

Milton under Wychwood Allotments and Gardens Association

Thirty-two members and three visitors were present at our April meeting, to hear Bob Haines talk on his experiences in South Africa and his description of getting 'lost' on a walk up Table Mountain added to his obvious enjoyment of the whole trip.

Pictures of the many different trees and the beautiful flowering shrubs gave a very good idea of the scenery in that part of Africa and Bob described the hard work that was entailed by local staff in maintaining the National Park, which covers a very large area that he visited.

Our Annual Flower Show will be held this year on Saturday August 21st in Milton Village Hall.

Schedules will be found in Milton Post Office and also the library nearer the time and if you live in the parish of Milton under Wychwood there are a great many classes that you can enter – it costs very little and is great fun.

There are teas and a raffle so do drop in even if you are not a Milton resident, everyone is very welcome.

Jane Lewis

HORSES AND THE MOTORIST

There are more and more horses and ponies kept for pleasure these days and most villages have a livery yard or private owner somewhere. Unfortunately for them, roads are becoming busier and they have no option but to use them in order to reach the bridleways . There are 3,000 horse related accidents a year and it therefore makes sense if the motorist and the horse rider learn more about each other.

No horse is bomb proof, they are unpredictable animals and their defence mechanism is one of flight. Mostly they are controlled by their riders who they have learned to trust but sudden incidents can cause their herding instinct to take over. Horses have virtually all round vision, and alert, aware riders also know that a motorist is approaching, so please do not sound your horn. Instead be patient, check your mirrors in preparation to move out and pass wide and slowly.

We hope that you will be thanked by the rider but if not please don't take it out on the next horse and rider that you pass. It may have been that the rider's hands were full controlling the horse, so a smile and a nod are all that they could manage.

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