

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Double Success for Emsworth Horticultural Society

Dennis Doye

Two members of the Emsworth Horticultural Society are delighted to have achieved major awards this summer on behalf of the Society.

In the newly instigated garden competition, organised by the Hampshire Federation of Horticultural Societies - open to all of its 180 affiliated societies - Ann Moss was thrilled when she learnt that she had been awarded first place. Ann and her supportive husband Jack have transformed their garden since acquiring it some 10 years ago and it is now a picture to behold - in fact several pictures to behold. As the President of the Federation remarked after the judging, there were, "so many aspects and vistas, each having a different theme - national (Mediterranean/Japanese/Italian), seasonal, natural woodland glade, humorous - and all beautifully tended. Immense thought and creativity had gone into the design and construction."



Ann Moss relaxing in her garden



Sue Roylance receiving the Trophy from Bob Sweet, R.H.S. Head of Show Development.

Impatiens, Million Bells terracotta and yellow, Lamium golden form, yellow semi-trailing Savitalia, and Lysimachia - a display which obviously dazzled the judges and put the 39 other exhibitors in the shade.

Two excellent results for our local horticultural society.

The Society's other star performer, Sue Roylance, exhibited in July on behalf of the Society a co-ordinated Window Box and Hanging Basket Display at the R.H.S. Hampton Court Palace Flower Show, and in addition to a Silver Gilt Medal, was overwhelmed to be presented with a 'Best in Show' Glass Vase Trophy in the Horticultural Societies' category.

To comply with the R.H.S. chosen theme of "Hot, Hot, Hot", Sue had incorporated a carefully chosen combination of colourful plants, including red Verbena, pink, purple and yellow Surfinia, orange

## A magical marooning

Mike Blatch

I wrote my first children's book, Splurge, after becoming marooned on a mud bank in Chichester Harbour. Our family faced a six-hour wait before the tide would come back in again. With our two sons on board, Harry (five) and Fergus (two), I decided to make up a story to help pass the time.

The story is about a hidden world under the mud, occupied by strange creatures called Mudders. Unfortunately the Mudders' world is being ruined by pollution from humans. The main character, called Splurge, is sent up to try and sort out the problem. Splurge soon discovers that life on top of the planet is much more complicated than life below!

When I submitted the story to a publisher, I was amazed when they agreed to publish it. 'Splurge' came out this summer and has sold over one thousand copies in the first four months. The publishers, M2Fbooks, whose publications are specifically designed for bedtime reading, have now agreed to publish another of my stories. 'The Crystal Caves' will be released early next spring.

I am now very glad we did get stuck on the mud that day. It is bizarre that a small crisis has turned out to be the catalyst for a new adventure. I hope people will enjoy the stories and buy the books. It has been very exciting just to see the books in print.

The book, Splurge, is now available in bookshops and can be purchased online at [www.m2fbooks.com](http://www.m2fbooks.com)



The Blatch family with 'Splurge'

## How well do you know Emsworth 2005? ERA Competition at Emsworth Show

Bill Walker

Over 40 people had a go at the quiz and there were seven all correct entries. The first of these out of the hat and the winner of the £25 prize was Judy Cave of Western Parade, Emsworth. See photos to refresh your memory. Answers below.



Answers

- 1. Co-op building, High Street
- 2. Chequers Quay, Queen Street
- 3. Fire Station
- 4. Emsworth Shipper Sailing Club
- 5. Shipper Mill, Shipper Road
- 6. Emsworth Surgery
- 7. Greenhouse Cafe, St Peter's Square
- 8. Baptist Church, North Street
- 9. Frankland Terrace
- 10. Cottage Hospital
- 11. Central Buildings - Loyds Pharmacy
- 12. Old Flour Mill, Queen Street
- 13. Book Shop, South Street
- 14. Methodist Church, St Peter's Square

## Emsworth Artists Exhibition

'Emsworth Artists' have had another successful year with their annual exhibition. This year we held the exhibition in the Mountford Rooms of the Emsworth Community Centre. We were all very pleased with the new venue, both the lighting and the shape of the room proved to be perfect for an Art Exhibition.



Bob McKay with his painting of Early Morning Mist

The two competitions, winners voted for by the visitors, were as usual very popular. John Tweddell won the Sidney Stokes Award for the favourite painting entitled, "The Emsworth Quay" and Bob McKay won the Mountford Watercolour Award with his beautiful misty painting of Thames barges, "Early Morning Mist".

We would like to thank all the visitors who came to the Exhibition and helped it to be such a success.

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