

JULY 2002

Dear Member

I'm not sure why but someone up there seems to like us! Despite unfavourable weather forecasts for both the coffee morning and our trip to Lodge Lane Nursery and Ness we got away without getting wet. In fact, after a heavy shower on the motorway both to and from Ness, we enjoyed virtually unbroken sunshine all day. The garden at Lodge Lane and the plants for sale were really superb and I hope all our purchases arrived home in one piece. I can thoroughly recommend a visit if you didn't come on the trip. The only problem now is to find a garden for next year that's as good – any suggestions welcome. Our lucky raffle winners were Mrs Whitehall, Mr Derbyshire and Mr Whitehead and yes, two of the prizes were of the fudge variety!

Now we're all looking forward to Ethel's outing to Thorpe Salvin on 3 August. For the lucky ones who managed to book a seat we depart from Whaley at 9.30am. I've probably been a bit vague about departure timings in the past but if you get to both Horwich End and the Jodrell at least 5 minutes before the stated departure time you'll be OK – you'll just have to wait a bit longer at the Jodrell of course. Fifteen minutes before WB departure time at the Board should be OK too. I'm mentioning all this as we've had a narrow squeak or two of late!

Thanks to all those who helped - no names but you know who you are - or supported the recent coffee morning which was another success and it kept dry even though it was the 'Water Weekend'. We unfortunately weren't visited by the Polish children in town so learning the Polish for "fifty pence a strip, please" was a waste of time. Helpers will be pleased to hear we made just under £200. Among the raffle winners were Mrs Berry, Mr Thornley, Mrs McNicholas and Mrs Campbell. Don't forget our 'festive' coffee morning in December when we'll be having a Tombola.

Good news, folks! Sunday, 11 August is the date set for Ron & Joan Macbeth's eagerly awaited 'open garden' day at The Dell at the bottom of Elnor Lane from 2pm until 5pm and fingers crossed for better weather this year. Raffle and refreshments, the proceeds going to Blythe House, High Peak Hospice.

Two gardens that you may care to visit in the meantime are at Gamesley Fold Cottage, Glossop on Sundays, 14 & 28 July, 1pm – 5pm. Directions etc from 014578 67856 and, nearer to home, The Spinney at Combs on Sunday, 14 July, 2pm – 5pm (Teas, Plants, Dogs on leads). Park in the village.

Welcome to new member Mrs Williams of 'Dewsnap', Chinley. Unfortunately, I have to report the loss of 13 members who have decided not to renew their membership.

Mr Bennett has some gardening tools he wants to dispose of. He's on WB 733477 if you're interested.

The store closes on 14 July, 10am till 12noon, after a splendid season's trading. We still have stocks of everything on your price list plus one or two items not on it such as lawn seed, so pay a visit before it's too late. Should you wish to make a purchase after then I can open up by arrangement or even deliver.

Readers may recall my mention in the April/May newsletter the idea of organising regular meetings open to all society members after only four initially showed interest in an allotment holders' meeting. As you'll know a date of 14 May at the White Horse was set. This time only three turned up and those were of the original four! So, there's obviously not much mileage in a members' 'get together' suggestion.

If you're going to the Tatton Park Show look out for our member Janet Langman's 'Back to Back' garden.

John Howes, Secretary
6 Rock Bank WB733579