**Secretary’s Report – Hants AGS Annual General Meeting (Virtual) 2020-21**

The Group Secretary’s Report is designed to summarise the Group’s activities during the year and whilst the Treasurer’s report covers our financial year from 1 Apr – 31 Mar, this report covers our more traditional season running from September through to the end of May.

Following the end of last season (March – May 2020) being curtailed due to the Coronavirus lockdown, I am delighted to report that we have managed to deliver a full programme in 2020-21, albeit with the assistance of Zoom, something that may well feature to some degree in the future.

The Zoom lectures have been arranged and shared with our neighbouring groups of Dorset and West Sussex; they have been advertised on the AGS website and have attracted guests from around the UK and the world.

A few statistics:

* Average numbers of Hampshire members and guests joining our zoom meetings to date have been 56 and this does not include Dorset and West Sussex only members.
* We estimate that our total audience for at least three of our meetings exceeded 100 persons with all others ranging between 50 and 90.
* 55 Hampshire members have joined one or more zoom lectures and there has been contact with a further 13 in one shape or form meaning that we have connected with at least 68 members.

With the exception of our National Show at Wimborne that we jointly run with the Dorset Group, which could not proceed for obvious reasons, Hampshire AGS has delivered its full programme of activities in 2020-21.

* By the end of May we will have had our full programme of lectures, out thanks to Paddy and Christine Hughes for arranging our speakers this year
* A Christmas quiz thanks to David Butcher
* Photographic and plant competitions organised online by Angela and Steve Lobley and judged by Jon Evans and Martin Sheader respectively, thanks to you all
* The competitions attracted more entries than in previous years at Chilworth Hall, 51 entries to the photographic competition and 46 in the plant competition
* Mentioned in the Treasurer’s report, a highly successful plant sale, thanks to all the donors and purchasers and Paddy for baking cake every other day during April!

At this stage we do not know exactly how next season will look but we will keep you all informed.

Ben Parmee, Group Secretary