



# Bishop's Waltham Gardening Club

## It's been a really difficult growing season this year.....

with very heavy -almost tropical- and localised rain storms which pulverise the soil. Then, of course, and mainly due to the relatively 'mild' Winter, the plague of slugs and snails. Also, for those with new lawns, another plague, this time of leatherjackets. Some are also querying the benefits of 'no mow' May', where the taller grass gives cover to many pests, which are then hidden from their predators.

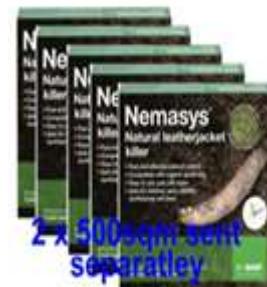
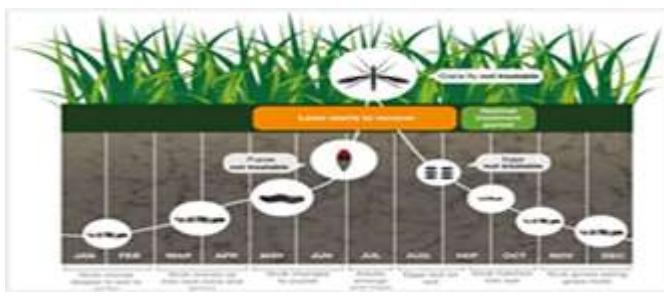


### RHS Picture of Leatherjackets, just waiting to be Crane Flies in the Autumn! Disappearing Lawns.

**It's down to grass roots on this one!**

This is about the problems faced by new home-owners who just want a nicely turfed or seeded lawn. We have many new members who have moved in to 'New Builds', and have suffered from these little wrigglers! Down goes the turf and within weeks, there's a few spikes of grass left. Trying the grass seed -whatever type- and the same result. The problem must be leatherjackets.

**The life cycle. Probably the only remedy is NEMATODES -also see pages 5/6.**



### Save money with our special deal with Suttons

At this time of year, we continue with our excellent agreement with SUTTONS. As a Club member, you will receive a 50% discount on seeds, and 15% on other items (but not on P+P). For the 'odd' purchase, the discount is outweighed by the P+P charge but having the brochure and being able to view and compare the varieties and order at your leisure is surely a real bonus. Last year the scheme saved our members over £1000! If you have a small order, why not join up with another Gardening Club member to make the P+P worthwhile?

If you HAVE ordered before using the SPECIAL CODE as supplied through us and as has been -or will be- advised by email, order forms with the code are -or will be- available at the Shed- then you should automatically receive a brochure soon (if not already). Ordering online is the best way, but by post is fine. I have also found they are very helpful if you have a problem. I am sometimes told that a certain 'make' of seeds are no good, but the suppliers (not just Suttons) go to great lengths to ensure nearly 100% germination, so it's really the way we sow that's the problem. Usually it's too early, too cold, too wet or whatever, but I really don't think it's the supplier's seeds that are at fault. By all means let them know the problem, just in case.





**For next year, why not think about growing FLOWERS on your allotment?** It hasn't been 'de rigueur' to grow flowers on what is usually thought of as a 'vegetable' environment, but we need to encourage those pollinators, and a colourful display will attract them to all your plants. One bonus, of course, is that it will bring colour, variation and interest to what is normally a fairly bland scene. If seeds don't attract you, why not some bulbs? Certainly the early year daffs and tulips will give the early risers a boost. As always, try to ensure you purchase 'singles' as double flowers, despite their apparent beauty at first sight, make it very difficult for pollinators, and often you will find that the singles will have more flowers! (photo of Dahlias from an allotment, in the show.)

