

WYKE REGIS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



5400442705

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

Founded 1925
Affiliated to the RHS & DFHS
President Mr Colin Giles

Price
10p

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

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

FEBRUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER

NEWS

The new season's stocks of peas, broad beans, onions, shallots, & potatoes have arrived !

QUIZ NIGHT REVIEW

Great fun was enjoyed on the Quiz Night by 30 Members. Cliff Elliott had devised some cunning questions that stretched brains both irritatingly and amusingly. His wife, Joyce, ran a very successful raffle - thank you to all who donated prizes. Special thanks to Do Ransom and Jenni Fleming for providing an excellent Ploughman's meal for us all. Grateful thanks to Cliff, who has agreed to organise another Quiz later in the year...not to be missed!

HORTICULTURAL TEAM

The newly formed horticultural team, led by Carrie and Andrea are looking for volunteers to help with sowing seeds in the poly tunnel, potting on young plants and looking after the WRHS plants for sale in the yard. No experience is necessary, simply an enthusiasm for gardening.

If you are interested, please chat to Carrie or Andrea at the Trading Post.

This month, we intend to plant Detroit 2 Beetroot, Asterix F1 Celeriac, and several varieties of peas and broad beans, for sale as young plants later in the season.

Sweet pea seeds have already been planted.



WRHS Calendar Photo Competition

We plan to publish a 2018 Photo Calendar featuring gardening, horticulture, & local scenes, photographed by WRHS Members.

Please email your entries to
calendar@wrhs.org.uk

**WRHS 2017
Calendar**
A few copies still
available £5.00

Details of the competition timetable, which must allow time for judging & production, will be announced later. The calendar will be on sale towards the end of 2017.

ADVANCE NOTICE Floral Table Decoration Workshop

Richard & Angie Williamson, who ran another brilliant Wreath Making Workshop shortly before Christmas, have agreed to run a Floral Table Decoration Workshop on a Wednesday morning in late March.

£5.00 Bring your own flowers and foliage. Date to be announced soon. Book early. The Wreath Workshop was heavily oversubscribed, we expect this new Workshop to be in great demand.

MODERNISATION

A good many Members have been into the Trading Post already this year - the arrival of the new stocks of seed potatoes always draws a crowd - and everyone seems well pleased with the way the redevelopment of the shop is shaping up.

Most frequent were the comments "It's so much brighter !" "There's a lot more room !" and "It's much easier to find things."

However, the new feature most prized by some of us is the commercial coffee-making machine installed in the kitchen. This is a brilliant bit of kit which allows good ground coffee to be prepared quickly, in large or small quantities, as required.

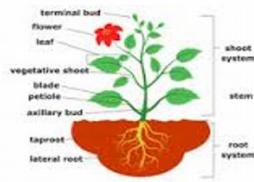
And very good it is too ! If you haven't tried it yet, believe me - you are missing a good thing!

The vast roll-material stand that loomed over everything in the inner shop now resides in the garage, so netting and sheet materials are dispensed by the Yard staff (although it's sold by the metre !). Housing the existing roll-stand in the garage is unavoidably inconvenient , and in time we hope to put a new roll stand, big enough to hold the widest materials, in an outbuilding.

How much that can be achieved, and how soon, depends on enough volunteers to come forward. There's lots to do - see page 2.

CAN YOU SPARE A FEW HOURS ?

Dave Best (Editor) newsletter@wrhs.org.uk



Running Gardening Courses & Workshops

Giving advice & information

Plant Maintenance



Watering



Organising Evening Talks

Organising Social Events

Organising visits to gardens

Pricking out & potting on seedlings



WRHS

VOLUNTEERING



Building Maintenance

Refreshments



Weighing & bagging seeds & fertilisers

Stock Control

Operating the till



Organising Summer Show

Stock Ordering



Computer work EPOS system



Showing people round

WORKING IN TEAMS

CAN YOU SPARE A FEW HOURS FOR WRHS NOW AND THEN?

If so, email general_secretary@wrhs.org.uk
or speak to Carrie or Andrea at the Trading Post.

