

**WALTHAM GARDENERS' SOCIETY  
and Surrounding Villages**

**Costa Rica  
by Sue Scrivens -Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June**

Sue Scrivens and her trusty partner John are great explorers in addition to being ardent horticulturalists and their visit to Costa Rica was a mixture of exploration and plant hunting.

Sue wonderfully narrated their various travel hiccups in their visit to this hot and humid home to numerous orchids and exciting flowers.

Costa Rica had a number of volcanoes some active and Sue's presentation illustrated their attempts to reach at least one summit.

The hot and humid atmosphere is an ideal environment for Amazon lilies, Gunnera, bizzie lizzies, pineapple sugar cane, strelitzia in addition to the national flower the Orchid.

Coffee is one of the main export crops of Costa Rica and Sue explained the passion for the afficianados of roasting to produce the best flavor.

Sue and John's story ended at the border with Nicaragua where they were heading next, a story for another day.

The Annual Show will take place on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August, the weather has been variable this year with periods of hot and sunny weather. Preparing for the Show has therefore been daunting. Many flowers have peaked early this year whilst pests and diseases are more evident with the mild winter allowing them to proliferate.

But the Annual Show is not only about Flowers, Fruit and Vegetables but baking with examples of sweet and savoury exhibits.

So it is now your turn to challenge the judges at the Annual Show at Waltham Village Hall on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August. Competition entries are invited in the Vegetable and Fruit classes, Flower, Foliage and Floral Art contributions and of course the cookery classes.

If you have not exhibited before come and give it a try and for those stalwart regular contributors we look forward to your continued support.

We look forward to seeing contributors with their entries **by 11.15 a.m.** and all of you for the **Show opening at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August.**

Winners of the various cups and trophies will be announced at 3.30 p.m. as will the winners of The Best Kept Garden and Prettiest Garden competitions.