

WHALEY BRIDGE
Allotment & Gardeners'
Society

newsletter

MARCH 2002

Dear Member

As a change from griping about the weather (although it's been pretty foul) we kick off with apologies for various errors in last month's newsletter! In the price list for the store the prices for Levington and Humax composts were transposed so that Levington should read £4.60 (cheaper than last year) and Humax compost (new) £4.20. These are run-of-the-mill mistakes for me of course and there may well be more. The best for a long time though is asking members wishing to book for Llangollen to ring Ethel on 734026. Now, I've got no idea where I plucked that number from and it's nothing like any number I ring regularly – certainly it's not like Ethel's! My apologies to those members who rang it and got an understandably rather irate gentleman who obviously had no idea what you were on about. Mostly though I feel I should apologise to the poor chap whose number it is but I daren't ring the number! Seats are still available and Ethel's number appears below – I won't risk giving it here in case I get it wrong again. A reminder that the trip is on Saturday, 25 May and costs £9.50.

As promised, we've organised a midweek treat for you on Wednesday, 3 July when the venues are Lodge Lane Nursery & Gardens at Dutton near Warrington and the famous Ness Gardens on the Wirral. We've been to Ness before but I feel we've enough new members since then to pay a return visit. Cost is £12 which may sound a bit pricey but this does include admission to two gardens plus the coach fare. It will be a full day out so departure is at 9am and as I'm helping Ethel out on this one phone me on 733579 to book – I think that's the number!

New additions to our stocks at the store are a tub & hanging basket compost, some rose food and Miraclegro ericaceous fertilizer for your heathers etc.. I understand it used to be known as Miracid which may be a more familiar name to gardeners. Don't forget, if there is anything not on the list which you would like us to stock let me know. Nobody got in touch last time I asked for suggestions but now we're all getting the gardening bug again something may occur to you.

Sorry to say only five members showed any interest in Gail Thomas's flower arranging demonstration which is nowhere near enough to invite her to come and impress us with her undoubted skills. So that's a non-starter I'm afraid.

As I'm gradually being dragged kicking and screaming into the computer age here's a great wheeze that members who are on the internet may be interested in. The idea is that the newsletter could be e-mailed to you thus saving your deliverer's time and effort, photocopying costs and in some cases postage. If you are interested you can e-mail me at the address below. I was going to say phone me until Mary put me right! You may of course prefer the sound of the newsletter landing on your doormat. You can also e-mail to book the trip to Ness or any other matter.

Welcome to new members Mrs Smith of Bingswood Road and Mrs Gilbert of Church Bank, Whaley Lane.

NATURE NOTES

Have you noticed how all the crows that are about the place stick together in pairs? Even when a great flock of them take to the air making that amazing racket you can still see that they're paired up.

There's recently been correspondence in the Guardian about the earliest dates frogspawn has appeared in garden ponds – early February seems to be favourite. However, on clearing leaves from a pond a couple of weeks ago I came across a lone tadpole which ought to be some sort of record! If anyone can shed light on how this can be give me a ring.



John Howes, Secretary
6 Rock Bank WB 733579
jay_howes34@hotmail.com