

# 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

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website: <http://wrhs.org.uk/>

Price  
10p

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

## AUGUST 2018 NEWSLETTER

### VOLUNTEERS

## ***Where are YOU ?***

This is **your** Society. Come and have a go...see if you like it...no commitment.

The Society has 520 members, but only a few volunteers.

The Trading Post is run entirely by volunteers on a rota  
(there are no paid members in any capacity).

We need people who can spare an hour or two a month - we are only open 5 hours a week!

Wednesdays 2 - 4pm and Saturdays 9.30am - 12.30pm.

There are a variety of jobs to do and training is given when required.

Till operators using the EPOS system;

Café assistants (only serving drinks and biscuits, no cooking);

shelf-packers (weighing out seeds and fertilisers),

cleaners and maintenance of plants.

**There is no late night opening this year, because we do not have enough volunteers.**

### WORK PARTY

#### **Thursday 16th August from 9.30am.**

Drop in! Have a go! Meet like-minded helpers. Stay as long as you like.

Jobs to be done include

Re-organising stock in the yard,

Cleaning in the shop,

Building repairs and Painting.

There will also be propagation: sowing seeds and taking cuttings.

**Free Tea, Coffee, Squash and Cake!**

For more information, contact Carrie: [generalsecretary@wrhs.org.uk](mailto:generalsecretary@wrhs.org.uk)  
or have a chat in the Trading Post

### AGM – WEDNESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

The AGM on 5th September will call for more members to join the General Committee

**There are only 9 Committee members doing all the work...we need 15 !**

More information on these positions will be published later.

## ROGER RUSSELL



ROGER RUSSELL's 40 years of dedication to the Society were commemorated with the unveiling of a plaque on the Raised Bed at the Trading Post during the Summer Show on 21st July. He has been a Member for almost 50 years! We are very grateful for all his years of service, supported by his wife, Pam.

Thanks are also due to Leslie Scott for building the box.

Roger and Pam Russell

## LIME & COURGETTE LOAF CAKE

### Ingredients

- 1 large courgette – about 200g
- 175g unsalted butter
- 175g caster sugar
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 210g plain flour, sifted
- 1 tsp baking powder
- ¼ tsp bicarbonate of soda
- Pinch salt
- 75g ground almonds
- Zest and juice of 2 limes
- 350g strawberries, roughly chopped
- 50ml Pimm's

Thanks to Sue Stow for this recipe, which proved so popular at the Show.

### Method

1. Heat the oven to 180°C/Gas4. Roughly grate the courgette, then squeeze out the excess moisture. Set aside.
2. Cream the butter and sugar till pale then gradually beat in the eggs.
3. In a separate bowl, mix the flour, baking powder, bicarb of soda, salt and ground almonds.
4. Fold into the butter mixture with the courgettes, lime zest and juice until just combined.
5. Place in greased and base-lined 2lb loaf tin and bake for 1 hour until golden and cooked through.
6. Meanwhile place the strawberries in a bowl with the Pimm's and set aside to marinate.
7. Once removed from the oven, leave the cake to cool in the tin for a few minutes before turning out onto a wire rack.
8. Serve sliced with the strawberries.

## USING LESS PLASTIC

*Holiday season AND a heatwave ? How unusual ?*

Plants in my remaining plastic pots are frying from the roots up because the plastic's getting red hot in the sun.

So in the midday heat I'm indoors studying [www.gardeningwithoutplastic.com](http://www.gardeningwithoutplastic.com)

The site's in development but I've joined the mailing list in the hope of getting alerts on plastic-free suppliers like [www.greentones.co.uk](http://www.greentones.co.uk)

Their mini classic plant pots for seedlings are made from bamboo fibre and are 45p, cheaper than terracotta pots, and hopefully they'll also conduct heat gently.

On holiday I'll browse junk shops and reclamation yards for terracotta and save all my lolly sticks to label my seed trays.

*David Wood*

## BITS AND BOBS

The handicraft shop in Portland Road offers a 10% discount to all WRHS Members on presentation of their current Membership card. We are grateful for all the support that Bobs gives to the Society.

## SUMMER SHOW

Thank you for all the wonderful entries in the Summer Show on 21st July.  
Rachel Waldock organised an excellent team and the Show was a great success.

Thank you for all the Raffle Prizes and gifts of food on the Day.  
Support from the members is much appreciated.

All the Raffle Prizes have been delivered.

The vegetable entries were down on previous years, but as there has been no rain for months, no-one has been able to grow much at all.



## RESULTS

<b>Wyke Regis Challenge Cup</b>	<b>Overall Highest Points in all Classes</b>	<b>Rachel Waldock</b>
<b>WRHS Horticultural Cup</b>	<b>Highest number of points in horticultural classes</b>	<b>Rachel Waldock</b>
<b>Lloyd Worth Rose Challenge Cup</b>	<b>Highest number of points in Rose Classes</b>	<b>Rachel Waldock</b>
<b>A L Habgood Cup</b>	<b>Best collection of vegetables</b>	<b>Michael Waldock</b>
<b>Sheppard Fruit Cup</b>	<b>Best Fruit Exhibit</b>	<b>Kim Curtis</b>
<b>Ethel Mitchell Cup</b>	<b>Highest number of points in Cookery Classes</b>	<b>Sarah Owens</b>
<b>Ernie Mead Trophy</b>	<b>Highest number of points for Baking</b>	<b>Nina Hanger</b>
<b>WRHS Hardy Cup</b>	<b>Highest number of points for Preserves</b>	<b>Rachel Waldock</b>
<b>Wyke Regis Challenge Cup</b>	<b>Highest number of points in Handicraft Classes</b>	<b>John Kaye</b>
<b>Lucille Rivers-Foley Cup</b>	<b>Best Exhibit in Photography Classes</b>	<b>John Kaye</b>
<b>Andy Watson Cup</b>	<b>Best exhibit Classes 37-40</b>	<b>Rita Balderstone</b>
<b>WRHS Silver Challenge Cup</b>	<b>Highest points Children 7 and under</b>	<b>Ava Fernando</b>
<b>Walby Challenge cup for Juniors</b>	<b>Highest points Children 8 and over</b>	<b>Gabe Dalby</b>

