

The Plotholder

Newsletter of the Worthing Allotments and Garden Association

Affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society and the National Vegetable Society

2015 issue 3 June

Shop news

In the last edition we said, "The Chesswood shop reopened with a pop-up BBQ, in light rain but with high hopes." Almost immediately after, the door fell off and it closed again. Rik struggled bravely on, selling the stock he could get to from a barrow in front, and now it has re-re-opened, this time with a brand new door (thanks to WBC). If you have any spare plants you could donate to help celebrate, please drop them off and he will be happy to extend our range.

Likewise, West Tarring would be happy to receive any plants you don't need. Also, any old tools we can refresh and sell on - recycling makes good sense environmentally and financially.

From our show secretary, Jack Powis

Each summer we hold two competitions and award trophies for **the best allotment and the best front garden**. They are open to all members and traditionally the number of entries is very low, which is a pity. There are lots of good plots which should be entered and there are vouchers to be won you can spend in our shops! Also we are an association of gardeners and there must be plenty of excellent front gardens that the judges would love to see. So this year please have a go, it's totally painless and the odds of winning are very high!

Gardens and plots will be judged in the second half of July by two members of The Association. The winners will receive a trophy at the annual show. Judges take account of the condition of plants, colour and harmony, design and layout (including any special features) lasting potential and cleanliness (i.e. weed free). Entry forms are on the end pages of this edition and our web site.

The **schedule for our 2015 show** is now ready. You can pick up a copy at any of our stores or download it from the web site. It takes place on Saturday August 22nd, with exhibits, stalls, useful bargains and a chance to look round Oak Grove's interesting gardens.



Could you mind a stall in our annual show?

We have stalls selling plants, produce, tools, white elephants, cakes etc. It is better to work in shifts to share the load so if you can help, even for an hour or so, we'd be glad to hear from you. Helpers to set up and take down the tables are always welcome to. If you can help, please get in touch with Jack Powis, 38 The Boulevard, Worthing, BN13 1LB. Telephone 01903 243216 email jackpowis@hotmail.co.uk



How about baking a cake?

If you are holiday that day, you can still contribute by sending a cake in your place, which we will share with grateful paying customers. Contact Judy Kara on lushrestaurant@yahoo.co.uk, 021903 202618

From our social secretary - Tony Payne.

The July trip to Kings Seeds at Kelvedon, with a 2 hour tour and then to the RHS Garden, Hyde Hall, Chelmsford, is now fully booked, although you can always join the waiting list in case anyone drops out. Several people said they were glad to see a trip to somewhere other than Wisley for a change so, if you have any other suggestions for places you'd like to go, feel free to send them in to Tony on 872909, email cissbury.23sheila.ntlworld.com or post to 23 Cissbury Avenue, BN14 0DU.

There will be another **breakfast at West Tarring** on Saturday Aug 8th, using our BBQ on plot 90, and an evening BBQ sometime in September. Both will have vegetarian options. To reserve a place at the breakfast, send your name to the address above and we will collect £2.50 per person on the day. Starts at 9.30 a.m. and finishes when it is all eaten.

new plants

We usually pass on new discoveries, often from the RHS, but this time it is worth wondering how many old varieties we have allowed to disappear from our tables - edibles that used to be common but seem exotic to the new generation of gardeners. How many people now eat

kohlrabi, related to wild cabbage? You can fry the roots, use the leaves in a salad and even eat the stems.

Salsify is another edible root you don't see often in Worthing, although it tastes like artichoke heart without the aggro and is a cure for snake bites if the adder ever comes back.

Celeriac is a kind of celery-flavoured potato replacement, and Jerusalem artichokes could also be used instead of spuds.

Samphire, or 'sea asparagus', samphire is supposed to grow in rocky, salt-sprayed regions and goes well with fish in very expensive restaurants. Ever seen any locally?

If you still use any of these traditional crops, perhaps you could use our forum and let us know if they are worth the space? worthingallotments.freeforums.org/bring-back-the-old-stuff-t66.html

And if you really want something new, try Romanesco, a sort of broccoli/ cauliflower with a head that looks like a mathematical puzzle - in fact it develops fractals on the Fibonacci¹ system. Crunchy, delicate tasting and weird - what's not to like?



As for **visits**, why not wander around your local site or area and see what other people are growing. Poke your head over the privet or compost bin and make a connection.

Know anyone looking for **more space**? Transition Town operate a **garden share system** - details at <http://transitiontownworthing.ning.com/page/garden-share>. Where you can browse any on offer and gain some growing space by helping someone who can't use all their own garden to the full.



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.

¹ <http://www.maths.surrey.ac.uk/hosted-sites/R.Knott/Fibonacci/fibnat.html>. Photo from <https://www.flickr.com/photos/aguichard/6931403833/>

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 stores



Keep up to date between issues:



John Deeprise puts a lot of effort into maintaining our on--line presence, so you can look up all the information you need and ask any questions on our forum. He says, "If you can spare a minute I would be grateful if you could let me know about your WAGA online experience here <http://www.worthingallotments.co.uk/Feedback.html> Thanks"

Website:

<http://www.worthingallotments.co.uk>

Forum:

<http://worthingallotments.freeforums.org>

All our photos on line:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/127516105@N03>

and we also have pages on [Facebook](#) under "Worthing Allotments and Gardens Association".

Feel free to use all the information and join in the conversations. Non-members can also use the forum.

Best kept garden and allotment competition entry form

Return by Saturday 27th June to Jack Powis, 38 The Boulevard, BN13 1LB (01903 243216).

Name

Address (include postcode)

Membership Number:

Please enter my name for the (tick boxes)

BEST FRONT GARDEN COMPETITION ☐

BEST KEPT ALLOTMENT COMPETITION ☐

My Allotment is at (site) Plot No(s)

Signature:

Date:

