



Berkhamsted and District Branch

Volume 2, Issue 2

July 2010

Special points of interest:

- Review of Zone 6 Show
- Zone 6 Open Day 18 July Northampton and MK Branch

**Programme
July 2010 to December 2010**

- 18 Jul Zone Open Day @ Northampton & MK Branch**
- 14 Aug Branch Mini-Show Kings Langley
- 11 Sep David Porter Euphorbias
- 9 Oct Paul Hoxey My Favourite Cacti
- 13 Nov Bill Morris My A-z of our Hobby—Part 1
- 11 Dec Xmas Get-Together

The Zone 6 Show was a great success and reflected well on Berkhamsted Branch

British Cactus and Succulent Society

Editor's Comments

Welcome to the July 2010 Branch newsletter. The start of the growing year was hardly hot, with temperatures on average lower than the trend. Recent weeks have been very much the reverse with hot, sunny days and warm muggy nights

We have had a number of interesting talks on diverse subjects including Escobarias, Australasian Alpines and Gasterias.

The major project the Branch undertook this year was hosting the Zone 6 Show on 22 May. This was the primary focus for the Committee from the early part of last year. I am happy to report that the Show was a great success, although the Zone will make a financial loss,

this will be significantly less than forecast. I am pleased however, to be able to report that the Branch made a profit on the refreshments. My thanks to all who helped both before and during the event and for the generous donations of cakes etc towards the refreshments.

We have an interesting few months going forward with talks about Opuntias, Euphorbias, Favourite Cacti and an A-Z of the hobby. In addition, the Branch mini-show is being held at the August meeting.

David

Hon. Secretary



Review of Zone 6 Show 2010



The Branch hosted this year's Zone 6 Show on 22 May at the Chorleywood War Memorial Hall, Common Road, Chorleywood.

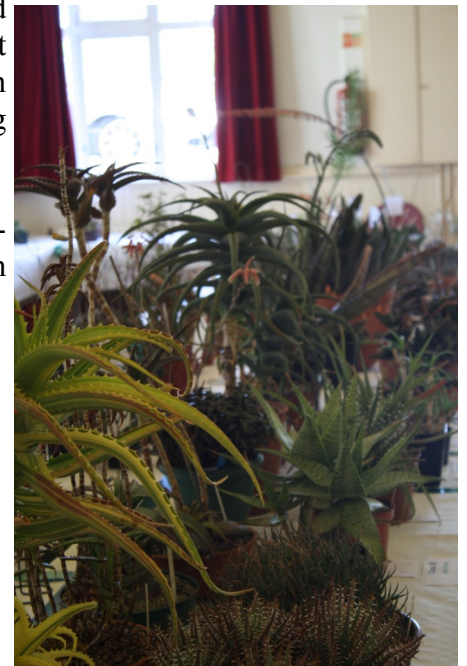
A great deal of effort went into the planning and preparation for the event. It was touch and go with the number of exhibitors, as we had only received 8 entries by the preceding Tuesday evening. However, by the end of Thursday another six entries had come in, making a total of 14. Between them the exhibitors managed to put on an excellent

display of mature and interesting plants. In all there were 279 class entries containing in 399 plants.

We hosted a successful Zone 6 Show. It attracted both members of the Society and visitors as well.

The exhibitors were split between a number of branches with the most coming from Berkhamsted and Harrow, see table below.

Branch	Exhibitors
Berkhamsted	5
Harrow	4
Luton	2
Northampton & MK	1
Leicester	1
High Wycombe	1



Thank you for your support:-

- On the day of the Show and in setting up on the Friday
- With donations of food, e.g. cakes etc.
- By donating raffle prizes



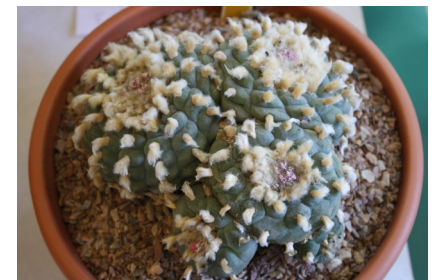
The Branch won the Ginns Cup with plants donated from Ina, Rodney, Gill and David. Our success was tempered slightly by the fact that we were the only branch to enter the class. However we exhibited six very good plants.