## **How many beans make five? Well, it might be eight!**

One won't germinate, one will 'damp off', and one will get eaten by pests. In winter, when all the crops look rather sad -especially after a frost- I always like to see the broad bean plants standing erect and seemingly impervious to the cold. Strangely, they don't need the cold to make them flower! So, what's the best variety to plant? Maybe Suttons Luz de Otono ? According to simplyseed.co.uk..it's Broad Bean Superaquadulce - This classic white-seeded variety is one of the best for autumn sowing. They will withstand the worst of winters and will give an early crop of well filled pods on compact plants. The RHS states that Broad beans have large seeds, produce big seedlings and grow quickly. If you 'missed the boat', perhaps due to the site and soil being too windy or wet for autumn sown beans, sow a quick maturing cultivar such as 'Monica' in pots indoors in February - there is hardly any difference in maturity times between these and Autumn sown seeds.



**Suttons** have a good range, so have a look at their brochure.

## **Wet/Dry/Frosty/Warm/Cold???**

### **Have we said goodbye to those lovely crisp & sunny winter mornings?**



It's anyone's guess, but we are threatened with 'warmer' and wetter times ahead. One main problem, as well as the 'locust-sized' plague of slugs and snails, is the effect on our seedlings and corms. Garlic, Onions and Shallots are normally planted later in the year to get their roots and some top growth going

(Shallots have been classed as 'plant on the shortest day, pick on the longest') but too much rain and either they rot where they are or suffer later when they should be ripening. As we don't know for sure what the weather will be, it would be a shame NOT to plant them out but perhaps we can hedge our bets. Plant some but put some in small pots and place in a protected, bright spot, or maybe just give them a bit of protection from heavy rain?

## To kill or not to kill?

Despite the fact that we hate slugs and snails, do we really want to kill them? Having now rid ourselves of those metaldehyde pellets, the new ones still kill them. The 'Bug Killers' state that they don't kill 'friendlies' but we have to spray at the optimum time and even then, who knows. Perhaps the answer is to dissuade the pests. Grazers ([www.grazers.co.uk](http://www.grazers.co.uk)) sell such products. The advantage, also, is that the spray can actually benefit the plant with a 'foliar feed'. There is a product to deter slugs and snails and another to dissuade those darned cabbage white butterflies, and they even do one to deter rabbit's, pigeons and deer! Trial bottles are available at The Shop at the Shed.



They are part of nature and are there for a reason, but we provide them with food in abundance, hence the problems, and we then suffer the consequences. So, perhaps deterring them is more 'bio-friendly' and due to the wetter winters, maybe producers are doing their best to supply plants that are less 'slug-friendly'. So, prevention rather than cure is surely the best.?

Another product worth a try is SB Plant Invigorator ([info@sbproducts.co.uk](mailto:info@sbproducts.co.uk)), who claim success against aphids and mildew amongst many others and, again, the plants gets a boost. There must be others, of course, so let me know if you have tried them.

The following courtesy of [learningwithexperts.com](http://learningwithexperts.com) ;

The 'supposed' Top Ideas' to prevent slugs and snails are; coffee grounds (we are able to obtain a supply from an excellent coffee shop at the top of the High Street); Egg and/or sea shells (but check if you are allowed to collect the latter); Repellants (see above); Copper Tape (surely a bit expensive?); Garlic, Lawn Camomile or Chives (a do-it-yourself concoction); Diamataceous Earth (DE); Recycled Wool (smelly but may work); Wheat/Corn Bran (will the rats and mice like these?) Also, Nematodes (expensive and there are limitations as to temperature etc); Beer. These latter two will kill them, and the beer is good if you don't mind the frothy mess in the dish!! Of course, we all know the 'non-metaldehyde' pellets which also kills them, but is reported to possibly kill worms, and pets should be kept away –yes, I know that pets are not allowed on the allotments but.....!!!!



**Many of you will have heard of Andy McIndoe -once a Director of Hilliers**, and a Q+A expert at the annual Garden Show held locally. Andy hosts a seminar (£45) entitled, "Gardening for Wildlife.

## Tired Strawberries

I'm going to get rid of my old strawberries this year as they have done 2-3 years in the same place, and I have taken plenty of 'runners' from them. There's plenty of potted plants available from the garden centres – at a price- but surely the best way for buying quite a few is by ordering bare-rooted plants in the autumn.

Well, I thought just typing in 'what is the best tasting strawberry' would solve the problem. Oh, no! Different companies have different suggestions. Maybe it has something to do with the varieties they stock?????