PEAS, BEANS, ONION SETS, & SHALLOTS

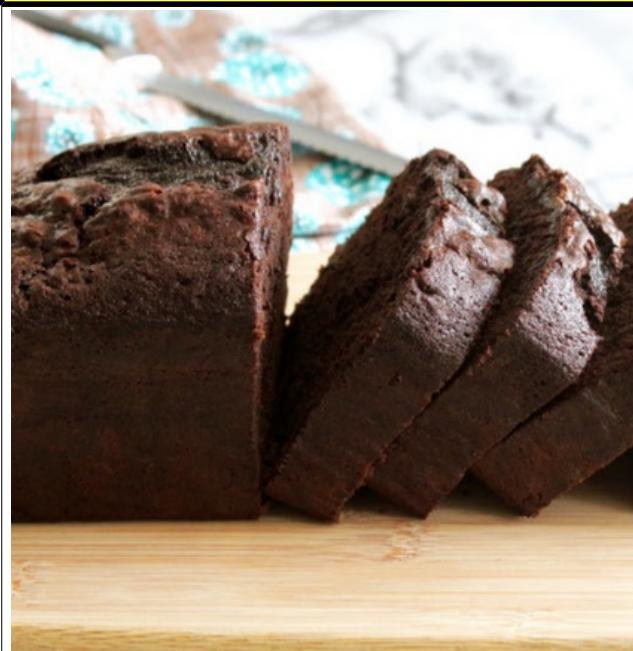
Ambassador Pea 50p/100g		Douce Provence Pea 60p/100g		Hurst Greenshaft Pea 60p/100g		Kelvedon Wonder Pea 70p/100g	
Meteor Pea 50p/100g		Sugar Snap Pea 70p/100g		Onward Pea 60p/100g		Bunyard's Exhibition Broad Bean 80p/100g	
Masterpiece Green Broad Bean 80p/100g		Sutton Dwarf Broad Bean 70p/100g		Witkiem Manita Broad Bean 60p/100g		Aquadulce Claudia Broad Bean 50p/100g	
Red Karmen Onion Set 50p/200g		Sturon Globe Onion Set 80p/200g		Stuttgart Onion Set 80p/200g		Golden Gourmet Shallot £2.00/500g	
Red Sun Shallot £2.00/500g		SEEDS TO PLANT NOW					
		Tomato Mountain Magic F1 £2.80 £2.55		Sweet Pepper Mixed £1.25 £1.15		Chilli Pepper Long Slim £1.45 £1.35	

SEED POTATOES

Select your own tubers. Buy just the quantity you want. 16 varieties - Salad - 1st Early - 2nd Early - Main Crop
Sold by weight. All varieties £1.30 per kilo - **well below normal retail prices**

Charlotte Salad Waxy variety		International Kidney Salad Scab resistant		Pentland Javelin 1st early Scab & eelworm resistant		Red Duke of York 1st early Scab resistant	
Rocket 1st early Eelworm resistant ALMOST GONE		Lady Christl 1st/2nd early Scab & eelworm resistant		Estima 2nd early Scab resistant		Kestrel 2nd early Scab resistant ALMOST GONE	
Marfona 2nd early		Wilja 2nd early Scab resistant		Cara Main crop Scab, blight & eelworm resistant		Desiree Main crop Waxy red variety	
King Edward Main crop Scab resistant ALMOST GONE		Maris Piper Main crop Eelworm resistant		Picasso Main crop Red-eyed variety		Sarpo Mira Late maincrop Blight resistant	

A RECIPE FOR FEBRUARY



QUICK CHOCOLATE & COFFEE CAKE

Serves 8

Contributed by The Kitchen Gardener

No cooking
Prepare the day before

As there is not much growing in the way of vegetables this month,
I thought you may like to indulge in some chocolate cake!

This recipe was given to me by a French friend,
so I hope nothing has been lost in translation!
She served this as a dessert with crème anglaise,
but cream would be equally good.

Ingredients

150g caster sugar
375g Boudoir biscuits
100g dark chocolate
20cl strong black coffee
125g butter (softened)
2 egg yolks

Method

1. Crush the biscuits and grate the chocolate. This can be done in a food processor.
2. Prepare the coffee
3. Carefully mix the biscuits, sugar, coffee, butter, egg yolks and chocolate in a bowl, using a spoon
4. Line a 20cm loaf tin with baking paper to make the cake easier to remove.
5. Put mixture in tin and smooth the top.
6. Leave in the fridge overnight.
7. Serve cut into slices.

DO NOT KEEP FOR MORE THAN 24 HOURS AS THE EGG YOLKS ARE UNCOOKED

WHAT TO DO THIS MONTH

- Leaf icon: Prepare vegetable seed beds
- Leaf icon: Some vegetables can be sown under cover
- Leaf icon: Chit potato tubers
- Leaf icon: Protect blossom on apricots, nectarines and peaches
- Leaf icon: Net fruit and vegetable crops to keep the birds off
- Leaf icon: Divide bulbs such as snowdrops, and plant those that need planting 'in the green'
- Leaf icon: Prune Wisteria, conservatory climbers like bougainvillea, & winter-flowering shrubs that have finished flowering
- Leaf icon: Prune hardy evergreen hedges and renovate overgrown deciduous hedges
- Leaf icon: Cut back deciduous grasses left uncut over the winter, remove dead grass from evergreen grasses
- Snowflake icon: Prevent ponds from freezing. A half filled plastic milk bottle floated in the pond can keep the surface open.
- Snowflake icon: Never break pond ice with a hammer - use hot water and patience !
- Bird icon: Keep putting out food and water for hungry birds. Remember to unfreeze the water **every day** in cold weather.
- Mouse icon: Keep mice away from stored produce. The Trading Post has mouse traps.
- Notebook icon: Plan your vegetable crop rotations and flower plantings for the coming season.
- Notebook icon: Check out the new stocks of seeds at the Trading Post.
- Notebook icon: Remember to keep notes throughout the year - what varieties you plant, and when, and how well (or badly !) they fare. Take a few photos to go with your notes. If we all pool our experiences, we can all help each other.
- Notebook icon: Local knowledge is worth more than the generalisations you can get from gardening books!

Remember to pick up your free copy of the Winter edition of Country Gardener from the Trading Post