

# WYKE REGIS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Founded 1925

Affiliated to the RHS & Dorset Federation of Horticultural Societies

President Mr Colin Giles

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OPENING TIMES  
WEDNESDAY 2 – 4PM  
SATURDAY 9.30AM – 12.30PM

## JUNE 2016 NEWSLETTER

### CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

The success in selling all the Quiz Night Tickets is very encouraging and gives those Members who are attending the Quiz Night the chance to enjoy the first evening social event of the season.

The Committee are still asking for Members who want to be involved in creating a vibrant social programme of activities in the HQ and Trading Post to contact me or other Committee Members so that we can work together for the benefit of all Members. May I thank all of the Committee Members for their enthusiasm and hard work on behalf of the Society and for the progress in all the areas of the Society's activities.

Brian Shaw (Chairman)



### JUNE DISPLAY

◀ This month's display at the Trading Post is all about taking cuttings. **Now is the time !**

The Trading Post has all you need for taking cuttings - pruning knives, secateurs, compost, rooting compound, propagators, pots, labels

## A RECIPE FOR JUNE

### Broad bean and feta frittata

Fresh broad beans and feta gives this simple, filling meal plenty of flavour

**Preparation:** Under 30 mins  
**Cooking Time:** 10 to 30 mins  
**Serves 2**

#### Ingredients:

200g (7oz) small broad beans, pods removed  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
1 small red onion peeled, chopped  
salt and freshly ground black pepper  
6 large free-range eggs  
100g (3½oz) feta cheese, crumbled  
small bunch fresh mint, leaves only (optional)

#### Method:

1. Boil the broad beans in salted water 2-3 mins until tender. Drain. Chill in cold water. Remove skins if preferred.
2. Heat oil gently in a small oven-proof frying pan. Add onion & a pinch of salt. Fry 8-10 mins, until soft but not browned.
3. Preheat the grill to maximum heat. Whisk eggs thoroughly, season with salt and freshly ground black pepper.
4. Add eggs to softened onions. Add the crumbled feta, mint leaves & broad beans. Cook 2-3 minutes on medium heat until underside of egg mixture is pale golden-brown. **NB: Do not stir the mixture.**
5. Place pan under grill for 2-3 minutes until the top of egg mixture is firm and pale golden-brown. Remove from grill.
6. Place a large plate upside-down over the pan and invert so the frittata falls onto the plate (rather than the floor!)
7. Cut the frittata into wedges and serve with crusty white bread.




















