

**DEBENHAM & DISTRICT BARDEN CLUB
REPORT TO ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 27 APRIL 2009**

We started the New Year February 2008 with our AGM and a fascinating talk by Stuart Bufton on the subject of bees, their clever methods and their enormous importance to the world in general.

This was followed in March by a successful mini spring flower show.

We had various speakers throughout the year: Ben Potterton who came to tell us about choice and unusual woodland plants, Alison Jones a talented artist who spoke about her flower paintings and the November meeting the Wild Life Garden.

Our outdoor meetings included a visit to Hog's Kiss the woodland garden of our secretary Caroline Hutt and Framsdon Mill the garden and bygone centre at the home of our Chairman, John Ablett. Our proposed outing to Hatfield House in Hertfordshire, voted the most popular choice by our members, was a failure and the coach had to be cancelled as there were too few willing to go. This is one of the reasons we have decided not to have a big coach outing this year but instead we are visiting local gardens in our own cars.

The December social was entirely organised by one of our committee members, Madelaine Nightingale, who produced a delicious cheese and wine buffet and a demonstration of a Christmas table decoration.

This year will see us visiting The Fern Specialists at Stoke Ash (Chelsea Flower show gold medallists), the Chilli Centre at Mendlesham, the Walled Garden at Benhall and Mrs Pumfrey's rose garden at Brook Hall, Crowfield.

We are also taking part in the Crow's Hall Country Fair on Sunday 17 May where we will be staging our Flower Show and as ever non-members are very welcome to take part, there will also be a children's section.

Entry forms are available from the parish magazine and website and we would like to encourage as many as possible to take part.

Debenham & District Garden Club