

WHALEY BRIDGE
Allotment & Gardeners'
Society

newsletter

Dear Member

Last month's newsletter was intended to be the last for a while thus giving our happy band of deliverers a nice long summer break. Needless to say all didn't go to plan as I neglected to mention when the store would be closing. I could of course contact all our members individually but I hope you'll agree that that would have been too much to ask! So I have to call one more time on the good offices of our deliverers to get me out of a hole yet again.

However, it does give me the opportunity to mention how much we enjoyed the recent trip to David Austin's Roses. It was Social Secretary Rosemary Kellock's first trip as organiser and the general consensus was that she passed with flying colours. It was a tricky outing to organise what with there being the two venues plus meals to arrange etc. Even the weather was fine and dry! Our thanks then to Rosemary for all her hard work. Our next two outings should be a doddle for her to set up. We included the usual raffle of course but sadly there was no fudge available so our winners, Mr Whitehead, Mrs Macbeth and Mr Thomas, had to content themselves with plants and things.

I can also confirm details of the rest of the summer programme so that our deliverers can relax on holiday knowing that everyone will have a note of what's going on!

Our next trip is on Saturday, 11 August when we go to Holehird Gardens up in the Lake District. Ask anyone who's been before and they'll tell you what an excellent venue this is with the superb gardens and brilliant views over Lake Windermere. Price is £11 departing from Whaley at 9.00am.

Then on Sunday, 9 September we visit the Sheffield Botanical Gardens where I understand there has been substantial recent renovations to the gardens. Lunch and light refreshments are available in the Curator's House Restaurant. A highlight of the trip could be the afternoon plant sale with some fine specimens to tempt members to open their wallets and purses! Cost of the trip is only £8.

You may book now by ringing Rosemary, who would like payment in advance by the way, on 733393.

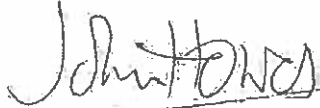
Members have admired the immaculate tubs and baskets round the village for the last few years and will no doubt know they are the handiwork of members Fran and Ken Prodsham. Fran and Ken have kindly volunteered to open their garden at Lyme View, 54 Ilfracombe Road, off Woodlands Drive, Offerton from 11am until 3pm on Sunday, 19 August. The usual refreshments will be available (well, hopefully different ones) plus would you believe - a raffle. Woodlands Drive is opposite the Strawberry Gardens pub which I'm sure you all know and yes, you can see Lyme Park from the garden but not Ilfracombe!

New members are lining up to join us! And we welcome Peter Cartwright and Barrie Richardson both from Chapel, Beryl Ellison from New Mills and Mrs Tonge from Old Hall Drive.

I'm sure there was something else I had to tell you. Oh yes of course, the store! As we're now down to just two or three members making purchases each Sunday, Dave and I've decided we can be more gainfully employed elsewhere and much as we enjoy the usual cheerful banter it's not quite the same with just the two of us! So, the store will close on Sunday, 15 July which gives you ^{one} ~~two~~ weeks to make sure you have everything you need to see you through the coming months. There's still plenty of gardening to do and we have lots of compost, fertilisers, growbags, canes etc. You name it, we've got it, so why not buy now and have a head start over your neighbour next spring.

Here I must thank Dave Parker for not only taking on the heavy lifting for me but selling more to customers than they actually came for!

No 4 July 2007


John Howes