

WHALEY BRIDGE ALLOTMENT & GARDENERS' SOCIETY

Newsletter- December 2008

Dear Member

There was a good turnout for the recent AGM and all enjoyed the post business 'socialising'. Your committee is basically unchanged – all agreeing to stand again - with the addition of Roger and Jean Wood who are now full committee members being previously co-opted. Rule 7 of the Society has thus been amended bringing the numbers up to nine.

Roger and Joan will be responsible for arranging talks, among other things, and got off to a good start by bringing in Anthony Norman of Conquest Nursery to talk to us. Plans are already being drawn up to book other speakers during the coming year. This in addition to four trips that Social Secretary Rosemary Kellock is busy organising. So, you can see that there will be plenty going on in 2009.

Weatherwise it certainly wasn't the best of autumns, but we did have a few sunny days in which to appreciate the beautiful seasonal colours. The ground is so wet that some of the usual end of year garden tasks have had to be delayed, maybe in some cases until next year. Not to worry though, winter can be a relatively quiet time so we should be able to catch up.

As usual on the allotment front, it has been painfully obvious that some plots have not been cultivated much, if at all, over the last year and comments were made at the AGM on this matter. As a result the meeting agreed that the Society should write to Whaley Bridge Town Council (managers of the site) and High Peak Borough Council (who own the land) with a view to getting tougher on the culprits especially as there is apparently a waiting list of 40 for vacant plots. We will be reporting back to members any response we receive.

Well, the 'Festive Season' is fast approaching and we have what should be a very good Coffee Morning coming up on Friday 12th December at the Mechanics. There'll be lots of 'Christmassy' items for sale so do come along and join in the fun and snap up a few bargains. Help on the day is always useful so if you can lend a hand, let Mary, Lindsay Morris or Muriel Pressman know. Pass on or bring any quality items for the 'Grand Raffle'.

Our Treasurer, Bob Kellock, is still awaiting subs from those members who have not yet renewed. So if you haven't paid your £4 (which was due beginning of November) he'd like to hear from you! Send a cheque, payable to WBAGS, to 31 Meadow Close, Whaley Bridge, High Peak, SK23 7BD or deliver cash to the same address, following which you will be sent your new membership card.

Members who ordered seeds through the Society will have received them now. However, I do have some left over including a couple of bags of onion sets so if you are short of anything that you have ordered, let me know - it does happen occasionally. Seed potatoes come later next year of course.

I must offer my thanks to those members who sent very welcome 'get well' cards and good wishes during my recent incarcerations in Stepping Hill. You know who you are! Happily, it was more the inconvenience rather than anything life threatening. I must also thank those who took on my normal Society tasks in my absence. You also know who you are!

Finally, Chairman Roy Jennings and all on the committee wish you a happy Festive Season and we look forward to another peaceful year of successes in 2009.

John Howes

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