

## M.U.W. Allotments and Garden Association

The weather forecasters say that spring was about three weeks late this year, but I am not convinced. Perhaps things are catching up, I firmly believe that they generally do, but anyway, with the trees rapidly coming into leaf I can see the plants I am raising in the greenhouse for the allotment are at last on the move. We have also just had our first few helpings of asparagus. It is a difficult crop to justify in terms of the area of ground it occupies for what you get, but I still think it is a good deal because the flavour is divine.



renewal time. It remains at £5 and you can save that on your seed order, still one of the best deals around. If you want to join, contact Di Fletcher or get hold of any committee member or me.

### And Coming Up

On **10th July**, we have an organised trip to the Garden Organic gardens at Ryton (near Coventry). To avoid the difficulty of hiring a coach we are going to do it using volunteer car drivers. Then it is the show on **21st August**, back in the **Village Hall** at **Milton** this time. Anyone can have a go; there are a host of classes for vegetable, fruit, flowers, handicrafts and so on. It is a fun event where we all do our best, there are winners, but I take the view that anyone who has a go wins. Here I am trying to get all my seeds sown and growing away. The greenhouse is a boon for this as I like to plant out well-established plants in the allotment. I can feel the pressure is growing to get me and my seedlings out and it's coming from the conservatory in the form of Linda's many tomato plants, tens of peppers, aubergines and those cucumbers. I will be out on my ear soon!

Happy gardening.

**Tony Lewis**

### So What's Been Going On?

We have had a couple of really good talks. The first, in March, was on the growing of hardy orchids. Malcolm Brownsword gave a superb talk and they are fascinating plants. In April, it was on to Pelargoniums, their history and cultivation. It was another superbly illustrated and informative talk with just bags of useful information. By the time you read this the AGM will have been and gone. The Chairman will no doubt be bruised and battered afterwards but I hope the prospect of free cheese and wine will win the members back. The AGM also marks membership

## Age Concern - We Need YOU!

Volunteers are needed for our new **Reconnect Befriending Service**. Reconnect is a short term befriending service staffed by trained volunteers who visit clients who are isolated, housebound and lonely. The service will enable older people to reconnect with their community and help fulfil dreams and wishes.

If you could spare one or two hours per week you could **make a difference** to the lives of older people in Oxfordshire. Training and support/mileage expenses provided. For further information please contact **Tina Turvey**, Day Services Co-ordinator on: 01295 278040.