

WHALEY BRIDGE
Allotment & Gardeners'
Society

newsletter

JANUARY 2003

Dear Member,

On behalf of your Chairman, John Pressman, and committee I wish you all a very happy new year and, of course, a successful one in the garden. Whatever happens we know by now that it'll be good for some things, not so good for others and an unmitigated disaster for the rest!

Thanks to all of you who supported our Christmas Coffee Morning which was a great success. Lots of excellent prizes were donated for our Tombola and made a really impressive show. We also had ten prizes for the raffle, the winners of which were Mrs Mellor, Mrs Shasha, Mrs Coverley, Mr Heathcote, Mrs Woodward, Mr Blaiklock, Mrs Stafford, Mrs Lloyd, Mrs Frith and Violet (or was it Iris) from the flower shop. Readers will know that I don't normally single out particular helpers as everybody pitches in to roughly the same degree and as usual everyone did a splendid job. But on this occasion I do feel a vote thanks should go to Joan Swindells for her really sterling work distributing coffee and raffle tickets to the local shops taking £35 in the process. While we are not in the business of making money it's nice to be able to report that the Society's coffers benefitted to the tune of just over £250. A marvellous effort and thanks again to both helpers and visitors.

Members' seed orders have now been delivered but I do have a number of items left over – even more than usual which is saying something! I won't list them all but we have a selection of onion sets and one of shallots, a couple of packets of tomato seeds, one each of carrot and calabrese, and three odd packets of flower seeds. I'm also nursing a 1kg carton of Phostrogen Plant Food worth £4.99 and a 15kg bag of CS2000 Fertiliser costing £9.15! There's some big money involved here and King's don't make these kind of mistakes so please double check your order forms against what I've delivered and let me know if you are short of anything. Our thanks to the 34 members who ordered their seeds through the Society.

Those who are afflicted with it will have spotted the first sightings of our old friend the Lesser Celandine. In fact I've seen it lurking just below the surface for well over a month. Daffodils are also now making an appearance. I don't know too much about these things but surely it's all a bit early isn't it?

Mention of daffodils reminds me that last autumn our member Brian Bristol together with his family and a posse of neighbours spent a weekend planting hundreds of bulbs in the grass verges on Linglongs Road. It should be well worth a stroll to Taxal Church when they are all in flower.

We'd be interested in any feedback from members hiring equipment from Speedy Hire in New Mills where you qualify for a 15% discount on production of your signed 2003 membership card (make sure you've paid your subs to get the card!). You can then reclaim another 10% on presentation of your bill to treasurer Bob Kellock or any other committee member.

Cedge Heathcote has kindly donated a selection of videos that members may like to have a look at. Subjects are Dahlias, Clematis, Fuchsias, Sweet Peas plus Summer Bedding and Hanging Baskets. Ring me on 733579 if you'd like to borrow any of these.

We're pleased to welcome new members Peter Parsonson of Frith View, Chapel and John and Lorraine Coverley of Bingswood Avenue.

The store will be opening for business on Sunday, March 2 from 10am to 12noon but if you can't wait until then to make a start give me a ring and we can make arrangements – I'll do anything to make a sale as you know! A new price list will be sent out with next month's newsletter together with more dates for your diary. Lots to look forward to, folks!



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