

WYKE REGIS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



HQ & TRADING POST
RYLANDS LANE
WYKE REGIS
WEYMOUTH DT4 9PY

Founded 1925
Affiliated to the RHS & DFHS
President Dr Brian Shaw

Telephone: 01305 759668
email: enquiries@wrhs.org.uk or newsletter@wrhs.org.uk
website: <http://wrhs.org.uk/>

Price
10p

OPENING TIMES
WEDNESDAY 2pm – 4pm
SATURDAY 9.30am – 12.30pm

SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

AGM

Wednesday 5th September
in the Trading Post, Rylands Lane

CHEESE and WINE

from 6.30pm

Meeting at 7.30pm

Committee Vacancies

Trading Post Managers

Social Secretaries

Can YOU spare an hour or two a week?

What is involved?

A Trading Post Manager:

Must have knowledge of the till; Keep up to date with the stock;
Be responsible for the running of the Trading Post during opening hours on a rota basis.
Hours to suit.

2 Social Secretaries to work in a Team with the General Secretary.

Responsible for organising: Trips to gardens; the Shows and Open Days;
Talks and Demonstrations (only **organising**, not **giving** them!)
and other Social Events.

USING LESS PLASTIC



At 'Countryfile Live' Lucy Siegle, the environmental journalist, told an audience how difficult and dispiriting reducing plastic use can be.

It's true – I ordered biodegradable viopots for my cuttings from www.thegardensuperstore.co.uk

This is the most convenient alternative to plastic pots I've found so far.

They're very robust, although at £5.50 for ten pots they're more expensive than plastic.

BUT

they came packed in approximately 2 sq metres of

PLASTIC BUBBLE WRAP!

You can't win !

However, the more we buy biodegradable pots, the more we can recycle them when we bring plants to the Trading Post.

It's good to see there that some plastic products, such as twine, are almost phased out, replaced by traditional string. Little wins in the battle to phase plastic out.

David Wood

HYMN 154 - REVISED FOR GARDENERS

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

But what we never mention, though gardeners know it's true,
Is when He made the goodies, He made the baddies, too.

All things spray and swatable, disasters great and small,
All things paraquatable, the Lord God made them all.



The greenfly on the roses,
the maggots in the peas,
Manure that fills our noses,
He also gave us these.

The fungus on the goose-gobs,
the club root on the greens,
The slugs that eat the lettuce,
and chew the aubergines.



The drought that kills the fuchsias, the frost that nips the buds,
The rain that drowns the seedlings, the blight that hits the spuds,

The midges and mosquitoes, the nettles and the weeds,
The pigeons in the green stuff, and sparrows on the seeds,



The fly that gets the carrots,
the wasps that eat the plums.
How black the gardener's outlook,
though green may be his thumbs.

But still we gardeners labour, midst veggies and the flowers,
And pray what hits our neighbours plot, will somehow bypass ours.

All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

ANON

HANGERS HEROES PUMPKIN COMPETITION



Photo - istockphotos.com

Hangers Heroes is a registered charity that works to raise funds for various local small charities and other not-for-profit organisations.

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

How big is yours ?

Bring your entry from 9.30am on Saturday 27th October

Weigh-In will take place at 5pm during the Harvest Supper

Prizes are kindly sponsored by the Marquis of Granby Restaurant

There is also a class for the
Best Carved Pumpkin
whatever the size.



Small charities remain close to the true spirit of charity - the workers are usually volunteers who give their time and effort because they care. But it's difficult for a small charity to do the work and raise funds at the same time.

Hangers Heroes fills the fund-raising role.

CALENDAR COMPETITION

The closing date for the entries in the WRHS Calendar Photographic Competition is **midnight on 30th September 2018.**

Twelve photographs will be chosen to appear in the WRHS 2019 Calendar, and the overall winning photograph will also be given pride of place on the front cover.

