition produced a spoof directive from the Met Office, including:

‘We’re making room for a new range of graphics, including one to illustrate “scary rain” (cloud with angry face...), “light rain falling between bouts of heavy rain” and “painful rain”.

Guidelines regarding the term ‘summer’: ‘We no longer find it helpful or illustrative, and have called on forecasters to abandon its use in favour of more accurate terms. So far the short list includes “British monsoon”, “The Washout”, “Cancellation”, and “Indian Winter”.’

‘For legal reasons, we are strongly advising our broadcasters not to apologise for the weather. Viewers are looking for someone to blame, and the Met Office does not wish to open ourselves up to any sort of class action litigation.’

(Some forecasters on R4, BBC Solent & Sussex have however attempted to make light of the whole thing).

TIPS AND TRICKS IN THE GARDENS

- To create perfectly natural markers, write the names of plants (using a permanent marker) on the flat faces of stones of various sizes and place them at or near the base of your plants.
- The next time you boil or steam vegetables, don't pour the water down the drain, use it to water potted patio plants, and you'll be amazed at how the plants respond to the "vegetable soup." (no salt!)
- It has been rumoured that ground elder doesn't like turnips. So if you clear a patch and sow some turnip seeds, the ground elder won't come back! Please let the committee know the results of this suggestion if you try it out.

INFINITY FOODS

Next orders to Pat by Mon 12 November please.

(cheques to be with Pat by that date)

Delivery on Tuesday 20 November please collect asap

Any member is welcome to order and there is no minimum order

If anyone new is interested please contact

pat_adams@btopenworld.com or 01243 602713

Soil Association Membership Offer

As you know, we are affiliated to the Soil Association as a 'local group'. Recently the Head of membership and supporter services wrote, congratulating us on our 20th anniversary.

He added 'I'm trying to encourage more members of local groups to join the Soil Association in their own right ... I would be very happy to offer anyone who is interested a concessionary membership rate of £18 a year (normally £30 a year for standard membership). They will receive all the normal membership benefits including regular editions of Living Earth magazine and a membership card entitling various special offers and discounts.'

He included a form for names, and will send anyone a joining form. So if interested, please let Penelope know. [I should add that concessionary i.e. for senior, is £18 anyway].

The Soil Association is a very active campaigning and information group; and 'Living Earth' is an excellent magazine.

* * * * *

Sunday 14th October 2.00-4.30pm

The Tangmere Community Garden is having an Open Day and I hope people will take the opportunity to visit and talk to the community gardeners about their project.

COGS DIARY DATES

September 24

Tom Brown - Head Gardener, Parham House Gardens

Tom became head gardener just over 2 years ago and he will show us photographs and talk about the lovely gardens at Parham House which consist of seven acres of pleasure grounds and a four acre walled garden

October 29

AGM and Harvest Supper

Bring a seasonal dish to share plus your own plates, glasses, etc. No charge for the evening. Do bring good plants to exchange and seeds to share.

And do bring your subscription for next year please!

November 26

Maddy Harland - New Developments in Permaculture

Maddy will give us an update on the latest developments in permaculture and how we can apply it to design in different areas.

January 28 2013

Biodynamic Gardening – the Tools and Techniques to Nurture your Garden

This film demystifies the extremely intricate processes of biodynamics. With visual demonstrations and a clear narrative it is an opportunity to understand the philosophy and practice behind this subject.

Do bring seeds to swap and share. Please make sure seeds are clearly marked.

* * * * *

Unless otherwise stated, Monday meetings take place at Bassil Shippam Centre, Tozer Way, St Pancras, Chichester PO19 4LG Meetings start at 7.30pm, doors open at 7.15pm

Chichester Organic Gardening Society was formed in 1992 as a local group of both the Henry Doubleday Research Association and the Soil Association.

Aims of the Society

To encourage the growing of healthy produce and beautiful gardens by sustainable and environmentally kind gardening methods.

To provide a focus for local gardeners and growers to meet those sharing their interest in gardening *with* nature, both for social activities and to discuss gardening and related issues.