Visitors totalled 55 of which 36 came from the Society and 19 from other sources or passing the door. Nine of the visitors came from the retirement village situated the other side of Chorleywood Common. This was thanks to Ina advertising the event around the village. In addition, there were four under sixteen year olds admitted free of charge.

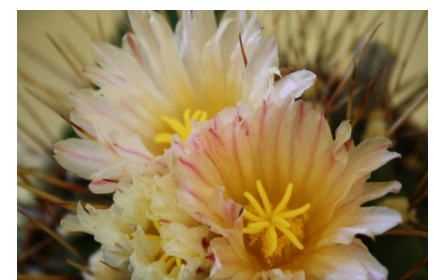
The event was well supported by Toobees and Plantlife Nurseries, plus Keith's Cactus Books. It is important to have the trade stands at these events as they attract members to come and exhibit or visit the Show.

The awards and cups at the Show went to: -

Trophy/Award	Exhibitor
Jubilee Plate	Chris Backhouse
Charlie Feetham Memorial Trophy (Cacti)	Ina Hopkins
Jim Healing Memorial Trophy	Ian Sharpe
Zone 6 News Cup	Peter Clayton
Zone 6 Shield	Tony Morris
Charlie Feetham Memorial Trophy (Succulents)	David and Gill Wilson
Ron Ginn's Trophy	Ian Sharpe
Zone 6 Cup	David and Gill Wilson
Zone 6 1979 Trophy for most points in Section A—Cacti	Tony Morris
Collis Trophy for most points in Section B—Other Succulents	David and Gill Wilson
Guinness Cup – Zone 6 Inter Branch Class	Berkhamsted Branch
Keith Grantham Medal for most points in the Show	Tony Morris
Silver Medal	Tony Morris
Bronze Medal	Ian Sharpe



The Zone Show would not have been a success if it were not for the excellent and copious supplies of food and drink provided during the day. There should be no doubt that this was entirely down to the hard work put in by Gill, Liz Sharpe and Carolyn Clayton. Without such generous donations of food and cakes etc. it would not have been so successful. Such generosity has helped the Branch to make a profit from the event.



March Meeting

John Watmough, from Oxford Branch, lead us through the 'Escobarias' and his talk was ably supported by both plants and slides. John is a widely experienced and amusing speaker whose talks are always interesting and enjoyable.

May Meeting

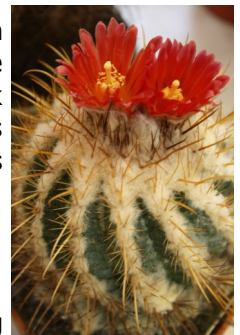
We diverged from our favourite group of plants in May when Robin Alabaster introduced us to his 'Travels among Australasian Alpines'. Robin has travelled widely in Australia and New Zealand and his talk covered a number of trips he has made to these countries.

June Meeting

June brought a new speaker to the Branch in the form of Tony Roberts who showed us 'Gasterias in the Flesh'. This was an entertaining and thought provoking talk that was ably supported by the plants Tony brought with him to our meeting.

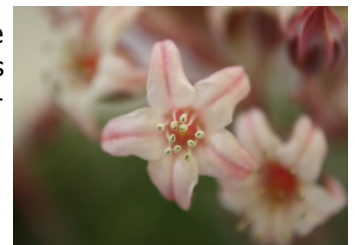
Forthcoming Meetings

As summer reaches it's pinnacle the Branch will be trying out a Mini-Show on 14th August, at our usual meeting place, to see if it is possible to resurrect the Branch Show. This will be a small scale affair this year and the judge, Derek Tribble, has offered to talk about the plants in the Show once the judging has been completed. Derek is a well respected expert on South African succulents and has travelled widely in the region.



As the days start to get shorter we will be welcoming David Porter to our meeting on 11th September to talk about 'Euphorbias'. David offers a wide range of talks ranging from British Orchids through to succulent plants.

By the time of our meeting on 9 October autumn will be upon us but we will be thinking of warmer climes when Paul Hoxey regales us with his 'Favourite Cacti'. Paul has travelled widely in South America and regularly talks to branches.



On 13 November Bill Morris will introduce us to his A-Z of our Hobby—Part 1. Bill has an encyclopaedic knowledge about our plants and is an entertaining and interesting speaker.

The final meeting of the year will be the annual Christmas Get-Together where we celebrate the forthcoming festive season and enjoy a more relaxed and different type of meeting. Further information will be available in the November Newsletter.