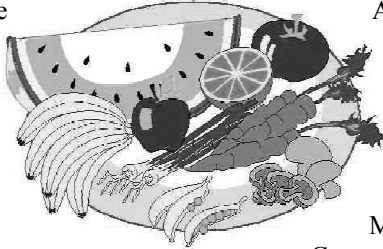


Milton-under-Wychwood

Allotments and Gardens Association

It's happened again. No sooner have I written an article about the Produce Show and the highlights of late summer than I am hacking out another for the next issue of *The Wychwood*. Now I am not one to wish my time away, I try and manage its pace at as low a tempo as possible but it still seems to flow past all too quickly.



the coming growing season. The Association can help with this; seed orders are again being placed with Kings Seeds who offer a 50% saving on seeds and a discount on onion sets.

Make sure you let the Committee know you want to be included in 2013, as orders are placed in October. You can save your £5 annual subscription in one go and still benefit from the discounts Association membership gets you at Groves and some local nurseries. You know it makes sense!

A Time to Plan

Winter talks are well underway. Our first talk was given by Tony Russell, the Head Forester at Westonbirt; he is one of the best speakers we have had. The topic *Garden Trees for the 21st Century* may well lead to a minor rush of winter tree planting. In October our speaker was Iain Gourlay, talking on *Organic Gardening*. Once again we enjoyed a very good and inspiring talk delivered in a humorous and pragmatic way.

Looking forward to **January 23rd 2013**, we have our Cheese, Wine and Paté evening. What could be better than food and wine to help dull the chill of winter and, of course, the horticultural quiz to make sure the grey cells are brought up to speed? All our talks are on a **Wednesday** evening in **Milton Village Hall** and start at **7:30 pm**. We'd love to see you; you can be sure of a warm welcome whether you are a member or not (there will be a small charge for the cheese and wine).

Apparently, the Romans called this time of year 'the planning time' - time to sit in the warm with seed catalogues and dream optimistically of what will be achieved in

Goodbye Cooking Apple Tree

Linda and I have a slight sense of relief as both allotment and greenhouse have pretty much come to a halt. We just have winter veg to harvest as we go along and there is not much to do on that front except try and keep the pigeons off the cabbages. However our kitchen resembles a market stall and Linda is slaving away trying to come up with new ways of preserving our summer produce. It may be a thankless task but I do appreciate the results.

Our cooking apple tree, an unknown variety, which is large and very old, has looked pretty sad all year and with no crop, and leafless, I am afraid it is for the chop, to be replaced with smaller apple trees.

As a long-time feature in the garden I will be sorry to see it go.

With that I wish you all a Happy Christmas and a fruitful New Year.

Happy gardening!

Tony Lewis