
Milton-under-Wychwood

Allotments and Gardens Association

The clocks have gone back and I always find that driving home from work as darkness falls is a positive sign that winter is on the way. I use the word 'positive' deliberately because, whilst our gardens and allotments are tucking themselves up against whatever winter throws at them, it is an opportunity to take stock and plan what you want to achieve and grow next year. Indeed, as I write this, the seed catalogues are in front of me and while it may be a bit chilly and dull outside it is nice to think of next year, perhaps even a summer, and all the things that you are going to grow.

Wild Outside

Mind you, there is no need to wish winter away. There is a certain pleasure in being warm and cosy when the weather is wild outside. While you try and hang on to that pleasant image, I have to admit misleading you in my last article.

Through sheer administrative bungling, I gave the list of upcoming talks from last year's list rather than this year. If you came to a talk and found it very different from what you expected I apologise. If you didn't notice and enjoyed it anyway I am delighted. On the subject of talks, a lot of effort goes into trying to obtain the services of good speakers on a wide range of gardening topics during the year. Like everything in life, what you get tends to reflect the effort you put in and the very diverse and interesting set of speakers and subjects is a result of a lot of work by our committee members. We always try to do better so, if you have specific ideas for subjects that could be covered or know of good speakers that we may not know of then please let me

know. We do our best but any help or suggestions are always welcome.

So, to right my mistake in the last article, here are the next MUWAGA events, the right ones - honest!

Wednesday January 23rd Cheese and wine evening with light hearted chance to test your knowledge.

Wednesday February 27th *The scented Isle of Corsica*, a talk by Mornee Button.

Wednesday March 23rd *Ideas for Summer Bedding*, talk and plant sale by Donald Everitt.

Power to Your Digging Arm

With Christmas fast approaching, I wish everyone all the best for the festive season and all power to your digging arms in the New Year! Now I have my mind focussed uneasily on Christmas I wonder if there is anything, other than a new mower, that I can put on my list for Father Christmas. I know I need a mower but as I subscribe to the Bob Flowerdew 'make and mend' approach to gardening, much to Linda's displeasure, I feel I must make yet one more great annual effort to keep the present Atco Imperial going. It may be of unknown age, but it still sports a much rusted 'by kind permission' crest. Perhaps Linda will just surprise me!

If you want to criticise my effort so far, my only defence is that if you pay peanuts you get ... If you would like any further information please feel free to ring me on: 01993 830653 or Joanna Van de Pol on: 01993 830090. Happy gardening.

Tony Lewis