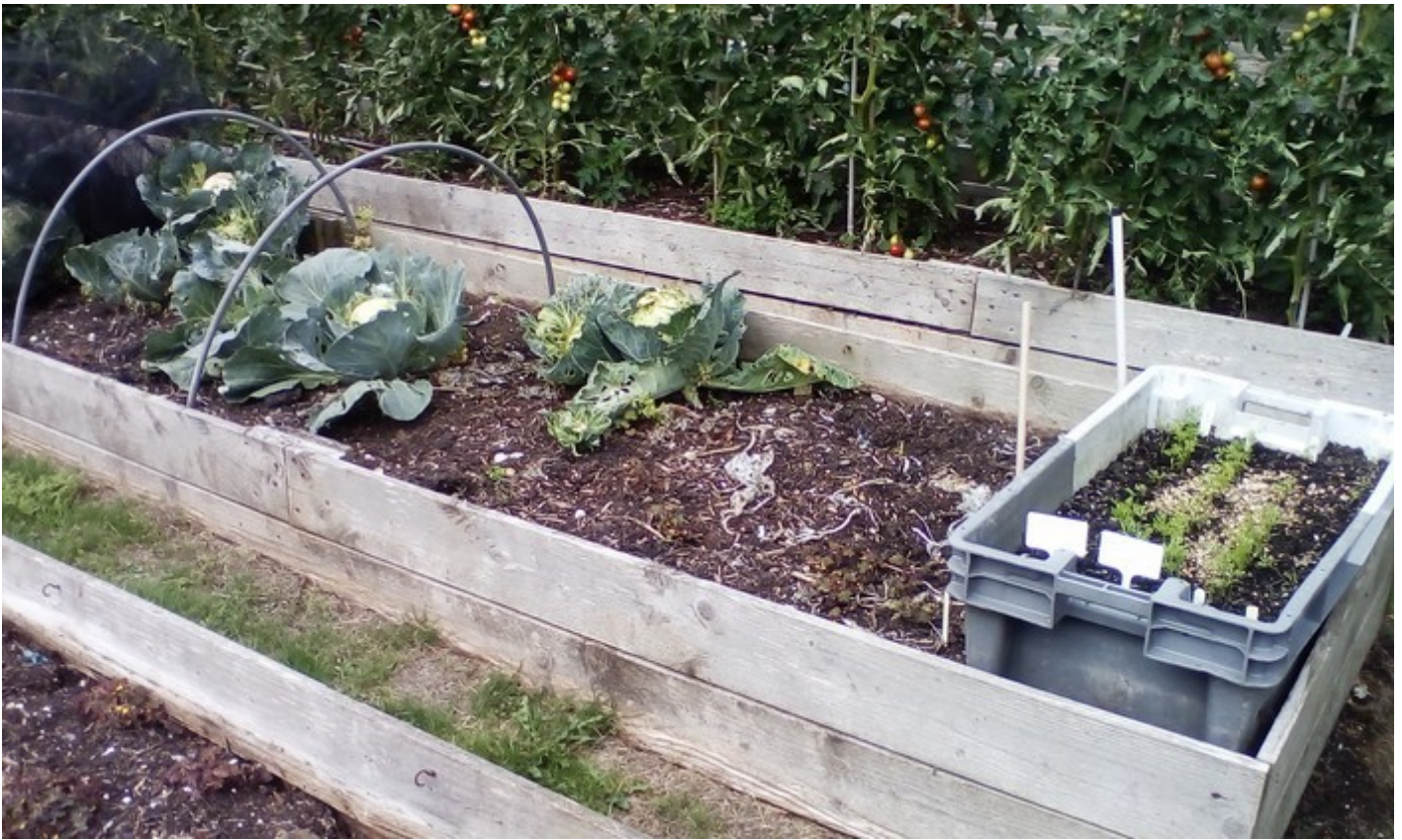
Competition rules are available at the Trading Post, or on-line at <http://www.wrhs.org.uk> under "Events"

SPRING BULBS HAVE ARRIVED !

Daffodil Double 5 varieties 30p each		Narcissus miniature 5 varieties 20p each		Hyacinth Prepared 5 varieties 50p each		Tulip Double early 5 varieties 20p each	
Tulip Short stemmed 5 varieties 20p each		Bulb Planter Stainless steel £13.78 £6.00		Bulb Bowl 20cm £1.25		Bulb Fibre 3 litres £1.00	Lawn Seed 100g 60p 500g £2.90 1kg £5.75
Broad Bean Aquadulce 100g £1.55 50p		Broad Bean De Monica 100g £1.10		Broad Bean Sutton Dwarf 100g 80p		Pea Meteor 100g 50p	
Incinerator with lid £34.99 £24.35		TubTrugs 5 litre £4.34 £3.35 14 litre £5.26 £4.50 38 litre £9.64 £8.25		Water Butt 210 litre with stand etc £67.99 £36.00		Cleaning Fluid outdoor 1 litre £6.16 £3.85	



NO-DIG GARDENING



NO



DIG



We have lived in this house for more than 50 years and most of the time I have been trying to tame the garden.

It measures approx 90 metres by 9 metres - all good solid clay.

It didn't take me long to realize that even though I was young and lovely at the time, this garden was hard work.

So I decided to try a "No dig" system, and apart from digging spuds and taking out the occasional tree root I haven't really dug since.

We now have the nearest 14 metres as flower borders, a garden pond, and grass.

Most of the remainder is devoted to vegetables in raised beds, nine, measuring 4 by 1.2 metres and one odd shaped larger one.

They are all 300 mm deep.

Most beds get about a 3 inch mulch of compost every year.

And we have three large compost heaps to serve them.

One for new stuff, one maturing and one to use.

I compost everything I can get hold of.

I used to use a lot of seaweed but it now seems to have put on too much weight.

I now have beautiful soil (just like you see on the telly)

- though I have to stake sprouts.

In normal years I only watered seedlings, salads and seeds.

This year though I have been watering once a week.

Most things have survived but I certainly won't be winning any prizes.

But then, neither will I be digging.