**General advice.** Strawberries like fertile, well-drained, slightly acidic soil. In poor or heavy soil, it's preferable to plant them in raised beds, which provide better drainage and increased rooting depth. They grow best and produce the sweetest fruits in full sun, but will tolerate some shade. **Extra comment.** Strawberries can fruit surprisingly well with some shade – but the flavour won't develop to the same extent as those grown in the sun. Sun it is that develops sugar levels in the berries – so make sure your plants get lots, and lots of it.

**From the experts.** Chrisbowers.co.uk states.....I must have sampled thousands of strawberries on the nursery over the many years we have grown them, fruits grown in any number of ways and methods. And almost always the best tasting ones come from those in the natural soil – plants grown in pots of standard proprietary potting compost yield berries that are inferior in taste. Which is not to say you should not grow and enjoy strawberries in containers – millions do, and the taste is fine, probably still better than those you might buy from the supermarket ..... but if you want the perfect strawberry try to grow them in the ground. And if you are growing them in pots of whatever type why not try a loam based compost or add some sterilized loam to the potting mix, it can make the world of difference to the taste of your strawberries. Planting bare-root strawberries in pots; RHS (their picture) advice; "...And you need to get the soil level just to the tops of the roots. Spread the roots out nicely in the pot. Hold the plant steady, just loosely scoop the compost, shake so the soil gets around the roots, then firm.."

I didn't realise that they need exposure to cold weather to get better flowering!

### **It weren't like that in my day.....!**

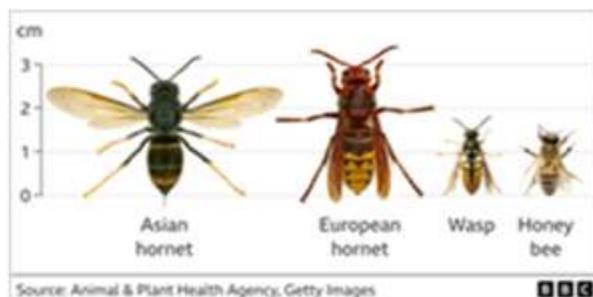
In the 'olden days', to get the earth into shape for the following season, one would 'rough dig' bare soil, possibly into ridges, leaving large clumps open to the elements, where wind and frost would crumble the soil and this, together with manure in the 'dip' of the ridge, would be a really good basis to rake over, ready for Spring. No longer, it seems, if we don't get those frosts. Perhaps it's a better idea to just cover the soil with manure and let nature (i.e. worms etc.,) do the rest.

### **Lettuce pray... for protection from Slugs & Snails**



**Sorry to say it but.....** The RHS has done extensive trials on the alternatives to slug pellets. It found – in a trial with about 300 lettuce plants, that the 'non-protected' ones, were hit just as hard by slugs and snails as the 'protected' ones. They tried Eggshells, Coffee Grounds, Copper and Grit. It seems that the pellets are best, but also good 'ground management' is the only way. They didn't try beer, and that is one remedy that does, I feel, work well. Over recent years we have had 'blight free' tomatoes, and I wonder if we will soon see 'slug free' plants? My lovely 'allotment neighbour' had a super display of Lollo Rosso lettuce -untouched by slugs and snails. She told me that they didn't seem to like that variety of lettuce, so perhaps we can all share any knowledge we have of plants -especially vegetables- that might just be slug/snail free?

### **The future is NOT orange!**



It seems that our warmer winters encourage Asian hornets to survive, and they are gradually creeping (flying) over a wider area. Please keep an eye out and report any sighting. There is a notice on the Club's noticeboard at The Shed for further information.

**ADAPTED FROM, AND COURTESY OF, THE RHS WEBSITE.**

**Bee-friendly winter plants.** Plants whose window of flowering falls between November and March will be life-savers to pollinating insects and even some birds at a time when food is scarce. Opt for mahonias, willow, primrose or crocuses, even a small patch can make a difference. Be on the lookout for

portly queen bumblebees and the hairy-footed flower bee which is one of the first to fly. Battle the winter blues with beautiful blooms – they'll help bees get through a tough time and lift your spirits too.

