

2023 was another successful year. The event programme started with the annual Bob and Lu Matthews memorial quiz at the Legion, a well supported evening and a lot of fun.

In May we had a talk from Mick Brown the production garden head at Chatsworth House. It was much better supported than previous talks and very much enjoyed by all. Thanks to contacts made by Viv it was followed up by a private tour of the gardens in Chatsworth for members only, led by some of their inspirational garden team.

On top of this trip was a visit to Abbeywood Gardens and Mount Pleasant Garden and sculpture park in June. This too was well supported and interesting. We also arranged a local trip to Hopton Hall in July.

Open Gardens was a wonderful day, record visitors, good weather and a record amount taken on plant sales. We are grateful to all those who open their gardens, donate plants and volunteer on the day. Using the profit from Open Gardens and the contribution from the Suttons Seeds scheme, a total of £2,150 was allocated at the AGM in January between nine organisations in the village.

The Produce Show in September was again affected by the strange growing year, as was the apple pressing – a lot of people just didn't have surplus apples to press!

So far this year we have had another enjoyable quiz evening and a talk on growing perennial vegetables. We have a trip to Dorothy Clive garden on 22<sup>nd</sup> May, Open Gardens on 23<sup>rd</sup> June and the Village Show a couple of weeks earlier than usual on 1<sup>st</sup> September.

We are proud to have 87 members this year and greatly appreciate all their support.