

Chelsea Flower Show May 2018

For the first time for many years the Chelsea Display was not staged by Reg Bolton and his team, Reg has not enjoyed good health recently and he feels that it was the right time to step back and let younger enthusiasts with fresh ideas take over. FoBBS gives their fervent thanks to Reg and his team for great success, great credit for FoBBS involving a great deal of hard work.

The new team taking over are led by Chris Durne, with Chelsea experience learned at Bonsai Kai and Tony McKenzie from Sussex and Crawley. They come with new ideas and a different choice of trees. They started planning early and their work has paid off with a Gold Award at the first attempt – well done to the team, congratulations.

Chelsea judging is very precise; the team of judges led by Bonsai specialists have a very detailed set of criteria to work to. Chelsea is the most prestigious Horticultural Show in this country and possibly worldwide and they have very specific standards to maintain.

It is not as some suggest a random choice by non-experts; it is a very thorough and carefully thought out set of criteria with very specific requirements to satisfy. There are a number of sections that must be met. It is divided into 3 sections, Plants, Overall Impression and Endeavour being the categories with an overall total of 4 possible points in each section. The arithmetic being done gives you a possible total of 12 points. On this occasion FoBBS obtained the maximum 12 points for a perfect display. Well done!

(I make available to anyone interested the judging criteria sheet given to the judges at each RHS Show – if you satisfy all these many requirements you have a very good display – if you would like a copy contact me on mandkhughes795@gmail.com) *Kath Hughes*

The Bonsai Exhibits this year were:-

FOBBS with a 12 point Gold



Derbyshire Bonsai with a 12 point Gold



Mendip Bonsai with an 11 point Gold