#### Find more plants for pollinators

**Top tip:** to maximise benefits to pollinators, try to buy plants from **pesticide-free suppliers** if you can. Our [list of organic nurseries](#) is a good starting point for sourcing organic plants.

Alternatively, try growing plants from seed, or nabbing divisions/cuttings from a neighbour – which keeps costs down, too!

**HELLEBORES. WILLOW.** It might seem surprising to list [willows](#) as a good plant for bees, seeing as they don't have 'flowers' as such. However, their catkins are an excellent source of pollen, which is nutritious and full of protein. . [Alders](#), [willows](#) and poplars all produce lots of pollen early in the year.

**CROCUS. SNOWDROPS AND ACONITES. CLEMATIS.** Winter-flowering [Clematis cirrhosa](#) is one of the best; it's hardy, scented and provides bee-friendly flowers throughout the coldest months of the year. Plant *Clematis cirrhosa* in a sheltered spot close to a path or gateway, so you can enjoy its lemony fragrance.

**MAHONIA.** Give Mahonias plenty of room: plant them in wide borders where you'll have space to appreciate them.

**What pollinators can I see in winter?** “You can see a few late butterflies such as red admirals up until October, on plants such as dahlias that flower through to the first frosts. However, insects active between November and February are most likely to be bees, especially queen bumblebees and honeybees, though this is very weather-dependent. From March onwards, you start to see the hairy-footed flower bee, which is one of the earliest of the solitary bees on the wing.”

#### **It was actually true!**

I am always wary -having been caught many times- about suppliers claims.



However, when I replaced two old blackcurrant bushes, Pomona Fruits stated that Ebony was a variety that one could 'eat straight from the bush'. Knowing that most blackcurrants make me screw my eyes up, even with a bit of sugar or in a pie, I was very sceptical. However, surprise, surprise, they were right! As long as the fruit is fully ripe, they have a nice blackcurrant 'tang' to them.

Thanks, Pomona.

One problem, though. They don't seem to sell it anymore!! However, I see that Suttons do, and we can get our 15% discount with the special code we provide.

#### **Return of the Nematodes**

It does seem that these are the modern, safe way to rid ourselves of certain pests, at a cost- and the latest 'on-site' trial has been forced upon us with the arrival of the Asparagus Beetle. This pest has devastated several crops on our allotments and action had to be taken, albeit late or even too late.

#### **The whole story, again courtesy of the RHS Website.**

Biological control can give effective management for some plant damaging garden invertebrates. The biological controls available to home gardeners are either predators or pathogenic nematodes.

Biological controls cause no damage to plants and do not leave residues

- The parasitoids are usually specific to certain prey species and will not
- become a nuisance or cause harm to non-target creatures

- Some of the predatory mites, bugs and beetles are generalist predators and so should be used with care.

Nematode biological controls are usually either insect or mollusc specific. They therefore have the potential to infect non-target animals and so should be used in a targeted manner **Using biological controls: predators**

To get the best results it is important to know how biological controls behave. Many of the predators used for biological control are more accurately termed parasitoids as they kill the host whereas a true parasite does not; these animals lay eggs in a host, the grub grows and feeds inside its prey, only killing the host when it completes its development.

### **Using them correctly**

Predatory and parasitoid biological controls rarely give instant reductions in prey populations; they need time to multiply. Conversely, there is no point in introducing the biological control before the prey becomes active, since they can only breed when their prey is present. They generally require daytime temperatures of at least 21°C (70°F) and high light intensity to stimulate breeding, although they can usually survive at temperatures of 13°C (55°F).

Pesticides will kill biological controls and can persist for at least six weeks but natural organic pyrethrum can be used up to seven days before predator release.

***Sorry it's such a long article, but these things are expensive and can easily be wrongly applied and, as you have read, it's not necessarily straightforward***



### **CAN YOU HELP?**

Rather than use 'on line' and suppliers ready-made photographs, we would much rather use ones from our own members. Maewyn has already started a stock but needs your help to expand our list. Whether they be on our own allotments, at a Club Social Event, or Show, or if visiting a garden -or your own- please take some photographs and send them in via **our website** – [WWW.BWGC.ORG.UK](http://WWW.BWGC.ORG.UK) – .