COGS activities in support of our Aims

- A programme of regular meetings (indoors September to April, outdoors May to August) with speakers on gardening and related topics.
- Occasional visits to places of gardening interest.
- Promotion of organic methods at COGS special events and appropriate local shows such as those at West Dean , Transition, and Weald and Downland Open Air Museum
- Shared purchase and bulk purchase scheme for whole food cooking supplies to obtain discounts.
- Books available for purchase or on loan from our small library.

Membership costs £5.00 per household. The membership year runs from October to September. To join contact Nina Guilfoyle on 01243 776063

Your COGS organisers are:

Officers:

Secretary – Penelope Johnstone (01243 771881)

Treasurer – Rachel Richie rcritchie@hotmail.com

Membership Secretary – Nina Guilfoyle (01243 776063) nina@nrglearning.co.uk

Organisers:

Speaker Secretary – Vee Cowan (01243 780518) varianec@yahoo.com

Bookshop/Librarian - Barbara MacGregor (01243 781849)

Infinity Orders – Pat (01243 602713) pat_adams@btopenworld.com

Publicity - Susan Sinnett-Jones (02392 341813) a3ssj@mac.com

Website – Tom Broughton (01243 530019) tom@chicogs.org.uk

Committee Members:

Pat Alderton (01243 822615)

Rachel Ritchie

Nina Guilfoyle

Vee Cowan

Penelope Johnstone

John Bennett (01243 781289)

Susan Sinnett-Jones

www.chicogs.org.uk

This newsletter is printed on paper from managed forests

29 October 2012 at 7.30 pm (doors open at 7.15 pm)

**CHICHESTER ORGANIC GARDENING SOCIETY AGM
AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Adoption of minutes of last AGM
3. Matters arising
4. Adoption of Accounts
5. Election of Officers
6. Election of Committee
7. AOB

The AGM will be followed by:
The Harvest Supper

**Election of Officers
The Society has the following posts**

Position	Committee Mbr in 2011-2012	Held by in 2011 – 2012	Standing for re-election in 2012 – 2013
Chair		Vacant	
Secretary	Yes	Penelope Johnstone	Yes
Treasurer	Yes	Rachel Ritchie	Yes*
Membership Secretary	Yes	Nina Guilfoyle	Yes
Future Events	Yes	Vi Cowan	Yes
Publicity	Yes	Sue Sinnett-Jones	Yes
Newsletter	No	Tom Broughton	No
Bulk Purchase	No	Susan Maguire Pat Adams	N/A
Committee Member	Yes	Pat Alderton	Yes
Committee Member	Yes	John Bennett	Yes
Committee Member		Vacant	
Librarian	No	Barbara Macgregor	N/A

We are still running without a Chairperson, so if anyone would like to volunteer, it is not too late.

* Rachel is standing for re-election as no-one else has come forward, but if anyone does, they would be most welcome.

Accounts for the year will be available at the AGM.

Committee's Report for 2011-2012

Another good year with well-attended meetings.

In **September** 2011 we began the year with a talk from John Negus, photo-journalist, on plants in particular herbaceous perennials.

October was our AGM, taking as usual not more than 30 minutes, and Harvest Supper – an excellent meal with seasonal home-made food and conversation.

In **November** two members of the local Woodhorn Group described the very complex methods by which green waste from the district is turned into valuable compost.

In **January 2012** Susan Maguire, one of our founder members, talked about her own wide gardening experience, including many useful tips; the evening ended with a Seed Exchange.

February, Steve Lawrence, who with clear diagrams and photos showed us how to prune all kinds of fruit trees and bushes.

In **March**, Barry Chambers, who runs a garden design business, took us through some theories and practice of his work, with a focus on photos of his own design which won Silver Gilt at Hampton Court in 2011, 'On the Sea'.

April, we welcomed Steve Peach, Conservation Ranger of the Queen Elizabeth Country Park, who described many aspects including geology, wildlife and plants of the reserve.

May, a well attended Plant Swap and an excellent Spring Fling meal and Quiz, the latter partly based on the Jubilee.

Visits: rather disappointing this year, largely due to the unpredictable weather which may have led to small numbers booking. A visit to the Goddards' Permaculture garden near Barnham was interesting; to the Tangmere Community Garden very poorly attended, and to Leythorne farm cancelled due to lack of numbers and uncertainty whether it would be possible due to the summer virus.

September, back to our indoor meetings

Shows: On 13-14 October 2011 we had a stand at the **Weald and Downland Open Air Museum**, in their Countryside Show, thus returning to the first place COGS had exhibited almost twenty years previously; it was by common consent a very successful event for us. Later, on 29 October, COGS had a very small stand at **Transition Chichester's** 'Changing Times' Green Fair; useful and with plenty of local interest, and important as we have many shared aims with Transition.

On 12th August 2012, at the invitation of Tom Brown, head gardener at **Parham House** at Storrington,, we took part in their 'Grow Your Own Festival', and created an inspirational and informative display of fruit, vegetables, cut flowers, homemade jam and pickles, and plants for sale. The stunning posters and leaflets attracted a steady flow of visitors who were happy to chat at length about their gardening problems and other environmental issues. We were the first winners of the **Parham Cup**, presented to us at the end of the afternoon by Mr J Barnard. The cup will have our name engraved, but will remain at Parham House.

As always, the Committee are grateful to members for their continued support and help. We welcome ideas and suggestions for meetings and activities. We particularly wish to thank the Editor of the Newsletter, our Librarian, Publicity, and our Infinity Food contacts, and all who have helped with any extra activities, especially WDOAM, Transition, and Parham.

Chichester Organic Gardening Society
Annual General Meeting 2011

Held at the Bassil Shippam Centre, Monday 31st October 2011 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Committee: Pat Alderton, Vee Cowan (speakers), Nina Guilfoyle (Membership), Penelope Johnstone (Secretary), Rachel Ritchie (Treasurer)
And 24 members, 2 visitors.

1. Apologies: Pat and Colin Evans, Julie Goddard, Rita Damper

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 25th October 2010 were approved: proposed Susan Maguire, seconded Liz Merritt.

3. Matters Arising: Rachel reported that the two donations were sent and we received letters of thanks. Gina pointed out that the Totally Tomato show at West Dean no longer takes place. She was thanked by the Committee for her work on this show.

4. Accounts: Treasurer reported that we have a small deficit this year, but have £940 in hand. Subscriptions and donations are up, and we had good sales at Stansted. The RHS subscription has increased for this year, due to insurance, but should go down next year. The Hall hire has gone up by 50 p. to £11.50 an hour from 1 January 2012. (We hire from 7.15 to 9.45 p.m.) Liz Campling pointed out that the printing and postage have cost less this year, due to a careful change in methods. Rachel reminded us that in a year's time we shall need a new Treasurer and she asked for someone to come forward in good time.
The Accounts were adopted: proposed Gina Scott, seconded Liz Campling.

5. Election of Officers and Committee: as there have been no other nominations, the current committee were elected en bloc: proposed Ingrid, seconded Gina, accepted unanimously.

6. New Committee Member: John Barrett had agreed that his name be put forward: proposed Nina Guilfoyle, seconded Penelope, elected unanimously.

7. Membership: Nina reported that we now have 103 members, with most paid up but a few renewals still outstanding. 29 people take the Newsletter by email, and there are seven Standing Orders.

8. Any Other Business: Stansted: Vee reported that we had made £161, and thanked all those who had helped to make it a success, with support, and providing plants. She pointed out that we had paid extra for armbands this year, that the site is not close to Chichester, and the stands are becoming more commercial. So we are suspending our participation, anyway for the next year. If someone else would like to take on the responsibility for organising, in a future year, they are most welcome.

Publicity: Gina reminded us that we need someone new, as she is standing down, and suggested that there are several ways in which this could be developed.

Susan Maguire proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee, and the meeting closed at 8.0 p.m.