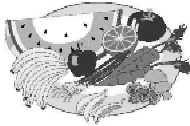


Milton-under-Wychwood

Allotments and Gardens Association

Isn't grass wonderful! We moan about having to mow it but green grass is a marvellous backdrop for most gardens, gives a place for play and relaxation and is generally as tough as old boots.

Even with all this dry weather you know that the first shower will bring back the green. I chanced upon this observation when I looked at our garden a week or so ago and thought that it looked lush and full of colour. Most of the components were grass, self-sown foxgloves, hare bells and other invaders doing their own thing and all for nothing.



probably the single most valuable (in money terms at least) thing we offer members, with up to 50% discount on seeds - you can save your £5 membership fee and more in one go! Thanks are also due to Barbara and David for taking these jobs on.

I write this as we are about to embark on a visit to Garden Organics gardens at Ryton. I am not a totally organic gardener but I do like the concept and am willing to consider anything which reduces my footprint on the planet (and is tasty).

Up-beat and Well Attended

Turning to more practical matters - the AGM took place in May and turned out to be an enjoyable evening (at least the cheese and wine went well) and the Committee survived to serve another year. It was very well attended and it was really heartening to see so many people and to have such a pleasant and up-beat event. Some of our stalwarts have handed over the reins - Barbara Young has taken over from Maureen Hunt and is already working hard to put in place next year's programme. I would like to pay tribute to Maureen who booked some excellent talks over the years. The sheer effort in finding good speakers, making all the arrangements and trying to lay on interesting topics without breaking the Association's bank balance is no easy task. James Burgis, too, has handed over the running of the seed order to David Van de Pol. Again, I offer my thanks to James who has willingly orchestrated the order for several years and with an order in excess of £1,000 this represents a major time-consuming task. The seed order is

Have a Go at the Annual Show

The big event on our horizon now is the Annual Produce show to be held in **Milton Village Hall** on **21st August**. If you want to have a go at exhibiting and do not have a schedule then please contact myself or Joanna Van de Pol. You do not need to be a member of MUWAGA to enter and it is a fun event so I hope to see you there. As the badgers have just (again) eaten all my carrots. I have re-sown them and with a bit of luck they may be ready by Christmas but the show could be a bit too early for me!

September sees the start of our winter season of talks; we kick off with a talk on *Garden Ponds and Water Features* on **22nd September** and on **27th October** we have *All Aspects of Fruit Growing* with a plant sale as well. All talks are in **Milton Village Hall**, starting at **7:30 pm** and everyone is welcome. Non-members will be asked to pay a small sum to attend. For now I continue to pray for rain. Happy gardening!
Tony Lewis