**They haven't LOST the Plot.. They've got the BEST ones!**

### **Best Kept Plot Awards**



Many congratulations to the winners, Zoe and Shawn Read with plot number 138, (Pictured, left) also runners up Debbie and Chris Austin with plot number 12. Best newcomer award went to plot 15C, (pictured, right) Shannon Vincent and Billy-Joe Chester.

We also awarded a runner up newcomer award for plot 98A, Russell Masters and Amy Humphries. The presentations will take place at the AGM in January 2025.

We should all take note of how it can be done! Many thanks to Anthea and the Judges, including those who helped with the 'pre-judging' of the plots.





## ”...STOP, LOOK AROUND”

Yes, I can remember the Rolling Stones even before they were famous!! I was waiting for my ‘dustbin’ to fill with water, and suddenly realised that I don’t ‘stop and listen’ when I am at the allotment. It’s always whether to weed that patch, pick those raspberries, mow the grass, trim the edges..... but when I DID stop, I looked around at the peaceful setting, at nature’s bounty, and the variety of allotments. I have an ‘app’ called Merlin that recognises bird song, so I set this running and within two minutes it had recorded eight birds. Sadly, this didn’t include a robin, and maybe the pile of feathers by my plot gave the answer. However, I was really ‘lifted’ -cue for another song- and felt a rather depressed mood fade away. Why not try it?

## AND THE WINNER IS.....

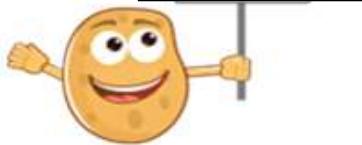
### **Our Potato Growing Competition was won by;**

John Hunt, with Brian Harding in second place and Ron Haysom in third. All three scoop the fabulous cash prize, kindly donated by all (about 50+) who entered.

Get ready for next year’s competition, as I am advised it’s ‘gloves off’ for an exciting contest, starting in February.

Thanks, also to Larry who organised the event.

**It’s FUN, after all!**



Congratulations, John and all who took part. It was a very difficult year for growing potatoes, with only one third of the contestants being able to provide a crop, mostly thanks to slugs and - partly- the weather!

## DON’T MISS.....

**Our stall at St.Peter’s Country Fayre, on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September where we will also be giving away pot, compost and bulbs to the children to create an interest and encourage their gardening skills!**

**Please donate 3”+ Pots and leave at the shed.**

**And also on our Calendar.....**

**September’s Monthly Social Meeting is on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>**

**September at our NEW VENUE of St. Peter’s Church Hall, Free Street. Usual 6.45 doors open; refreshments and raffle.....and parking. Seats 70, so plenty of room, plus audio and video equipment and screens. This month we welcome Antony Powell, a highly qualified expert on many aspects of gardening, and the subject is “The Scented Garden” Members, of course, free with just £2 for visitors. His ‘potted history’ follows.. “Antony initially trained at Hillier Nurseries and then did an HND in amenity horticulture at Askham Bryan College in Yorkshire. Since then most of his work has been in private gardens although he also**

did a placement with the National Trust. He has made a number of visits to the Pyrenees, been on a Botanical Expedition to Kashmir and most recently an Alpine Garden Society trip to the Peloponnese in Greece. His talk on 'Scent in the Garden' comes out of many years of personal observations both from the gardens that he has worked in and those that he has visited."

**And then, in October on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup>, it's our much awaited....**

## **ANNUAL SOCIAL EVENING**

This year is a little different, with **TWO EXPERT GUESTS**,  
and the Club's own... **GARDENERS QUESTION TIME**.

It's your chance to solve all those gardening problems, get advice on all sorts of floral and vegetable matters and learn much more.

Tickets are on sale at £18 from the 'Shop at the Shed' (weekends 10-12noon) and via our website or at the September Social meeting and St. Peter's Fayre. Bring your own refreshments and glasses, but the delicious 2-course platter is included.

