

WHALEY BRIDGE
Allotment & Gardeners'
Society

newsletter

Bob & Rosemary
Dear Member

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2000

Not passed through the a/c's

Around 35 members enjoyed the visit to Mr & Mrs Morten's splendid garden on a coolish, sunless but, thankfully, not rainy day. (Over £50 was raised through the raffle and refreshments the proceeds going to The Christie Hospital. Lucky raffle winners were Mrs Mellor, Dr O'Donoghue and Mrs Kennedy. Thanks to all those who came and our hosts for their hospitality.

Arrangements for our trip to Wollerton Old Hall Gardens on Saturday are all finalised now and everyone has returned their menu requirements as requested. These will be returned to members on the way to Wollerton so we will all be able to remember what we ordered! A final reminder that we leave from Horwich End PO and the Jodrell bus stop at 9am. May I also request that should you not be able to make the trip to let Ethel know even if it's on the actual morning. This will give her time to amend the list and save the rest of us from hanging around waiting for non-travelling members to turn up. Food ordered will have to be paid for of course!

On the subject of trips my dangling the carrot of the National Onion, Potato, Leek and, of course, Carrot Championships was insufficient inducement to tempt members to show interest in an outing to Harrogate in September for the Autumn Flower Show. In fact a dozen members were keen but unfortunately nowhere near enough to make it economically viable. Apologies to those who did respond. Still on trips, several members have enjoyed the recent Tatton Park show and it has been suggested that we organise a society visit next year. Sounds like a good idea to me. ✓

As our store is now closed I can report that support has been excellent this season! Seventy six members made purchases which is almost exactly half our membership. Thanks go to all those who helped to make it an all-time record and also to Bob Blaiklock and David Osborn for doing their stints on Sunday mornings. We still have stocks of everything on the list except multi-purpose compost and as you know you can ring me at any time should you need anything and we'll arrange to meet at the store or I will deliver. I'll do anything to make a sale!

A black month on the membership front, folks. Unusually, NO new members to introduce and threatening letters did not bring forth unpaid subs from four late payers so we're actually down.

Don't forget the Whaley Show in September organised by the Show & Garden Society (with whom we're often confused). It's always worth a visit and one or two of our members do exhibit (you will recall my mentioning a certain party's prizewinning blackcurrant jam last year). Some years ago I stumbled across a good wheeze to get amongst the silverware as a first time veg. exhibitor. All you have to do is take all your spuds, onions, beans, tomatoes etc. and enter them in the novice class. You can't lose because you'll be the only one entering in that section. Unfortunately that's the only time you will win as once you've won a prize you can't enter the novice class again! Worth a try.

Sharp-eyed readers will notice that this newsletter covers both August and September - purely to give your hard-working deliverers a break you understand. Next one in October. OCTOBER? What happened to summer!!

John Howes

John Howes, Secretary
6 Rock Bank WB 733579