



The Plotholder

Newsletter of the Worthing Allotments and Garden Association
Affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society and the National Vegetable Society

2015 issue 2 April

Free Manure is available to collect from Julian, Annington Lane, Steyning. Call 07870 397976 for directions.

Keep in touch between issues

This magazine comes out every two months but there are plenty of ways to keep in touch while you are waiting. For those with an allotment but without an internet connection, notice boards are on every site so keep an eye on them. If you can access the net, then you can use our web sites to look up hints and tips and our forum to ask questions of the wider community. There is also a Flickr account with lots of photos – contributions always welcomed so keep us posted on what is happening in your neck of the woods. It's all linked from www.worthingallotments.co.uk, And thanks to John Deepprose for all his work in keeping it up to date.

One of the things you should have heard about but may not is that all allotment sites except Humber are to be self-managed as from October 1st 2015. Your overseers can fill you in on relevant details but if you wish to be part of the working party who help keep the site in good order, chat to them about what needs doing and how it will be done. This is your chance to join in, take control of your local environment and raise standards if necessary.

Bring a Brick and Build a Community

Bill Mann is organising the building of a **new BBQ at Chesswood**, so that tenants can enjoy a sunny day out. Experience shows that such a facility can bring people together effectively and proves very popular, but we obviously want to make it at low cost. Do you have any spare bricks you don't need? A flue pipe? That bag of sand or ballast you never got round to using? Paving bricks are particularly useful but anything fireproof may help, as would willing hands to dig, mix and lay. If you can help with materials, muscle or skills, please contact Bill on williecmann@hotmail.com 01903 203826 - 07711642059

STOP PRESS - On 25th March we were told that Angmering Allotments had 30 sheds broken into. We could be next so don't leave anything valuable in your shed and if you lose anything tell the police on 101 so they record it as a problem.



Social Events *from Tony Payne*

Trip to Kings Seeds at Kelvedon, with a 2 hour tour and then to the RHS Garden, Hyde Hall, Chelmsford. 11th July 2015

This will be an early start with the first pick up at 7.00 am but a lovely day out. Price will be £17 for adults and £14, for fourteen years old and under. Should we have a really good response and fill the Coach, then the price will be slightly reduced. A booking form is on the back page and on the website.

This year's Annual Dinner on 14th February, Valentine's Day was well supported and enjoyed by everyone. The meal was once again excellent. Thank you to John and Anita for doing the quiz and to the people who helped with the raffle and brought some prizes. Look forward to seeing you all again next year.

Show Secretary - *Jack Powis*



ANNUAL SHOW 22 AUGUST 2015

I hope you have this date in your diary. It is the Association's big day and one not to be missed. As usual we will need helpers to set up on Friday evening and during the afternoon on Saturday, but this year we are looking for more than just casual help. We need volunteers to manage the Refreshment Stall and the Cake Stall and, if possible, someone to relieve Celia on the White Elephant Stall. For several years a group of stalwarts has provided this service but it is time for other members to step in and keep the show on the road. It is a vital part of the event and very enjoyable working as part of a great team, so step forward please and give me a ring on 243216.

From Terry Smith, plotholder at Humber Avenue



is a new charity on the A24 at Washington. It is drawing vulnerable people in the community to Rock Farm a six-acre market garden, using horticultural therapy. A donation of tools will breathe life into the project.

The scheme has been building for the past year, bringing people with various needs -- homelessness, drug addiction, mental disability or social isolation -- onto Rock Farm to help cultivate sustainable food that connects to Worthing, Horsham, Brighton and surrounding areas.

Therapeutic jobs tailored to the person offer a chance to connect with the land and with one another. Shared meals cooked from on-site produce help build the community. This spring will bring a host of new beds, paths and community structures, all requiring more tools. If you have any to donate, we'd be grateful. To find out more about Roots to Growth and for a full list of what tools and equipment we need please visit our web site <http://rootstogrowth.org.uk>. To donate tools and equipment please email terry@rootstogrowth.org.uk or telephone 07799 410404.

shop news



The Chesswood shop reopened with a pop-up BBQ, in light rain but with high hopes. Thanks to those who took part and to Tony and Sheila for bringing supplies and culinary talent.

Alas, the shop promptly closed again as the old door finally fell apart and now won't open. A new one is being ordered to make the building safe. By the time you get this it may already have been fitted, but meanwhile a restricted but determined service will be offered from the courtyard outside, using stock we can still access. Thanks to Richard for his hard work in sorting out the accumulation of junk in and around the store, and to Rik for clambering in and out of the stuck door to make the best of the situation.

All shops are offering seeds for this busy time of the year. You can get started with both traditional and oriental salad leaves as well as a wide range of flowers and veg, so pop in and see what bargains you can pick up. Why pay more?

As usual, they operate with volunteers giving up their time, and it helps to be able to share the load. If you can spare even the occasional morning, Janet would like to hear from you on Janetrobins05@yahoo.co.uk 01903 266522, or just pop in and talk about it.

Gardens to visit

As the March edition arrives the garden visiting season is upon us. Old favourites include **Nymans** (camellias and magnolia cultivars, daffodils and grape hyacinths) and **Sheffield Park** (woodland and water designed by Capability Brown and Humphrey Repton; daffodils and

bluebells, rhododendrons and azaleas). Check before you leave - the waterfall at Sheffield Park is only turned on between 12.00 - 1.00pm on Tuesday and Friday!

But you don't have to travel far. Try typing 'Worthing' plus your preferred distance (x miles) in www.ngs.org.uk/gardens/find-a-garden.aspx. Some very local gardens are only open on certain dates 6 Plantation Rise and Palatine school. Walk slowly enough around town you will often see plants you'd quite like to try. Then you can sort out your own front garden and enter our competition in June - details to follow.

New plants to try

We often recommend new varieties, usually passing on tips from the RHS blog, but there's no reason to wait until nurseries come out with expensive new F1 hybrids. You can make your own new varieties. Tips for doing so are here:

<http://howtosaveseeds.com/breeding.php>. If you manage to breed onions that don't get white rot, or potatoes that come up ready chipped, do let us know.



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 12 cubic metre trailers for £282 inclusive of VAT and delivery.

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

NB you can also buy bags from your local site store

Booking form for trip to Kings Seeds on next page



**Booking form for trip to Kings Seeds
and then on to the RHS Garden Hyde Hall**

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

I would like to book ____ places at £17 each or ____ under 14 places @ £14 each. Total

I enclose a cheque payable to Worthing Allotments and Gardens Association.

1 would like ____ people to be collected from (tick as appropriate)

7.00 a.m. Brougham Road/Benedict Drive

7.10 a.m. The Dome, Seafront.

7.20 a.m. Rose Walk

7.30 a.m. The Boulevard, Westmoreland House

7.40 a.m. Offington Lane/ Thomas A'Becket

7.50 a.m. Offington Roundabout A24 North side

**Please send to Tony Payne, 23 Cissbury Avenue, Findon Valley, Worthing BN14 0DU
(01903 872909)**