**The date is Saturday 26th, the venue is The Jubilee Hall,  
Little Shore Lane Bishops Waltham SO32 1DE**

**Plenty of parking, free after 6pm.**

## **Wildflower Words from [andrew@quickcrop.com](mailto:andrew@quickcrop.com)**



### **Wildflower Meadows and Native Seed. What is so important about native seed?**

Apart from the cultural significance of native wildflowers, it is important to preserve our own species because they are the food source for our native insects, birds and small mammals.

While it is true that some imported species are attractive to pollinators or other wildlife, they won't be as attractive or support as wide a range of wildlife as our native stock. We also have to remember that native fauna, e.g. butterflies will have adapted their lifecycles in accordance with the growth and flowering times on our native species. The wildflowers in turn will have adapted their flowering times to suit the local climate meaning they hold specific genetic

.Francis Tophill –she of Gardeners World fame– asks that we don't deadhead our plants as they are valuable hidy-holes for many species of pollinators, and the seeds can be useful –and, perhaps, life saving– food for our birds that stay with us during the Winter. Also, especially with plants like Hydrangeas, the large 'heads' protect new, emerging shoots, from the frost and damp.

## Trustee Report.

*Your Trustees work extremely hard on your behalf -mostly in the background*

*From Larry and Anthea: Feed your Soil* • Regular feeding is something we often forget about. We tend to spread manure and compost in Autumn and scatter a few chicken pellets around at random times throughout the year. There is a full range of feeds available at the shop - sold by weight, you can buy as much as you require. This is much better than having to buy big packets from the garden centre (cheaper too). Come in and have a look, the information and advice is free.

**The benefits of spent hops as a mulch.** Mulching is a very important and labour-saving allotment gardening technique. It is well known that it saves both watering and weeding, but the added benefit is that it seems to help as a slug deterrent. This may seem rather odd, as beer traps are used to attract them, but they do seem to dislike it. This may be because it is difficult to travel over, not sure, but it does help. A comparison was made between spent hops and Strulch as a mulch, there seemed to be no difference in the benefits, except in the price.

For sale at the shop at the Shed for 75p a sack.

**Blight.** Many people will have noticed with dismay that their potatoes and tomatoes are showing signs of blight. This happens most years around this time with raised overnight temperatures and humidity. The best way to avoid this is to plant blight resistant varieties. Early potatoes can usually be harvested before blight strikes but second early and maincrop are at risk. The shop stocks two varieties that are blight resistant - Orla (which can be grown as a first early, second early and maincrop) and Carolus, which is a maincrop. Both varieties are heavy croppers of tasty potatoes. With tomatoes, Suttons sell 'Crimson Crush' and other 'Crimson' varieties which are all blight resistant. A 50% discount is available to all club members on seeds or 15% for plants. See their brochure for further details.

**Stop Press News!! Badger Bovver.** Most of you know by now – some with bitter experience – that badgers love sweetcorn. It seems that ‘gentle persuasion’ such as netting does not actually deter them, so you will probably need something like chicken wire. I am told that they don’t like mini-sweetcorn, but that’s probably a bit late now that you have grown the tall variety, but it’s information in advance for next year! . **It’s a McDonald’s to a Badger!!!>>>**



## Our Open Annual Show 2024

It has been such a difficult year, that some gardeners were convinced that their entries would not be up to standard but forgetting that everyone had suffered in the

same way. Despite all this, the Annual Open Show was a success, with some excellent entries in all categories. Star of the show was Julia Boswell who had plainly worked very hard to gain so many trophies –six, in fact. Her trophies included the treasured Banksian Medal (pictured) for the most money won in classes A+C

The silver cup for The Most Fragrant Rose' category, so kindly provided by our main sponsors, Pearson's Estate Agents, was won by –you guessed it– Julia Boswell. Our congratulations go to Julia for such –and so many- splendid entries and for really going in to the show with such great enthusiasm and support.

The picture shows Julia receiving the award from Pearson's having won "the Most Fragrant Rose' competition. Well done!

