



WHALEY BRIDGE
Allotment & Gardeners'
 **Society** 

newsletter

OCTOBER 2000

Dear Member

Looking from Rock Bank across to the park the changing colours of the trees tell us that autumn is with us now but there is still a fair amount of colour in the garden. The sun, when it appears, is still quite warm bringing out the usual butterflies and this weather certainly seems to suit grass - it just won't stop growing. As we've not yet had a frost the allotments are still producing plenty of runner beans and courgettes but any remaining apples and plums have been taken over by wasps. The mention of butterflies reminds me that I saw a Brimstone on the plot recently - not that I knew what it was until I looked it up. Anyway, it was the first I've ever seen - which was nice!

Having got the nature notes out of the way a reminder of the AGM on Friday, November 3 at the Holy Trinity Church Hall at 8pm. Note change of venue which, we hope, should give us a bit more leg room. As I point out every year this is the chance to kick out your current officers and put yourselves forward for election - give me a ring if you wish to do so. There'll be the usual refreshments (don't get too excited!) and raffle plus a golden opportunity to pay your subs and of course have a chat and a convivial glass with fellow members

Seed catalogues have been sent to new members, most allotment holders and those who ordered last year. I do have spares so if you would like a copy let me know and I'll get one to you post haste. I need the completed order form with cash or cheque (payable to the Society as above), plus subs if you wish, by Saturday, 4 November. You can bring them to the AGM or if it's more convenient can be handed to Ethel Hallam at 11 Jodrell Road, Charles Johns at 134 Macclesfield Road, Bob Kellock at 31 Meadow Close or delivered or posted to me at 6 Rock Bank, WB, SK23 7LE .

I can't believe my mention of the Whaley Show in the last newsletter was in any way responsible but I was pleased to see at least five members amongst the prizewinners. I won't embarrass them by naming them. Oh, why not! Congratulations to Mrs Cottrell, Mrs Hartley, Mrs Gregson, Dr O'Donoghue, Mr Heathcote and modesty forbids my mentioning who took the honours in the classes for white and coloured potatoes beating the usually all-conquering Mr Townend into second place in the process and is now the proud holder of the William Boston Memorial Trophy!

Seems so long ago now but, as I recall, members thoroughly enjoyed the trip to Wollerton Old Hall and Bridgemere back in August returning as usual with considerably lighter wallets and purses than they started out with! I do remember that the weather was excellent after a dodgy start but I have forgotten who won the modest raffle prizes! Yet again, our thanks to Ethel for the excellent organisation.

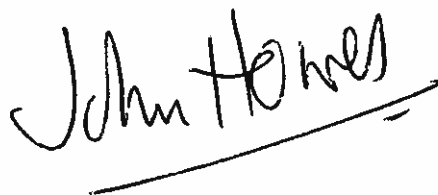
Good news on the store front folks! We have both decorative and composted bark for sale at the ridiculous price of £3.50 (saving £1.10), Humax peat at £2.20 (50p) and Groworganic manure at £4.00 (60p). To allow members to take advantage of these massive savings the store will be open on Sunday, 15 October for one day only - well, from 10am till 12.00. Supplies are limited so get there early!

Good news, too, on the membership front with five new members! Welcome to Arnold & Betty Marchington of Rock Bank, Stuart Robinson of Chapel Road and Mr & Mrs Bennett of Manchester Road, Chapel. Sorry to lose Emily Emmett (young family thus no time for gardening) and David and Harry (moving to Bollington) from both the allotments and the Society but pleased to report that Barbara Oldham has taken over her late husband Mick's membership.

I know members will be looking forward to our annual plant swap/sale next year and to make it even better your committee have suggested that we might do a seed swap as well. So, if you have anything of interest save some seed, if it's not too late, and bring that along as well.

Alpine enthusiasts may like to know that the East Cheshire Alpine Society will hold their Autumn Plant & Book Sale at the British Legion Hall, Wilmslow at 7.30pm on 9 October and will have, you've guessed, plants and books for sale. Admission is free.

And now for something completely different! Members may be familiar with Spike Milligan's 'Adolf Hitler - My part in his downfall'. Well, for Spike Milligan read Morton Bissett. Mr Bissett, who played a key, high level role in the top secret aspect of the war which has been featured in the recent Special Agent series on TV, has volunteered to give us an illustrated talk on the subject which he is calling 'Deception in Wartime'. While it's far removed from our usual gardening topics there must be, how shall I put it, one or two of our members who were around when all this was going on and would find the talk of real interest. I was running around in short trousers at the time toadying up to the boy down the road who had a genuine German helmet - he never let me wear it though! The venue is the Holy Trinity Church Hall on Friday, 20 October at 8pm. As we have to hire overhead projection equipment to show Mr Bissett's collection of forged documents etc. to defray expenses we will have to make an admission charge of 50p (or whatever you can afford!). Refreshments will be provided of course. Please come and give your support to Mr Bissett and, yet again, it's an opportunity to pay your subs as well. You can't say we don't give you plenty of opportunities!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Howes". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

John Howes, Secretary
6 Rock Bank WB 733579