John Budd 11 Hillcrest

TOBY'S GARDEN AND HARVEST FESTIVAL



At Forde Abbey
WRHS Coach Trip
Sunday
16th September 2018
£17.50 per person
Non-Members welcome

Pick-up points include:

Chickerell, Lane House Rocks, Wyke Smugglers, Buxton Road, Law Courts, and Spa Road.

Ticket includes Forde Abbey Gardens, Food and Drink Stalls, Plant Sales and Demonstrations.

Seats can be reserved at the Trading Post, with payment, and are already selling fast.

HEDGEHOGS IN AUTUMN



Photo by Sean McMenemy, arkwildlife.co.uk

The very hot summer has brought signs of Autumn earlier than usual to the flower garden and to deciduous trees. But please try to resist the urge to cut everything back and tidy it up too much – instead be wildlife friendly and do the major clear up next Spring. If you leave at least a corner as it is with uncut grass and plants, it provides hedgehogs with a safe and undisturbed place to build a hibernation nest and to forage for food throughout the winter. And why not use fallen deciduous leaves as an Autumn mulch, or pile in your 'natural garden' corner – they are the favourite nesting materials for hogs.

It was reported to me that sadly two hogs were drowned in a garden pond on Portland recently – an adult and a juvenile. If you have a pond, please make sure that it has a gently sloping shore, heaped rocks or a sloping plank so that hogs can climb out. Recent reports show that there are only about 500,000 hedgehogs in the UK now, the population having halved since 2000. We need to do everything we can to support them in our gardens and to avoid unnecessary deaths.

Jo Morland

Hedgehog Friendly Portland 01305 860461 email: portlandhedgehog@jomorland.f9.co.uk

WHAT TO DO THIS MONTH

IN THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

Harvesting

- ▶ Harvest onions, potatoes, runner beans, tomatoes, courgettes & tomatoes. Reduce leaves so the sun can ripen the tomatoes.

Storing

- ▶ Freeze fruit and veg, or make soups and freeze them. Make chutneys and jams (even tomatoes can be used for jam!)
- ▶ Dry onions and garlic, then store on strings. See <https://www.gardenersworld.com/how-to/grow-plants/how-to-store-onions/>

Sowing

- ▶ Sow vegetables such as spring cabbages and winter salads, lambs lettuce, spinach and chard, radish, turnips, peas, broad beans (Aquadulce Claudia) for early harvests next spring. The Trading Post has a selection of the best seeds to sow now.
- ▶ Shallots, garlic and onions should be arriving at the Trading Post soon.
- ▶ This is the time to sow a green manure if you have bare soil in the allotment.

Planting

- ▶ Asparagus. There are now varieties available for autumn planting, which helps them establish that bit quicker. Try Ariane, Guelph Millennium, Pacific 2000 or Purple Pacific, available from Thompson and Morgan.
- ▶ Plant out hardened seedlings while the soil is still warm.

Maintenance

- ▶ Keep watering in dry spells.
- ▶ Cover leafy plants with netting to keep the pigeons at bay.
- ▶ Collect and store seed from any plants that have run to seed.
- ▶ Clean out your greenhouse and cold frames so they are ready for use in the autumn.

IN THE FLOWER GARDEN

Planting & Sowing

- ▶ Divide herbaceous perennials. More perennials can be added towards the end of the month - keep them all well watered.
- ▶ Plant out biennials, such as foxgloves, Evening Primroses, wall flowers and violas.
- ▶ Sow sweet peas in a cold frame or greenhouse for early flowers next year.
- ▶ Sow hardy annuals such as Calendula, Centaurea, Consolida and Limnanthes in situ.
- ▶ Plant autumn flowering plants, such as sedum or chrysanthemum to fill gaps.
- ▶ Plant spring flowering bulbs: daffodils, tulips and hyacinths in situ from now onwards - all available **NOW** from the Trading Post.
- ▶ Late September is the time to plant bulbs in pots for a display for Christmas, using 'prepared' Hyacinths.

Maintenance

- ▶ Keep feeding and watering tubs and hanging baskets. Dead-head regularly, to give a display of flowers until the first frosts.
- ▶ Re-plant spent baskets with trailing ivies & winter flowering plants (pansies or heathers) or spring-flowering bulbs or plants.
- ▶ Bring tender or half hardy plants such as fuchsias, gazanias, lantanas and abutilons indoors, before the first frosts.
- ▶ Stake tall late flowering plants such as Asters or Michaelmas daisies to protect them from strong autumn winds.
- ▶ Weed killing is effective in autumn. The RHS recommends using glyphosate to reach the roots, as well as killing leaves. Try to 'spot treat' carefully on a troublesome weed, rather than spread glyphosate widely. Physical weeding is best, where possible, and then composting, but do not put perennial weeds on the heap - burn or bin.

Seasonal Pests & Diseases

- ▶ Powdery mildew - especially if the month is warm and dry. The RHS website describes non-chemical treatment, should you wish to avoid fungicides. Keep susceptible plants well fed & watered in good soil to reduce the chances of mildew.
- ▶ Chrysanthemum White Rust. See the RHS website for details of how to prevent it from spreading.