## CALENDAR COMPETITION

The Photographic Competition for entries for the 2019 calendar are due in by mid September...keep clicking!  
Photograph are representing all seasons are needed, so now is the time to take a few for Summer.

Details are available in the Trading Post, or on-line at [www.wrhs.org](http://www.wrhs.org) under "Events"



## 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.

## HEDGEHOG NESTS



*Photo by Peter Mallett of Norfolk Wildlife Trust*

Hedgehogs need undisturbed places preferably with one firm surface against which to nest – log pile, undergrowth, compost heap, under a shed, against a wall. Nests are built for hibernation, raising young, and resting in the day.

These are all made from leaves, grass, bracken, and often, our litter and are constructed in the same way.

The hedgehog gathers its materials then circles round inside, softening, smoothing and compacting the interior. Nests need to be weatherproof and insulated depending on when and for how long they are used.

Hibernation nests may be up to 10cm thick and used for several weeks. Nursery nests also need to be large and well made but are used for only 4-5 weeks. Day nests are quite flimsy, and may only be used for a day or two.

Hedgehogs move nest sites quite frequently, even during winter or with a family, making a new nest each time.

If you disturb a hedgehog nest, please cover it up and if there are young, watch to see that the mother returns.

And please provide water especially in the very hot weather.

Jo Morland

Hedgehog Friendly Portland 01305 860461 email: [portlandhedgehog@jomorland.f9.co.uk](mailto:portlandhedgehog@jomorland.f9.co.uk)

## WHAT TO DO THIS MONTH

### *IN THE VEGETABLE GARDEN*

- ▶ Keep fruit & vegetable plants well watered, especially cucumbers, squash & sweet corn. Use grey water if possible.
- ▶ Feed tomato plants with a high potash fertiliser; remove lower leaves to keep air circulating and avoid diseases.
- ▶ Pinch out the tops of tomato plants so you have no more than six trusses, or fewer if your plants got off to a late start.
- ▶ Pinch out the tops of runner beans to encourage growth of side shoots.
- ▶ Limit the fruit on your squash plants to three or so, checking they are established before pinching out the unwanted fruits.
- ▶ Harvest Runner beans, French beans and courgettes regularly.
- ▶ Cut back herbs to encourage new growth. Dry or freeze some for the winter.
- ▶ Lift onions, garlic, and shallots when tops have yellowed & flopped over. Bending the tops is said to encourage ripening.
- ▶ Second early potatoes should be ready to lift. Maincrop potatoes will be ready when the foliage goes yellow and dies back.
- ▶ Quick growing salad crops can still be sown this month.

### *IN THE FLOWER GARDEN*

- ▶ Cut back tired foliage on perennial plants after they have stopped flowering.
- ▶ Keep dead-heading flowering plants.
- ▶ Trim Lavender bushes for a good shape next year. French Lavender (*Stoechas*) flowers continuously so keep dead heading.
- ▶ At the end of the month sow hardy annuals directly into the borders; keep them watered.
- ▶ Pinks and carnations can be propagated by layering, irises by lifting and dividing the rhizomes.
- ▶ Take cuttings of tender perennials eg *Pelargonium*, *Osteospermum*, and alpine plants eg *Helianthemum*, *Aubretia*, *Dianthus*.
- ▶ Keep watering. Hanging baskets and containers are particularly vulnerable in dry spells.
- ▶ Tubs and baskets will benefit from feeding with a liquid tomato food to encourage them to flower in early autumn.
- ▶ Stake tall growing plants such as Dahlias to protect from wind damage.

### *SHRUBS & TREES*

- ▶ Last chance to prune Weigela, Philadelphus, Choisya and Wisteria !
- ▶ Rambling roses can be pruned now, unless they have ornamental hips.
- ▶ Give hedges a trim all over now. You may not need to trim again till the spring.
- ▶ Black spot on roses is common in late summer. Clear & burn fallen leaves to avoid spreading the spores - **do not compost**.
- ▶ Shrubs in containers must be well watered and fed regularly.
- ▶ Use biological control for vine weevils in your containerised shrubs or fruit.
- ▶ Trees & shrubs suffering drought-stress need a very thorough soaking, repeated for a several days to ensure penetration.

### *LAWNS & PONDS*

- ▶ If your lawn has gone brown, don't panic. Grass is very resilient. It will green up again when it rains.  
**Do not water the lawn** - keep your resources for the vegetable and flower garden !
- ▶ Don't use lawn weed killers until the autumn, when they will be more effective.
- ▶ Remove faded leaves and flowers from pond plants. Clear any fallen leaves.
- ▶ Keep removing duckweed and blanket weed from the pond with a rake or net.
- ▶ Top up water levels if you have fish. Use water from a water butt if possible.  
If you have to use tap water, let it stand for 24 hours.