

WHALEY BRIDGE
Allotment & Gardeners'
Society

newsletter

Dear Member,

Well, your Society is ticking over under its new 'management'. I don't have to tell you that we have all missed both Ethel and Ron on the committee but Rosemary, following her elevation to the position of Social Secretary has been doing splendid work and has arranged three trips for us this year and you can see full details overleaf. All our other activities are listed so keep the page pinned up in a prominent position somewhere. We'd hate you to miss out for want of knowing what's happening and when!

Here are some other outings organised by other chums that you may be interested in (assuming they don't clash with ours of course). The Horwich End WI is running a trip to the BBC Gardeners' World Live at the NEC, Birmingham on 14 June. The cost is £24.30 and includes coach fare, entrance fee and a ticket to see, and hear, Alan Titchmarsh. If you're interested ring organiser Hilda Burgess on 01625 873461.

Peter Thomas of the Disley Society has arranged trips to Bretherton Gardens nr Leyland on 6 May, the Lakeland Rose Show nr Kendal on 14 July and Brodsworth Hall nr Doncaster on 1 September. Details of prices etc. are available direct from Peter on 01663 763302.

Members will know that we hold one or two 'Open Gardens' each summer that always provide an agreeable afternoon out. We are fortunate to have two already lined up for you. Firstly, on Sunday, 13 May, Dr and Mrs O'Donoghue have invited us to enjoy the Azaleas at 1 Reddish Avenue. They should be looking their best then ... er that's the Azaleas of course. Proceeds from refreshments and raffle will go toward the cost of 'Footsteps' move to temporary premises.

Then we go to the garden of Fran Frodsham and husband Ken (they of the splendid tubs and baskets around the village) on Sunday, 19 August. The Frodshams decamped to Offerton recently but knowing them the garden will be splendid. See overleaf for details of what should be a good afternoon out.


On a less agreeable subject we have now to assume that, almost six months after subs became due, those members yet to pay may not wish to retain their membership. However, in case it has just slipped your mind you have until the end of April to get your modest £4 (it won't buy you two pints at the Shepherd's) to treasurer Bob Kellock at 31 Meadow Close, Charles Johns at 134 Macclesfield Road, me at 6 Rock Bank or at the store on Sunday mornings. We try and make it as easy to pay up as we can!

The store is in full swing on Sunday mornings and members will notice we now have smart new shelves on which we can display our full range of goodies. We have my new 'young' assistant Dave Parker to thank for these with possibly more improvements to come. (I'm not so sure who is the assistant!) A new price list is enclosed (at last you'll say) and while there are several price increases I don't think there's anything too drastic - everything still excellent value in fact!

We had a very encouraging letter from Derek Lear at Green Oak, Taxal regarding Justin Mwatela, the young Kenyan boy who's education the Lears are assisting financially. Their Open Garden last summer, thanks to members plus other donations, raised £1000 that secures Justin's education for the next two years at least. More will have to be raised in due course as in Kenya Primary education continues until age 14 and books and two sets of school uniforms are in addition to annual tuition costs so when the garden is open again I urge you to visit and make a donation to a very worthwhile cause.

I neglected to give details of money raised at our Christmas coffee morning. This totalled just over £240 and was delivered to Ethel's daughter Louise on behalf of the Society and was added to the fund for Ethel's treatment. It was a splendid effort and Louise has expressed her gratitude to members. The Society also handed a donation to the Funeral Directors at the funeral.

No.2 March/April PTO



John Howes