



WHALEY BRIDGE *Allotment & Gardeners'* Society



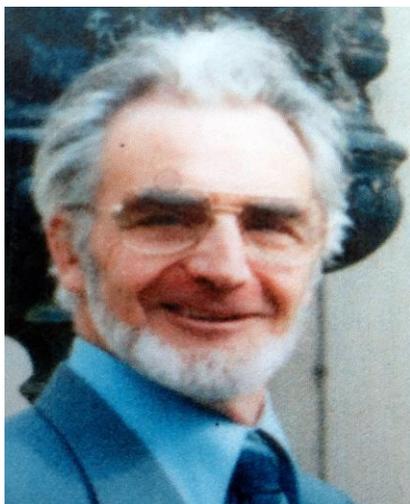
January 2019

Happy New Year and happy gardening to you all in 2019.

A copy of events planned for 2019 is attached. If you receive an email copy of the newsletter and would like a printed copy of the programme they will be available at WBAGS events and at the store.

Membership News

We are sad to report the death in November of our founder member, Bob Pierce. Our thoughts and sympathies are with his wife Pam and son Colin.



Bob worked tirelessly to establish the society which has given so much pleasure to so many of us and will be gratefully remembered by our members. A donation from the society will be given to Whaley Hall who were

supportive of Bob and his family during his illness.

Myra Beeley and John Aldridge have also passed away and Bob Kellock has sent cards expressing our sympathy on behalf of the society. Our thoughts are with Joyce Payne as she copes with her loss and recovery from her shoulder operation.

Welcome to new members Maggie Halliwell from Chinley and Charlotte Walsh from Buxworth and Gwyn Bowers from New Mills; we look forward to meeting you at future events.

Coming events.

As usual our opening event will be a social get-together on **Thursday 7th March, 2 p.m. at the Uniting Church.** Bob will present a slide show featuring last year's outings and there will be light refreshments and a free raffle. Guests are welcome to attend.

Our first talk of the year will be on **Thursday 4th of April** from 2 p.m. at the Uniting Church. Jayne Allison will talk about "Banquets for Bees and Butterflies". Gardens are becoming increasingly important for biodiversity as we lose our species rich meadows so

come and learn how to garden in a wildlife friendly way.

Our first outing of the year is on **Sunday 28th April** to the **Harrogate Spring Flower Show.** We will leave Whaley at 9 a.m. and return after the plant sell off at 4.30. There is a shuttle service from the car park to the show ground. This show features a food hall and crafts as well as plants as well as ample dining opportunities if you don't want to bring a packed lunch. The cost is £35 payable to Rosemary. Please make cheques payable to WBAGS.

Sunday 26th May is our annual plant swap at the Elnor Lane store. Please pot up a few extra seedlings as you prepare for spring and bring them along potted and labelled to swap with other members or make a small donation if you don't have swaps.

Our first **coffee morning** is on **Saturday 1st June** at the **Mechanics Institute.** Donations for the plant stall and raffle, home bakes and makes and offers of help appreciated.

Store News

The store will be open from

Sunday 24th March 10 till 12 until Sunday 7th July and on Wednesday evenings 6 till 7 from 27th March to 3rd July.

Competitively priced compost, grow bags, fertilisers and a range of garden products are available. If you need help handling heavy bags, delivery can be arranged. The three Davids who man the store make no additional charge for the banter.

Allotment News.

Our member, David Dugate, heads up the allotment working group where plot holders meet regularly with members of the Town Council. He is pleased to report that there is now an improved turnout at working parties where work has been done to extend the water supply and install two more taps and to improve drainage.



Out and About

Marple Allotment Association are hosting a potato day on Sunday 10th February from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is at Marple Senior Citizens Hall which is accessed from Stockport road between Costa Coffee and the Regent

Cinema. (SK6 6BE) with ample paid car parking. There will be over 90 varieties of seed potato on sale in 1 kg bags and also vegetable seeds, onion sets and garlic, fruit trees and soft fruit bushes, herbs and summer flowering bulbs. Tea, coffee and cake are also available.



Chapel en le Frith Gardening Club have an excellent programme of talks for this year. Copies of their calendar will be available at the store or from Roy Jennings All talks are held in Chapel Town Hall at 2 p.m. and cost £2 for non-members.

The first three are:-

January 30th – Ducks and geese.
February 27th – Caring for house plants.
March 27th – Caring for bonsai.

WBAGS trips

Rosemary will continue to focus on taking us to more unusual hidden gems and continues to amaze us by coming up with new and interesting places to visit. Please support these trips as it is important to fill coaches. Dates for the local RHS shows are Chatsworth 5th to 9th June and Tatton 17th to 21st July but be

aware of the clash Sat 8th June with our trip to Tilston Open Gardens. As Andrews run coaches to all the RHS shows WBAGS will not be arranging trips to these.

Used stamps wanted.

A reminder that I am collecting used stamps to raise funds for National Trust projects in our region. There is a small collecting box in Footsteps or please pass them to any committee member.

Subscriptions.

Finally a reminder that subscriptions for 2019 were due in November 2018. Do it now if you have not already renewed. As well as payment by cash or cheque to our treasurer Bob Kellock, you can now pay by BACS transfer if you bank online.

The relevant WBAGS account details are:-

Sort code: 01-06-05
Account no.: 11097221. Please quote 'WBAGS subs' as the reference.

One of the benefits of membership is our free loan scheme for various hand tools. You can also borrow 2 gazebos free of charge for yourself or charity events or for a small donation for non-members. Please contact Bob Kellock (01663 733393) to arrange to loan these items.

Thanks to Michael Heeley of Shallcross nursery for his donations of plants to our plant sales – you can obtain discount here on production of your current membership card.