



WHALEY BRIDGE Allotment & Gardeners' Society



JANUARY 2011 NEWSLETTER HAPPY NEW YEAR!



SEASON'S GREETING!

Your Committee wishes you a very Happy New Year with good health, fair weather and enjoyable gardening.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to **Andrew Kadzevski** and **Tony Moll**, both of Chapel-en-le-Frith and **Graham Harwood** of New Mills.

At the end of the 2010 membership year, we had 186 members, which was very similar to the previous year. Approximately 15 people who did not renew in 2010 were replaced by a similar number who joined.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

29th October 2010

The Committee thanks everyone who attended the AGM. It hopes all enjoyed the chance for a chat and to meet fellow members over a drink and nibbles when the business was over.

Mike High, who was co-opted onto the Committee during 2010, was elected as a full member during the AGM. You will be aware of the very substantial contribution made to the

Society by Mike, helped by Tim Newton, in launching our new website www.wbags.co.uk.

The Committee is now as follows:

Mike High Website Manager
Roy Jennings Chairman
Bob Kellock Membership Secretary and Treasurer
Rosemary Kellock Social Secretary
Tim Newton Website (Co-opted)
David Osborn Store Manager
John Pressman Committee Member
Gill Williamson Newsletter Editor
Roger Wood Talks Organiser

The following key facts emerged in the various reports:

- 1) New ploholders have enhanced the utilisation of the allotments.
- 2) Profits from the Store were up but income from visits and talks was down slightly. Expenses were up. Overall the Society made a modest net profit of £26.
- 3) A wide range of activities had been organised for members: visits, talks, social evenings, coffee mornings, plants sales, plant swaps and open gardens. Levels of support varied but levels of enjoyment for participants were high.
- 4) www.wbags.co.uk is up and running. Members were encouraged to read it and contribute through its links.

The raffle was won by **Mrs Pierce**, one of our founder members.

SUBSCRIPTIONS – REMINDER

If you have not yet paid your subscription for the 2011 year, please

give or send **Bob Kellock** a cheque (£5.00 per person) as soon as possible. His address is 31 Meadow Close, Whaley Bridge, SK23 7BD.

THE YEAR AHEAD!

Once again, **Rosemary Kellock** has produced an excellent programme of events. Our thanks go to her for all the hard work involved. See “**WBAGS Diary Notes 2011**” attached.

FIRST MEET-UP OF THE YEAR *****

A SOCIAL EVENING Friday, 11th March. Trinity Church Hall. 7.30pm

The winter can be a little lacking in cheer for gardeners. Accordingly, we will be serving wine, coffee and nibbles to entice you out of your homes, to encourage you to meet with your gardening friends and remind you that Spring will soon arrive.

This social gathering is an opportunity to identify members with common interests to your own. One or two members have been formulating ideas about things they would like to do and may well seek kindred spirits with whom to try things out.

It can be snowy in March. If there is a doubt about whether the event will go ahead, please check the website, ask a friend to do so for you or speak to a member who has email.



All members are welcome at the Social Evening. If you know someone who might be interested in joining the Society, feel free to invite him or her.

FIRST TALK OF THE YEAR*****

Thursday 31st March Trinity Church Hall. 7.30pm

“RESTORATION OF THE JAPANESE GARDEN”. Simon Tetlow, Assistant Head Gardener at Tatton Park, will tell us about this fabulous restoration project. The garden was originally inspired by the Japanese gardens at the great British Japan Exhibition held 100 years ago in London. The garden at Tatton Park fell into disrepair after the death of Lord (Maurice) Egerton, who had originally commissioned it.



Members £1 Non-members £2.
Coffee and biscuits.

(See comments in section above about inclement weather.)

FIRST VISIT OF THE YEAR*****

OUTING TO FELLEYS PRIORY, UNDERWOOD, NOTTINGHAM

Sunday 17 April

Felley Priory is owned by the Chaworth-Musters family. The focus of the visit will be the daffodils in the orchard, a mini Plant Fair and their own plant nursery. A tea-room offers light snacks, cakes and drinks. See Diary Notes 2011 attached and also the website www.wbags.co.uk To book, contact **Rosemary Kellock** (Phone number below).

STORE OPENING

David Osborn and his team will open the Store on Sunday, 27

March. See next Newsletter for more details.

NEW DISCOUNT

Chapel Tool Hire will now offer a discount of 10% to WBAGS members on production of a membership card.

www.chapeltoolhire.co.uk

IDEAS FOR NEW ACTIVITIES

Margaret Day has been working closely with the Committee to develop some new ideas and projects. The Committee thanks Margaret for her help and looks forward to sharing these ideas with members at a later stage.

PLEASE POPULATE OUR WEBSITE!

We would welcome news of interest to our members.

Have you seen any **plants** behaving in a different way from what one might expect at this time of year?

What about the **birds** in your garden? Have you any new winter visitors this year or any signs that **wildlife** is using your garden in a different way from in previous cold winters?

Are you enjoying **preserves** made from your summer or autumn surpluses? Please share your **recipes** with other members if so. There is nothing like something really delicious to remind you of warmer times in this season of the year. With a few new ideas in circulation, we will all be able to share similar enjoyment next winter.

Have you had a clear out of your shed and found **tools** that you do not want to keep? Maybe you have something that another member would really like to buy second hand or receive as a gift.

To place your news items or recipes on our website, please go to www.wbags.co.uk . Use the link before this sentence or type the

address into the browser of your computer. This will bring you to the website's homepage. Press on the word “Contact” (bottom left) and this will bring up a pre-addressed framework within which you can type your message. It does not need to be in a form ready for presentation. Webmaster Mike will do that, getting back to you if something needs clarifying. Go on, have a go!



PLANTS TO BE SOLD AND SWAPPED

If you have plants that are surplus after autumn splitting, please let **Roger Wood** know. (Telephone number below)

We will be adding seed swaps to our May plant swap event. See more information in future Newsletters.

VISIT TO HIGHGROVE IN 2012 (Advance Notice)

The Society may offer a visit to the garden of HRH The Prince of Wales in 2012. Bookings have to be made a long time ahead. It is therefore important to test interest in this visit now. If you would like to take part, please let **Rosemary Kellock** know. (Phone number below)

Action needed now*****

PODICEPS CRISTATUS.....

will be back with us when the Toddbrook Reservoir has refilled and the weather is warmer.

