

## Thanks for the Memory Flower Show Magic of the 1950's

August and school holidays are underway and approval has been given for the **Annual Flower Show** to be held on The Shipton Cricket Club ground.

### Sack Race

Dad has been busy attending planning meetings with other organisers. One Friday night he and a couple of others meet at the cricket field and mark out the running track where the field events will be held, Bob was one of a only a few who knew how to do this in the 1950's. Could the sack race, or egg and spoon ever have been more fun as a child?

The massive marquee for the flower and vegetable show is up, the beer tent is up, the tea tent, and the St. John Ambulance tent is in position and also the latrines. They all bordered the side of the pitch by the 'avee' with the running track stretching out across the field and the beloved cricket square, fenced off from marauding peasants. Saturday dawned



quietly, underlining the excitement. The exhibitors took their produce into the main marquee, there were beautiful vegetables. Four or five knife-like runner beans, the exact-sized set of six or seven onions, all laid out on a plate, the eggs all to size in sets of six.

### Dahlias big as Plates

The ladies made wonderful cakes; madeira, cherry, jams, homemade wine, all given their own classes, then there were the flowers. My father's specialities were dahlias, big as dinner plates, in red and white, purple and white. The same few folks were always in competition, Mr. S. and Mr. T. Their families will, I hope, remember the fun days when the marquee was closed for the judging, and everyone asked "Did you get a first or a second?" with great excitement and a real sense of belonging?

Who ever did win 'bowling for the pig' and, if they did what did they do with it?  
**Phyllis Clarke (nee Brookes)**

## Cotswold Decorative and Fine Arts Society

The June lecture to be held by the Cotswold Decorative and Fine Arts Society is entitled: '*An artist's view of 19<sup>th</sup> century rural Britain: a rural idyll or hard labour*'.

The lecture will take place on **Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 2.00 pm**. The lecturer is Mrs. Felicity Herring. Mrs. Herring has an MA in Fine Art Valuation and a BA in History and Economics. She

is a very experienced lecturer to NADFAS, the National Trust, schools and many other organisations. Non-members are very welcome to attend. Tea and coffee are provided from 1.15pm.

Lectures are held at the Bradwell Village Hall, two miles south of Burford on the A361 Lechlade Road.

**Mrs Robin McCulloch**