

Macclesfield
&
East Cheshire Branch
Newsletter



Stenocactus sp.

June 2017

CHAIRPERSON'S THOUGHTS No 14

The growing season is well under way now, plants are bursting into life and flowers are opening almost daily. Our summer season is bursting into life, too. We had the Arley Hall Spring Festival where we sold many plants, made £200, had good weather and a great day. We are certainly hopeful for next year. The North-West Cactus Mart, in Middleton, was a well-attended event, there were plenty of our branch attending and we all came away with some beautiful plants, as did most of the other attendees

We recently had a very busy weekend, Bryan Doherty ably assisted by Judith Roseblade, Tony Leonard, Alan Ibbotson and several others of the branch ran the Macclesfield branch's display at Notcutts Garden Festival. It was a well-attended affair with plenty of interest shown to our very colourful display and 12 information packs sold, as well. It helps to spread the word about cacti and succulents, as so many people overlook them as not interesting. This sort of public display should dispel that particular myth, so many thanks to Bryan and his team.

I had a great afternoon on 21st May. It was called New Members day and it was good to see old and new members and a couple of curious non-members turn up to see what it was all about. I gave a short talk about C&S, their habitat and needs and then demonstrated my compost, its components and why it has them. Then we had a look round the plants and finally did a couple of re-potting jobs. A large Ferocactus, which was in need of attention, to show how to re-pot such a large spiky plant, without damage and also an Agave desperately in need of investigation. It all made for fun and interest and Julia, in charge of refreshments, kept it all going.

July brings us more opportunities to see and buy cacti and succulents, Bryan Doherty's Open day on 2nd July, 2-6pm, the Wilmslow Show 9th July and the Tatton Show 19th-23rd July. Tatton is where you will be able to see us and our display, as well as dozens of stalls and thousands of plants and garden-related artefacts and tools. There is so much to see and do, you should not go away disappointed.

Good growing.

Elizabeth





Wilmslow Show.

Just a reminder our branch show is on Sunday 9th July from 11am to 5pm.
Closing date for entries is Tuesday 4th July.

Please everyone consider entering to support your show now and in the future.

Note it is a different venue this year. It is being held at :-

The Carnival Fields, Altrincham Road (A538), Wilmslow SK9 5NG

There is no parking, other than disabled, at the site on the day of the show but there will be a Park & Ride in operation from Broadway Meadow to the Carnival Field which will run from 10.45 to 17.00.

As normal, the Wilmslow Horticultural committee is looking for help from our branch members in both setting up on Friday 7th July starting at 2pm and dismantling after the show finishes on Sunday.

As many volunteers as possible would be appreciated.

Also volunteers required during the opening hours of the show to keep a check on the display plants to ensure no damage occurs and also giving advice to the general public if required.

I have a supply of show schedules should anyone require one.

Alternatively go to the website:- <http://www.wilmslowshow.com>

Latest news

I have now got confirmation from the Wilmslow Horticultural organiser that exhibitors will be able to park on-site on Sunday.

There will be a designated area within the showground and a parking permit will be required which I will obtain.

As it is within the showground any exhibitors requiring on-site parking will have to be in-situ before the show opens and remain there for the duration of the show.

I will let you know what time you have to be on site.

Judith

Forthcoming attractions

July

This is a busy month with, on Sunday 2nd Bryan Doherty's Open Day (2-6pm at 43 Coppice Road, Poynton, SK12 1SL) and the Branch Show/Wilmslow Show also featuring tortoises this year at the Carnival Field a week later, the 9th.

At the Branch meeting on the 11th John Watmough presents "What Ho! Watmough's Mesemb's" It's a long time, if ever, since John, from Oxford, has visited the Branch. He is a very knowledgeable person and will be sure to inform and entertain as he presents his Mesemb talk in his own inimitable style. Finally, the RHS Tatton Park Show runs from the 19th - 23rd.

August

Coming from North Wales Ian Robinson is almost a local speaker and has visited us many times over the years. On the 14th he will be explaining that H is for? Do come along and find out all that it is for.

Bank Holiday Saturday, the 26th, brings Poynton Show, billed as the biggest one day show in Cheshire with farm animals, show jumping, horticulture, food and lots more. There are eight classes for cacti and succulents, more modest than our own show. Just the thing to enter if you would like to enter another show, missed our own event or would like to try exhibiting for the first time. The Branch will, as usual, stage a small promotional exhibit. More details from Alasdair Glen, Branch meetings or the Show Office.

September

We will again have a promotional exhibit at Wythenshawe Garden Festival, or so we thought, but I understand there will not be one this year but a bigger one in 2018.

Last year Les Percy from Matlock was ill and unable to come to give his talk about Namibia. He's better now and we look forward to welcoming him to our meeting on the 11th.

Plants for monthly table show:-

July: Parodia Group and Faucaria Sub Group

August: Opuntia Group and Haworthia Group

September: Echinocereus Group and Anacamseros Group