

Milton-under-Wychwood Allotments and Gardens Association

Another two months gone and I'm still talking about the weather. Well, moaning, really! It is the usual roundabout of warm, then dry and cold and now at the end of May, wet - otherwise known as spring and summer in England. Of course, that is pretty much what our plants want - good growing conditions need warmth and moisture but we never seem to get it in reasonable quantities and this gardener would like it a bit drier and warmer. Still, looking on the bright side the water butts are full. This is the gardener's busy time. It is a rush to get all the sowing and planting done while keeping an eye out for frosts and, of late, the winds that can knock your little treasures down.



Drawing Breath

By the time you read this, the rush will be over, and hopefully we will be in that warm and pleasant time when, on the allotment I can draw breath, admire the view and enjoy the fresh produce. Well that's the theory! In a way, I see this as the end of the allotment year, virtually everything that we are going to pick through the winter was sown or planted earlier and it is now time to cultivate ground, decide what worked and what didn't and what to do for next year. This busy time in the garden is, deliberately, a quiet time for MUWAGA. We held our AGM on 28th May. The pill being sweetened with the cheese and wine evening that followed -with a quiz that even I managed to partly complete. Reluctantly it was agreed that we would have to raise subscriptions as, inexorably, the Association's costs are rising. Thus

from May 2009 the annual subscription will increase from £5 to £7. Members attending the AGM had the opportunity to renew their subscriptions for the year 08/09. Anyone else can renew their memberships, or join, by seeing Marjorie Thorpe at Bertha's Cottage next to the Milton Coop. Existing members have been sent a reminder.

Give it a Go

The **Flower and Vegetable Show** is on the **23rd August** and do remember that this year we are holding it in the **New Beaconsfield Hall** in **Shipton** as the Milton Hall is having work done. We are hoping that it will be as successful as last year. It's not too late to enter, and you don't need to be a member. The show schedules are already out, so why not give it a go. You can get an entry form from Marjorie Thorpe. Or, if you want more information you can call me on: 01993 830653 or Joanna Van de Pol on: 01993 830090. There are classes to suit almost everyone, covering: vegetables, flowers, flower arranging, cookery, crafts, including photography, and children's classes. For one year only we have a bigger venue and it would be nice to have a bigger show!

The MUWAGA autumn and winter season kicks off with a talk on *Roses Planting and Pruning* on **Wednesday September 24th** in the **Milton Village Hall**, which should be back in operation by then, and on **October 22nd** we will be having a talk on *Flowers of Turkey*. All talks start at **7:30pm** and everyone, member or non-member is welcome.

Tony Lewis