As always, the Club encourages 'non-gardening' entries and the competition for the Men's Cake section is getting hotter every year! The show benches had some mouth-watering cakes, jams, and various pastries proving that some skills are still out there, despite all the 'ready-made' offerings on supermarket shelves. There were children's classes, too, and some of the entries were really imaginative. Photos, paintings and floral arrangements, table decorations and much more gave proof that this is truly an 'open' show, encouraging all types of skills in the community.



<<The sun caught the petals on this entry

Our main 'Leader', Colin Carter, has now stepped down after six years of heading a great team of helpers, and Colin rightly received many plaudits for all his hard work and dedication. Thanks, also, to the helpers on Friday night who arranged all the tables -then took them all down on Saturday; the stewards, timers, score keepers; the catering ladies and, of course, the Judges on the actual day.

Also, the caretakers and Bishops Waltham Parish Council.

A really imaginative entry in the Children's section>>>



<<It's such hard work at the results table!

Next year's show is already in the pre-planning stage with Larry and Anthea Mabey at the helm and they are ready to take the show forward with innovation but still retaining all the popular aspects of this traditional show, which will be the Club's 67<sup>th</sup>, proving that it has the recipe for success by never standing still, and responding to changing habits, skills and, especially, the need for conservation and sustainability. Owing to such a mild winter, the pests have ravaged so many crops, so - with tongue very much in cheek- perhaps we ought to consider new categories such as 'Most Handsome Slug' 'Longest Slug' and 'Prettiest Snail Shell'?

The much sought-after Banksian Medal



Whatever the winter throws at us, we gardeners are a very resilient bunch, and we know that our show in 2025 will, again, be a popular, competitive but FUN event.

## Meet a Trustee; It's Kate Cassell

Hello ! I have had my allotment since Aug 2018. First working on half, and this year now working on the whole plot. It's hard work but I love being on the field , watching everything grow and enjoying the nature all around us. In 2021 I was asked to be a trustee, and put in charge of the maintenance of the site. So any problems with taps, mowers, tracks, trees, hedges and edges....see me !

**Kate's Top Tips for Taps!**...We are metered so please remember to switch the tap off after use. If using a hose please water the base of the plant not the greens on top.

**Mowers**...Available Saturday and Sunday mornings, but if you see me around during the week I will get one out for you.

**Trees**...please plant dwarf fruit trees. To keep in good condition prune regularly, plenty of websites give advice as to when. There is a dead hedge area for woody cuttings only, at the far corner of the bottom field. Thanks for all you do for the Club, Kate

**Membership renewal; 1st October 2024;** Don't forget that you need to renew your plot fees and/or membership from 1st October. There will be reminders from our Secretary and in the Parish News, forms on the Website and at the 'Shed'. As a Club we have so much to offer and, compared with most of Britain, very low allotment fees. Bear in mind the Shop, Mowers, Strimmers etc., etc., that is all included in your annual fee and you will agree it's all just great value!

Add to that, we offer seven free Social and Speaker Events.

Our special deal with Suttons (see page 1)

A chance to apply for an allotment.

Special Coach Trips to gardens of interest (fee applies)

Annual Social Evening with Guest Speaker (fee applies)

Annual August BBQ (nominal fee applies)

Refreshments at the Shop, with fairly priced goods and plenty of advice.

Manure at very low cost, by the barrowload

..... And much more



# The Butterfly Garden

Work has been started to mend the fencing.

From Trustee, Ron Haysom...

'After waiting some time for the replacement and repair of the Butterfly Garden fence, work has finally commenced. The Hampshire Countryside Services Team are doing a marvellous job and will be continuing the work in progress'

**Before and after - well, nearly...**



Apparently, Ron states that the work is taking in much more than we anticipated, including replacement of the bench, so the site should look really good for the future so that locals and visitors can enjoy this pleasant area which is overseen by your Gardening Club

**More from our Annual Open Show**



The contents of this newsletter have been placed by the Editor but do not necessarily represent any views, comments etc., of the Trustees. However, it is hoped that you find the contents of interest and informative. We would welcome your feedback, especially your own views and personal experiences in your own garden and/or allotment.

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