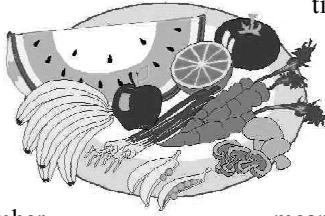


## Milton-under-Wychwood Allotments and Gardens Association

Normally I secretly feel sympathy for the weather forecasters. We live on an island beset by ocean weather which can change in a blink and they are only remembered for their mistakes. We all remember the “there won’t be a hurricane” from Mr Fish and the barbecue summer that was not. However, it all seems too easy for them now. All they have to do is predict it will rain each day and be windy or worse - even I can do that!



time you are reading this. If we have not I think I will be building a boat!

### Starting in Style

At least the winter has been pretty mild so far. That meant that we were able to hold our Cheese and Wine evening on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January free from the threat of snow and ice. It certainly seemed to tempt people out and the evening was the best attended that I can remember. It was great to see everyone and to be able to kick off the MUWAGA New Year in style. The event went with a real swing. I enjoyed the cheese, the wine and the company but, as usual, was completely floored by the quiz. Even the raffle went unnervingly smoothly - I am in danger of becoming too relaxed!

### Building a Boat

It all means that gardens and allotments are, at the end of February, either sodden or under-water and this at a time when I would like to be thinking about and even getting on with a bit of ground preparation. It is good to be positive in the face of adversity so I shall start my broad beans off in pots and my onion sets in modules, ready to go out when that magnificent spring is sprung. The weather has given me the opportunity to do other things, like get the front and back fences fixed. I have also been able to spend time wandering around the Milton Allotment field trying to find Linda’s compost bins. You would be amazed how far they can travel and I am convinced one has escaped completely. If you come across a lonely, battered, black council compost bin let me know – I have a home for it. Christmas brought me a new seed box and now my seeds are tidily sorted within it. As a result, I almost appear organised and I am ready to go. All I need is the occasion - a dry spell would do for a starter. Let us hope we have had it by the

### What’s On

On 23<sup>rd</sup> April Gerald Sinclair will tell us about *Late Summer Perennials* which I hope will tell me how to keep the colour going right to the end of the year, without too much effort. Then we have the **AGM** on 28<sup>th</sup> May (with the all-important Cheese and Wine – I know why you really come and it is not to hear me drone on!) For those of you interested in getting your views heard this is your opportunity to raise them - we are genuinely interested to hear what you want from your Association.

The talks are always on in the Milton Village Hall and start at 7:30pm. You do not need to be a member to attend. Come along we will be pleased to see you. Happy gardening!

**Tony Lewis**