

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday 17th November 2025 at Leigh Village Hall, RH2 8NP

Committee: Mr M Dobell, Ms H Taneborne, Ms P Taneborne, Mrs C Scott, Mrs P Brockwell, Mr D Frost, Mrs K Scroggins

Mark Dobell welcomed everyone to the AGM and introduced Mr Peter Church who had kindly agreed to be President of the LDCGS following the sad death of Mr Peter Worlidge earlier in the year.

Mr Church introduced himself as a resident of Leigh of some 35 years. A retired Civil Engineer whose interests now included a Leigh allotment which he and his wife Fiona tended with great enthusiasm. Keen supporters of the Summer and Autumn shows entering many categories and always willing to help before, during and after with the infrastructure ensuring a successful show for all. Peter was keen to try and improve the membership encouraging younger membership. He thanked the committee for everything they do and continue to do.

Chairman's address (see attached)

After the sad loss of Mr Simon Ames earlier in the year and the recent loss of Mr Brian Boustred a minute's silence was held in their memory.

Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Vivien Boustred, Brenda Lewis, Margaret Neil, Gordon Everest and Sally Ames.

1. Agreement of Minutes from 19th November 2024

The minutes were taken as read and signed by the Chairman. Proposer Mrs J Bartley, Seconded Mr C Saunders

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

Reports

3. Treasurer's Report (see attached)

All accepted the report for this year Proposer Mrs F Hadley, Seconded Mr D Clarke

4. Show Secretary's Report (see attached)

The secretary reported that the delay in engraving this year's cups was due to additional bases needed for some of the older cups and that many of the cups and shields needed engraving from 3 years past.

All accepted the report for this year Proposer Mr D Clarke, Seconded Ms A Kinloch

5. Membership Report (see attached)

All accepted the report for this year **Proposer Mr P Johnson, Seconded Mrs F Hadley**

6. Election of President – Mr Peter Church

Proposer Mr D Clarke, Seconded Mr C Saunders

7. Election of Chairman, Officers and Committee Members

All committee members have agreed to stand again for re-election.

Mark Dobell - **Chairman**

Helen Taneborne - **Show Secretary**

Douglas Frost - **Treasurer**

Penny Taneborne - **Events Secretary**

Paula Brockwell - **Secretary**

Kerry Scroggins- **Committee Member**

Catherine Scott- **Committee Member**

Proposer Ms A Kinloch

Seconded Mrs J Bartley

8. AOB

The Chairman presented Mrs S Frost with a gift from the Committee for hosting most of the committee meeting and all the beverages and biscuits consumed.

Mr D Clarke thanked the Chair for all his hard work over the last year.

The Christmas Wreath Making Workshop was promoted. It will be held on 12th December in the Village Hall at a cost of £25pp

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and drew the meeting to a close at 19.55

9. Date of the next AGM

Monday 16th November 2026

Signed

Dated

Chairmans Report 17th November 2025

LDCGS AGM

Good evening, everyone.

Before we start the evenings business, I would like to share with you the sad loss of 2 of the societies and wider communities' strongest supporters, Mr Simon Ames and Mr Brian Boustred.

In their memory I would like to invite you to a minute's silence in their honour.

Due to family issues over the last 6 weeks, I haven't had much time to prepare a thorough address.

First and foremost, I would like to thank Peter for accepting the Presidents role.

Despite the awful weather on the morning and into early afternoon of the summer show we had a very successful day. I cannot thank the committee and its associates enough for all the hard work over the year leading up to both the summer and autumn shows.

I would also like to thanks all the helper's, volunteers and extended family members who gave up their time to help on the Friday before the show and on the Saturday of the show. Every contribution no matter how big or small is very much appreciated.

Mark Dobell

Show Secretary report – LDCGS AGM – 17th November 2025

Summer Show – 19th July 2025

Looking back over my report from last year and it included a comment about the atrocious growing conditions. Similar can be said again but with different results.

Luckily all changed and conditions improved and we had a good number of entries. The growing season was extended and many had bumper crops – “a mast year”. We wish everyone good luck as the next couple of years might be very different.

Entries – we had several new and enthusiastic exhibitors which was encouraging and made a good show in the marquee. Our judges were delighted to see a good range of produce. We changed the marking process slightly as advised by our Chairman and it worked well and my thanks go to all the volunteer stewards. They have been invited back and I hope that they accept.

The most worrying thing is that so few children enter but those that do are very enthusiastic. The local schools have also found that time constrictions in their syllabus prevent them from putting in class entries. Our thanks go to the North Downs Betchworth base who overcame this and made a school entry in the writing class.

For the first time since 2022 we also had an Autumn Show – smaller but no less important and it was well supported as many had still good crops. Unfortunately, it clashed with the Newdigate show but we plan to hold an autumn show next year but on Sunday.

<u>Summer</u>		<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>
<u>Exhibitors</u>						
Adult		49	54	64	65	
Junior		11	13	15	14	
Schools		x	65	150	28	
<u>Exhibits</u>						
Adult		189	420	352	311	
Junior		35	65	83	59	
Schools			65	150	28	
<u>Total</u>		224	550	585	398	
<u>Autumn</u>						
Exhibitors	**	26	12		12	
Exhibits		204	89		149	

** Enhanced show as no Summer Show

HT

17.12.2025

Membership update AGM 17th November 2025

I am happy to report our membership level has remained stable this year, with 101 members compared to 103 last year. The number of these who are patrons has continued to rise again this year and is a third of all members.

The society is lucky to have loyal and supportive members, not only in Leigh but in the surrounding areas.

Once again the committee has taken the decision not to increase the cost of membership, which remains at £8 for membership and £15 to become a patron. There are lots of membership benefits – a varied and interesting programme of talks, garden visits to private gardens only open to members, as well as the discount on entering the Summer Show.

And we continue to offer discounts at a number of outlets, including the excellent Buckland Nurseries which always offers a great range of plants, the Hope Nursery now at Church Farm in Betchworth, and Paul Scroggin's local dog walking service.

Since 2022 we have offered more flexible ways of renewing your membership including online payment which is increasingly popular – just visit our website!

Thank you,

Adria Kinloch

15/11/2025