



WHALEY BRIDGE
Allotment & Gardeners'
Society



ODE TO AUTUMN

COMING EVENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 6th November
 Uniting Church.
 2.00 p.m.

**MEET GARDENING FRIENDS
 SHARE IDEAS
 HAVE YOUR SAY**

New committee members are always welcome and members may propose candidates, with their agreement, for election. Discussion was lively at last year's meeting. Light refreshments and a free raffle are on offer so please come and join us.

Talk by Anthony Norman from Conquest Plants nursery. Thursday 29th October 2 p.m. Uniting Church.

Anthony and Susan Norman are specialist growers of variegated and coloured hardy plants and will speak on "Colours in Seasons" with an emphasis on shrubs, trees, alpines, heathers and conifers. They are regular stall holders at specialist plant fairs in the area.



Coffee morning on Saturday 19th December at the Mechanics' Institute. 9.30 – 12.30.

Bulbs and Christmas items will be on sale. Offers of help are welcome – please contact Rosemary on 01663 733393.

Talk at Chapel Gardening Club. 25.11.15 7.30 p.m. at Chapel Town Hall.

"Colour in the Winter Garden" by Geoff Yates.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Welcome to a new member Sandra Ellis.

Subscriptions.

Renewal of membership is due this November. Please pay at the AGM or complete the attached slip and return with payment to our treasurer, Bob Kellock, indicating if your address or email has changed. Due to successful fund raising the cost of subs has been kept at £5 and, as a one-off, will cover the next 2 years to November 2017.

Whaley Bridge Garden Society Show. 5th September.

This annual event is organised and hosted by the W.B Garden 'Show' society but was well supported by WBAGS members.

There were some impressive entries of vegetables, flowers and arts and crafts. Cream teas were served and the event ended with presentation of trophies and an auction of produce.



STORE NEWS

Sales were good this year with 150 visits from 54 members. We were also able to raise funds by recycling donated items such as unwanted tools. Stocks of items are low to facilitate stock taking but if you want any items over the winter months please contact David/Dave (numbers below).

ALLOTMENT NEWS

The new plots are still suffering from poor drainage, possibly due to springs in the bank which are not captured by the new drains. However the water tank is working well with plenty of water supplied to the standpipe taps along the access paths. There are still 20 names on the waiting list held by the Town Council.

RECENT EVENTS

Report on Social evening Friday 25th Sept 2016 7.30pm at Holy Trinity Church.

There were a good 25 at the meeting including some newish members, David & Diane Beever and Mary Prime with her husband Terry, making an ideal number for the size of room. After initial briefings by Roy, Bob and Rosemary, the meeting got off to an entertaining start with Dave Parker giving a short presentation /demo on the 'Air-Pot' system for container and pot plants which are grown in black plastic sheeting moulded into cones both inside and out, cut to size and assembled.



Plant roots get more air via the holes in the outer cones and keep moist from the reservoir effect of the inner cones. It is claimed to eliminate root circling and promote a good fibrous root system which in turn leads to healthier and faster growth. Dave was enthusiastic about the idea and offered details to anyone interested, but it isn't particularly cheap. A large quantity of surplus harvest apples were shared out and a few plants likewise. The evening went well and the refreshments and wine certainly added to the conviviality. We were grateful to Alec & Jean Clough who had

come direct from a day's cycling on the Wirral to help out before returning to their home at Chapel-en-le-Frith.

Report on coach trip to Norton Priory walled garden , Thursday 1st October 2015

This was the final trip for 2015, attracting just 21 which resulted in use of a small coach. Thankfully Indian summer weather prevailed and the day went very well. The drive was fairly short and some time was spent initially at Daresbury visiting the Lewis Carroll centre, a recent extension to the parish church where his father, Rev Dodgson, was a much loved vicar.



After light refreshments, our lady guide gave an excellent talk explaining the history of Lewis Carroll and the many references in the memorial stained glass window.



He was evidently a very gifted man and apart from storytelling he invented puzzles, was a university don, a pioneer photographer and churchman. He delighted in setting his audience/readers hidden meanings. After a brief stroll in the village and collection of some horse chestnuts (conkers) the party had lunch at the Ring o' Bells pub and then were driven a short distance to Norton Priory. A short walk took us to the restored Victorian Walled Garden and a guided talk was given by the head gardener with specific reference to national collection of quince and apple trees.



We were reminded briefly of the history of the ruined priory (now being excavated) and the long demolished 19thC manor house.



Later a tasting session was offered and freshly harvested fruit and preserves were available for members to buy before the return journey.