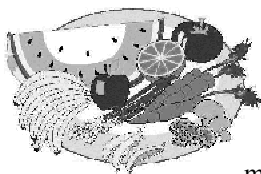


MUWAGA is For EVERYONE!

The AGM, in May, was very well attended; more, I suspect, for the cheese and wine that followed rather than for the entertainment value of the AGM itself. Nonetheless, it is good that members have their say in the running of the Association, and you can be sure that those there did! The main outcome was that having had a lively debate over the issue of whether the Association should change its name, it was decided that, for the moment, we would keep it the same. The proposal was made because it seems that many people in Shipton think that the 'Milton' in MUWAGA means that it is not open to people from Shipton.



By Any Name!

Nothing could be further from the truth, and I keep saying so in these articles, but clearly the message does not seem to be getting through. What we will do over the next year is redouble our efforts to make sure that anyone in our two villages knows they are very welcome. Actually, the welcome will not change, one of our strengths, to my mind, is that everyone really is welcome and I hope will feel included from the outset.

Summer is the close season for talks and meetings as everyone is far too busy with their gardens and/or allotments and out enjoying the summer weather. For once I can actually say that without any sense of irony, because just as I write this the weather is lovely. I may be moaning about the watering (you have to moan about something, it's traditional) but we are enjoying some true summer weather at the end of June and long may it continue.

Our next event is, of course, the **Annual Show** which takes place on the **5th September** in the **New Beaconsfield Hall** so keep up those efforts in the garden and allotment. The show was really well supported last year. That success was totally down to the efforts that exhibitors made to put their produce, crafts, cookery and so on into the show. Anyone can have a go, you do not need to be member of MUWAGA to take part, just contact me or Joanna van de Pol and we will get you all the information you need. We will be issuing schedules in late July. Our first two talks for the new season are *Serious Fun (propagation)* on **Wednesday 23rd September** and *Medicinal Plants for the Garden* on **Wednesday 28th October**. All meetings are held in **Milton Village Hall** and start at **7:30 pm**. Everyone, members and non-members, is welcome.

Lying in a Hot Bed

This is such a great time of year with those early season vegetables straight from the garden; you just can't buy such fresh and flavoursome food. Linda is starting the great feast of greenhouse plants and I can confirm to any of you who may want to know that cucumbers grow exceptionally well in hot-beds. The great cucumber crisis is upon us. I had cucumber every day last week (we all did) and still we can't keep up. I am hoping it is a short season - there are only so many possible options of cucumber dishes or sandwich fillings and we have not started with the tomatoes and courgettes yet! Happy gardening.

Tony Lewis