
Milton-under-Wychwood

Allotments and Gardens Association

The garden should be romping away by the time you read this. There are plenty of signs that nature is building up to full speed. The birds are busy with their new broods, the oil seed rape is flowering

(and incidentally I had a fascinating talk with a bee keeper putting his hives between fields of rape and field beans - bee keeping looks very interesting) and cow parsley is shooting up on the verges.

Spring fever is evident on the allotments too. No longer am I that woolly-hatted lonely figure. The woolly hat is still evident (no hair means either a cold or sunburnt head) but loneliness is not an issue - everybody is busy getting on with all the planting and ground preparation. It is a heart-warming sight for an allotmenteer. Of course, there is a downside to the increasing temperatures and growth. I am about to be thrown out of the greenhouse as Linda moves in with the tomatoes, cucumbers and peppers plus, I think, the odd aubergine or two.

News for Vegetable Groupies

There is plenty of activity on the MUWAGA front too. In March we were educated on the possibilities of bedding plants with a different slant and I found it pretty inspiring even for a vegetable groupie like me. In April we had a talk on 'the tricks of the trade' by Graham White aimed towards showing your plants. Graham gave us a lot of sound ideas that anyone could put into practice in their gardens. Looking ahead we will have held our AGM in the Village Hall on 28th May. The bitter pill of attending the AGM will be sweetened by the Wine

and Cheese event which follows it, with a fun quiz added for free. I hope as many members and any potential members as possible come. It is important that all should have their say. Membership

renewals will have been available at the AGM with the cost held at £5 per year still good value when you can get a 50% discount on your seeds through the Association. You can pay your subscriptions to Marjorie Thorpe at Bertha's Cottage (next to the Co-op).



Time to Show Off

The next event is the **Village Flower Show** on **23rd August**. The venue will be the New Beaconsfield Hall as it now seems certain that the refurbishment work in Milton Hall will not be completed in time. We are hoping for a bumper show but it does depend upon people having a go. You do not need to be a member of MUWAGA to enter either. Most of us just put in whatever we have; I once achieved a 3rd when only two of us put in exhibits in the class! We are also arranging a summer trip to Kew Gardens on **3rd August**. All the information is in the *Milton Gardener*, which members should have received. Non-members are also very welcome. If you are interested you can book places, which include the coach travel and entrance to Kew, through Marjorie Thorpe, or feel free to contact me on: 01993 830653 or Joanna Van de Pol on: 01993 830090 for further information. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible, if not at the AGM then at the Show.

Tony Lewis