

PRESTON, ELMSTONE & STOURMOUTH HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The last year has been a busy one for the Society with an interesting programme of events, talks and a visit to Hole Park in the summer. This was much enjoyed by members and friends and included a guided tour by the Head Gardener and a delicious cream tea to round off the visit.

The speakers at our monthly meetings have been both interesting and informative from subjects varying from the history of Sissinghurst Castle Gardens, bulbs for providing colour for your garden throughout the year, propagation, planting and after care of roses and the history and cultivation of nuts.

Our members Sweet Pea & Rose Show in June saw the hall filled with many colourful blooms and our annual show on a lovely Saturday in September, saw the hall filled with a wide variety of vegetables, flowers, handicraft, cookery and art. Our judges commented on the quality and number of the exhibits. A lunchtime buffet was much enjoyed by all. Although the show was advertised we were a little disappointed that so few residents came to view the exhibits. We combined our Annual General Meeting in April with a members Spring Show although this was a little late as daffodils were over. In January this year, members and friends much enjoyed a late Christmas/NewYear dinner held at the Rising Sun at Stourmouth.

Our meetings have mostly been well attended and I am pleased to say that our membership has now increased to 35 plus. Our committee has arranged an interesting programme for 2025/26 and our meetings are held in the Village Hall on the fourth Wednesday of every month unless otherwise noted.

After seven and a half years I will be stepping down as chairman later this month at our Annual General Meeting but will still remain very much involved with the society as a committee member.

Chris Anderson

Chair