

# WHALEY BRIDGE ALLOTMENT & GARDENERS' SOCIETY

## Newsletter- Jan/Feb 2009

Dear Member

On behalf of your Chairman & Committee may I wish you a very happy new year.

Firstly, a big thank you to all who supported our December coffee morning on such a miserable wet Friday. I understand there was disappointment that we didn't have a Tombola. There will be next time!

We've certainly been getting our share of wintry weather of late. Not a great deal could be done in the garden and even the odd hardy allotmentee (not me by the way) had difficulty getting a fork into the ground. There's always something to do of course. Sheds and greenhouses usually need some attention and tools could benefit by a good clean if they are anything like mine.

Our treasurer, who knows about these things, tells me that last year's wet weather means that shrubs and trees have put on height and width and may now need some urgent pruning before spring arrives. Soft prunings are fine for the compost heap while tough woody stuff can be disposed of in the green lidded bin the council has thoughtfully provided. But you already know all this don't you?

You'll see overleaf details of most of this season's events and we've arranged a really exciting line up for you so you'll want to **keep it somewhere handy**.

Roger Wood who is organising talks for us has come up with something for our veg. growers so if we put our minds to it we could clean up at the local Shows this year! Our speaker will be Dave Hampsey from Heaton Moor and ... wait for it ... is registered with the RHS as a speaker on Horticultural topics and is a National Vegetable Society Judge and Exhibitor up to and including National Championships. So, if growing vegetables is your interest Dave is your man! Speakers of Dave's experience and quality are a bit thin on the ground so spread the word among your gardening and allotment holder friends. The date for this talk is Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> (see details overleaf for venue etc.).

Would any member(s) like to open their garden(s) to the Society this summer for an afternoon one weekend? Any money collected can be donated to your own favourite good cause or charity of your choice. If interested, you need to first contact one of the committee, maybe Roy or Rosemary, as arrangements need to be discussed before it can be added to the programme of events.

On a personal note, due to deteriorating health I've decided it's time I handed over management of the Elnor Lane store to someone fitter and David Osborn has willingly agreed to take it on. Dave Parker will continue to assist as usual and Gordon Belfield is also standing by to help out. So it will be business as usual from the 5<sup>th</sup> April when the store reopens. Of course I'll miss seeing all our regular customers but I'm confident you'll soon get used to David and find him an excellent man for the job.

Finally, our treasurer, Bob Kellock, thanks all those who have to date renewed their subscriptions. Some members from last year haven't yet renewed. If you don't have a card expiring Nov 2009, then you've probably not paid your subs (£4 per person). To avoid membership lapsing please send a cheque, payable to WBAGS, (or cash) to him at 31 Meadow Close, Whaley Bridge, High Peak, SK23 7BD **as soon as possible**. If you have any membership queries please give Bob a ring on WB 733393.

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No.14. January/ Feb 2009

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**PTO**