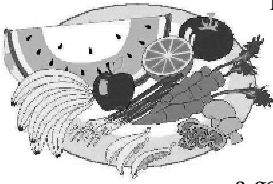


Milton-under-Wychwood

Allotments and Gardens Association

I know I should be looking forward to spring, but the winter chill is still a clear memory. February did bring welcome colour with a lovely show of snow drops, aconites and crocuses in our garden. A bit of climatic relief in February was very welcome, especially after December. On Boxing Day the car registered an outside temperature of -14°C. That's getting to Siberian levels and I speak with some knowledge of the subject. What it did show was that my brussel sprouts and kale are not natural inhabitants of the tundra and about 50% of the kale and a bit less of the brussels were wiped out by it. Commercial growers seem to have suffered a similar fate so, for once it does not appear to be a failure on my part.



as I carry out the domestic tasks around the plastered one.

The joy of spending February in England should have meant that I was at our talk on the 23rd on *ornamental grasses* but in truth I was ministering to the needy. I have been told I missed a good and very informative talk by Robin Pearce. I did go to the Cheese and Wine evening in January which was well attended and I think we all enjoyed ourselves with a challenging quiz and a lot of chin-wagging.

And Coming Up?

The talk on 27th April is on my favourite topic *Organic Gardening and Vegetable Growing* by Ian Gourlay and last but not least for the year, the **AGM** will be held on **25th May** and will be combined with more cheese, pâté and wine; it is the only way to get the Committee to attend, let alone any members!

As always these events are held in Milton Village Hall and start at 7:30pm. All are welcome, members and non-members.

Visit Michael Heseltine's Garden

We are also planning a visit to Michael Heseltine's garden on **4th June**. It is England's largest garden in private ownership, and is outstandingly beautiful and nearby, being not far from Banbury. If you are interested let me, Joanna or any committee member know. We intend to ask for volunteer drivers as it keeps the costs down and allows us to be flexible over numbers.

Hey Ho, that's all from me - back to the domestic tasks.

Happy Gardening.

Tony Lewis

Luck? What is that?

Now the editor, whose words are law and whose suggestions are really orders, knows that I tend to get my bit for the magazine to her just in time. This time I was hoping to use the excuse that I was just back from holiday. Fat chance! Lady luck did not turn her full beaming smile on the Lewis family this year. Linda broke her ankle two days before we were due to go on holiday. So, that's my excuse blown! However, the reader who read my last article (we know who you are) will be aware of my anxiety over the huge and effective effort Linda was making in getting her allotment ready and the very serious view she was taking over vegetable growing and the produce show. Now, those who know me understand that I am the last to take advantage of the less fortunate - but I can't help the odd smile