

The Plotholder

bi-monthly newsletter of

Worthing Allotments and Gardens Association (WAGA)

Affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society and the National Vegetable Society

2015 issue 1 February

New year, new name, so here is our new logo

Thanks to Chris Drewery



News from the stores - from Janet Robins

As from **Saturday 28th Feb Chesswood stores will be open on Saturday and Sunday from 10-12.** To celebrate the new-look store **free breakfasts** will be available to all visitors **on Saturday 28th Feb** from 10 onwards, so come and see our latest bargains. Thanks to Richard West for all his hard work in getting it ready.



<https://www.flickr.com/photos/96964476@N06/9290840798/>

2015 is **The Year of the Sunflower** and we would like to see everyone growing at least one sunflower on their plot. Naturally, sunflower seeds available at WT store from 70p to £1.20.

A big thank you to everyone who supported the **raffle** at WT shop.

Potato orders are now in. We have a few extra potatoes for those who didn't get round to ordering but by the time you get this newsletter they could all be gone –so hurry!

Onion sets and shallots should also be in by the time this arrives. We have ordered Red Karmen, Sturon onion sets as before, but have also ordered some Santero which will be more expensive, but are disease resistant. The shallots ordered are Golden Gormet.

West Tarring shop would be grateful for a couple more volunteers, either on a regular basis or to help out when regular people are not around. Come and see us at the shop or phone Janet on 01903 266522.

If you don't have a shop at your site you will be made very welcome at any of the three shops: West Tarring, Humber Avenue and Chesswood Farm. Remember to bring your membership card.

Membership - from Margot Hollingdale

Thank you to all who have renewed their subscriptions - **final reminders** will be on the front of this newsletter or via e-mail for those who haven't done so yet. Just take **your card and £3** to one of the stores - West Tarring, Humber Avenue or Chesswood Farm on a Saturday or Sunday morning and check out the seeds and supplies on offer.

Seasoned logs cut to size for wood burners and open fires.

Prompt delivery. Mike 01903 243699.

Could you mentor a new tenant?

New plotholders, and sometimes even the more established, can sometimes find the prospect of keeping their plots productive and in order rather daunting. They could do with some friendly advice about the what, where, when and how of cultivation, harvesting and weed control.

Mentors aren't there to do physical work like digging, or to help plant onion sets, but to offer the kind of advice and support which will prevent more inexperienced gardeners from becoming overwhelmed by their plot and giving up.

If you'd like to volunteer, or think you might benefit from having a mentor, please get in touch. For Tarring contact Sarah on newsletter@wamplots.org.uk or Bill bill@gedleg.plus.com and for other sites Paul on plotholder@hotmail.co.uk (01903 529084).

By now you could have pruned your **apples trees**, if you had any. If you don't have any, you might be interested in a new type called Starline. There are five to choose from, all vertical varieties, resistant to both scab and mildew with good flavour, to ripen from August to late October according to variety. They crop heavily but only keep for "a few weeks" in storage, so only grow as many as you can eat or share. More info and sources from the RHS

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/plants-blogs/plants/october-2014/starline-apples>



You could also be forcing your **rhubarb**, covered with straw or bracken under an old bucket or dustbin, but remember only to force some of it, so crowns get a rest every other year.

Jack's Yard

Coppice products from sustainable sources - suppliers of beanpoles, peasticks, biochar, charcoal, hurdle fencing, logs and much more.

All products come from local, sustainably managed woodlands

Please call 07792206003 or 07748954043 for enquiries.

Social Events *from Tony Payne*

At the time of writing we only have a very few places left for the dinner on 14th February at the Bowls Club. Thank you to everybody who is supporting this occasion. Ring if you want to snap up the final places, or see the menu again.

We have one date for the diary - 11th July when we have booked to go to King's Seeds at Kelvedon (Colchester, Essex) and also to Grange Barn, Paycocke's House and Garden. This is a new adventure and I really need a full coach to make this a success. I have organised this trip so that we can see first-hand where our seeds come from and also their experimental sweet pea beds, which I have been told are absolutely fantastic. Full details in the next Plotholder.

I am hoping to organise a quiz evening, with wine, cheese and biscuits - I will be the butler that night as I am no good at quizzes.

Last year I had the privilege to be one of the judges of our Best Front Garden and Best Allotment challenge. When the information comes out, please enter and give Ian and me a really hard day's work going around them all. There are many Gardens and Allotments that could enter and win.

Tony 01903 872909



Show Secretary - Jack Powis

The New Year has arrived and it is time to be thinking of what to grow, not only for your own consumption but also for entering in our **Annual Show**. It will be at Oak Grove College again on **Saturday 22nd August**, so mark this on your calendar and start planning.



This year will have all the usual classes of fruit, vegetables, flowers, flower arranging, craft, cookery, wine making and children's exhibits, and, if you are new to shows, there is a section for novices which is a great way joining in the fun.

In addition to this we have sunflowers. Our seed supplier, Kings, has declared this "The Year of the Sunflower" and our show will join in the spirit with two or three classes for sunflowers large and small so have a look at the seeds in our shops.

The Show is open to all members and their families so please have a go; don't be shy. If you have any comments or queries regarding the show please give me a ring on 01903 243216.



Sussex Manures - Delivered Manure

Puckamuck is a completely natural and organically sourced horse manure without bulking ingredients such as green waste or other profit-making additives found in some spoil-enhancing composts. It is shredded and fully aged and can be used straight away.

Ten x 60 litre sacks, £65.00 (local 10 mile delivery from Findon West Sussex) additional bags £5.50 each.

Twenty x 60 litre sacks, £130.00 (20 mile delivery limit from Findon West Sussex) extra bags £5.50 each.

Builders bag are great value - Each bag contains at least eighteen 60 litre sacks worth of Puckamuck. Call for multiple order discount. Local delivery £65.00 (up to 35 miles from Findon). Minimum of 2 bags over 10 miles.

Transit tipper lorry load. 2.5 cubic metres of Puckamuck for £126.00 inclusive of VAT and local delivery. (This quantity equates to 50 wheelbarrow loads and £550 worth of 60L Puckamuck sacks).

We also deliver Puckamuck locally in **12 Cubic Metre trailers** for £493.20 and a fresher version of untreated horse manure in 12cubic metre trailers for £282 inclusive of VAT and delivery. Please call or e-mail for quotes and delivery prices outside of our local 12cubic metre trailers for £282 inclusive of VAT and delivery.

Please call or e-mail for quotes and delivery prices outside of our local area. Call Mathew Kennard 01903 877689 or 07899 676166S visit www.puckamuck.co.uk or mail: info@puckamuck.co.uk

NB: you can also buy individual bags from our site stores

Feed me now! The heavy rain will have washed a lot of useful nutrients out of the soil. There are many ways to replenish them but if you have missed the boat with organic material in autumn, or don't have enough (who does?) you may wish to see this list from the site shops, who can advise on quantities to use and which are organic, free of animal content etc.

Potash	5 lb for £3
Sulphate of ammonia	10 lb for £3.50
Bonemeal	10 lb for £4
Blood, fish and bone	10 lb for £4
Growmore	10 lb for £4
Grow-organic fertiliser	£7.85 for 40 litre bag
6x (dried chicken manure in pellets)	£6.45 for 8 Kg drum
Puckamuck	Approx 4.50 for 670 litre bag

Or aim high and build your own compost / manure heap a year ahead:

