**Kettlestone Garden Club**

Robert Kilbourn took over Chairmanship of the Club following the 2016 AGM, and I took over part way through the year as Robert was unable to continue, needing to concentrate on other prior commitments. However, I would like to think it was a successful year, and we had a wide variety of meetings and practical activities which took account of the feedback from the survey at the previous AGM. These activities included:

* + A workshop to demonstrate how to plant successful hanging baskets in April, and a hardwood cuttings and grafting techniques practical in November provided by Martin Boddy;
  + A tour of gardens in the village in May
  + A “four corners” meeting where expert advice was available on a variety of topics in June
  + The entry for Sandringham Garden Show, which involved a lot of time and effort
  + A visit to Hindringham Hall garden
  + A talk from Trevor Hoad on preparing fruit and veg for the Produce show, which took place in September, and was again well attended despite awful weather.
  + In October we had a talk from Trevor Harrison of South Creake Nursery on “Autumn colour in your garden”.
  + The “Solstice Social” was held in December and in January we had a talk on “Gardens of the World” by Jules Pearce, who also judged the hyacinth challenge.
  + Our final meeting of the year was a talk by Simon Harrap of Natural Surroundings about inviting nature into our gardens.

We were concerned to ensure the viability of the Club, against a diminishing attendance at several meetings. Possible options included

* Trying to increase membership by extend invitation to Little and Great Snoring
* Reducing number of meetings - bi-monthly, quarterly, not in the winter months.

Several members of the Committee wished to resign for a variety of reasons, and we hoped that other members would be willing to take over, bringing new ideas into the Club. In the absence of anyone willing to take on the Chairmanship, or as Secretary, it was reluctantly agreed that the Club would close. The funds remaining in the Club’s books have been transferred to the Village Hall and ring-fenced to help fund the Produce Show in the Autumn.