

WHALEY BRIDGE
Allotment & Gardeners'
Society

newsletter

JANUARY 2000

Dear Member,

Once again it's the time of the year when, on behalf of our chairman John Pressman and the committee, I send you all new year greetings but as we all know this occasion is a bit special so, it's A VERY HAPPY 2000! By the time you receive this the celebrations will be well over but from what I heard and read it seemed that most people were ignoring all the hype and planning to do pretty much as usual. Anyhow, however you celebrated I trust it was enjoyable.

Right then, now you've got your new diaries here are some dates you can write in! Coffee mornings on Saturdays, July 1 and December 16 at the Mechanics. Our popular spring plant swap/sale at the store on Elnor Lane is on Saturday, May 6. Then we have what may well be one of the highlights of the year and on this occasion I make no apologies for using the dreaded 'm' word - we've arranged a grand Millennium Garden Party on Sunday afternoon, May 21 at Whaley Hall on Reservoir Road. Admission is by ticket only which costs £5 and includes a first class buffet and drinks plus a super free raffle. Members, should they wish, may bring one guest but as numbers are limited to 100 we have to make it on a 'first come, first served' basis so ring Ethel Hallam on 734436 to reserve your ticket.

Our 'long distance' trip this year is to the village of Flore, near Northampton on Saturday, June 17 where as part of the Yellow Book Gardens Scheme several villagers open their gardens to the public in aid of charity. This is a popular, annual event and comes highly recommended by Mr and Mrs Wright and should provide a splendid day out. Included in the price of £8.50 is a stop at a smart (for us) venue en route for morning coffee and Danish pastry. There is also a charge of £2.50 which admits to all six gardens. There's also a flower festival at the local church and probably a local pub too! Ethel has put in a lot of effort into organising this trip so please give her your support and book now.

Plenty more goodies to tell you about next time - members' open gardens, talks, more trips etc.

The store will open for business on Sunday, February 13 at the usual time. Pleased to say that several members took advantage of our one-off opening before Christmas. Thanks to all those who volunteered their expertise to assist with the store shelf and also to those who phoned claiming the smart pen left behind after the agm! (see last month's newsletter).

Sorry to report that we will soon be saying farewell to Mr & Mrs Thomas of Start Lane who are moving down Ashbourne way later this month. Supporters of lots of our functions over the years, members will recall a splendid, balmy evening in their garden at Foxhill a couple of summers or so ago. I understand Mrs Thomas is planning to devote her time to growing her favourite, no doubt prizewinning, chrysanthemums. We wish them well. Mr Thomas has two perfectly good Flymo mowers with leads etc. going free to anyone prepared to just give them a clean up. Ring 732530 if you're interested.

Members' seeds have now been delivered but as usual one or two packets are left over plus a packet of Phostrogen. These errors often arise at the seed company's end but to make sure will you check that what you have coincides with what you ordered. Let me know if it doesn't.

 John Howes, Secretary
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