# WRHS NEWS JUNE 2016

## TRADING POST

**MEMBERSHIP CARD MUST BE SHOWN WHEN MAKING ANY PURCHASE**

<b><u>SEED POTATOES</u></b> Last day for potatoes Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	Salad	Nicola, <b>International Kidney</b> (almost gone), <b>Charlotte</b> (sold out)				All at <b>£1.25 / kg</b> 50p / kg	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Early	Rocket, <b>Pentland Javelin</b> (sold out)					
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Early	Kestrel, <b>Wilja, Marfona</b> (almost gone)					
	Main	Desiree, King Edward, Maris Piper, <b>Cara, Picasso</b> (almost gone)				<b>£1.40</b> 70p / kg	
	Main	Sarpo Mira (blight resistant)					
<b><u>ONION SETS</u></b>	Stuttgart, Sturon, Red Karmen					200g	<b>80p</b> 50p
<b><u>SHALLOTS</u></b>	Golden Gourmet, <b>Red Sun</b> (almost gone)					500g	<b>£2</b> £1
<b><u>PEAS</u></b>	Ambassador, Meteor					100g	50p
	Douce Provence, Hurst Greenshaft					100g	60p
	Kelvedon Wonder, <b>Sugar Snap</b> (almost gone)					100g	70p
	Early Onward, Onward					100g	80p
	Waverex					100g	£1.20
<b><u>BROAD BEANS</u></b>	Bunyard's Exhibition, Giant Exhibition, Witkiem Manita, Masterpiece Green Longpod					100g	60p
	Sutton Dwarf					100g	70p
	Karmazyn					100g	90p
<b><u>FRENCH BEANS</u></b>	Sprite	Dwarf variety, long straight pods			100g	84p	
	Canadian Wonder	Dwarf variety, crops heavily			100g	85p	
	Safari	Dwarf variety, late maturing, disease resistant			50g	95p	
	Tendergreen	Dwarf variety, stringless			50g	50p	
	Cobra	Climbing variety, good shelf life			50g	£2.00	
	Hunter	Climbing variety, early or maincrop			50g	£1.60	
	Cosse Violette	Climbing variety, purple pods, good flavour			100g	£1.10	
	<b>Blue Lake</b>	<b>Climbing variety, crops well. (Almost gone)</b>			50g	60p	
<b><u>RUNNER BEANS</u></b>	<b>Scarlet Emperor</b>	<b>Early variety. (sold out)</b>			<b>100g</b>	75p	
	<b>Enorma</b>	<b>Extra long pods. (Almost gone)</b>			100g	95p	
	Painted Lady	Outstanding flavour			100g	£1.10	
	Polestar	Early variety			100g	£1.15	
	Red Knight	Very heavy cropping stringless variety			100g	£1.35	
	White Lady	White flowered variety - less liable to bird damage			100g	£1.45	
	Hestia	Dwarf early variety, suitable for tubs			100g	£1.85	
	Moonlight	White flowered variety, sets easily			100g	£2.25	
<b><u>LAWN CARE</u></b>	Grass seed, hard wearing, low maintenance.					100 g	75p
	Lawn sand					2.5 kg	£1.75
	'Sportsmaster' spring/summer lawn feed					1 kg	£2.00
	Renovator 'Pro' feed & weed. <b>SPECIAL PRICE ! Normally £50.00</b> <b>We regret that we can no longer sell Renovator 'Pro' rebagged in small quantities.</b>					25 kg	£45.00
<b><u>BULK MATERIALS</u></b>	Multipurpose Compost	40 litre	£2.00	6 bags	£11.00		
	Horse Manure Compost	45 litre	£2.00	70 litre	£3.60		
	Ericaceous Compost	75 litre	£3.75				
	John Innes No.1 John Innes No.3	25 litre	£5.00				
	Somerset Peat	40 litre	£2.50				
	Somerset Topsoil	25 litre	£2.50				
	"Groworganic" Fertiliser	15 kg	£7.95				
	6X Organic Fertiliser - <b>SPECIAL PURCHASE - SPECIAL PRICE !</b>	15 kg	£5.00				
	6X Organic Chicken Manure Pellets	20 kg	£8.95				
	Potting grit (new stock)	Bag	£1.30				
	Sharp sand	Bag	£0.95				
	Oak Tree brand Landscape Bark	70 litre	£5.50	2 bags	£10.00		
<b><u>WRHS GROWN PLANTS</u></b>	Peas - Douce Provence, Onward			tray	£1.50		
	Onions - Senshyu Yellow			pot	£1.00		
	Celery			half tray	£2.00		
	Celeriac			half tray	£2.00		
	Red cabbage - Kalibos			each	25p		
	Kale - Nero do Toscana			each	25p		
	Runner beans, Dwarf French beans, Climbing French beans Expected to be ready by 11 <sup>th</sup> or 15 <sup>th</sup> June			tray	£1.50		
<b><u>HARDWARE</u></b>	Strong wheelbarrow, black - "Apollo" 90 litre capacity. Very popular.			Self assembly DIY kit		£30.00	
				Ready assembled by WRHS		£35.00	
<b><u>MEMBERS' PLANT SALES</u></b>	It is well worth dropping into the Trading Post regularly to see what home-grown plants WRHS members have for sale, especially at this time of year. You never know what gem you may pick up!						

## WHAT TO DO THIS MONTH

-  Your last chance to plant potatoes. The Trading Post has cut price seed potatoes. Remember to earth them up.
-  Have you sorted out your water butts yet? You'll need to conserve rainwater if we get a summer this year! The Trading Post stocks water butts, spare taps, and automatic rainwater diverters to fit to your downpipes.
-  Pinch out side-shoots on tomatoes. Harvest lettuce, radish, and other salads. Lift early potatoes.
-  Plant up your summer hanging baskets and containers. Don't forget to add some water retaining gel to your potting compost, to prevent the baskets drying out so quickly. The gel is in stock at the Trading Post - ask if you can't find it.
-  Mow the lawns at least once a week. Plant out summer bedding.
-  Stake tall & floppy plants before the wind flattens them! The Trading Post has canes in a variety of lengths, and two sizes of green plastic hoops to gently restrain tall, delicate plants.
-  Many spring-flowering shrubs need to be pruned as soon as they have finished flowering.
-  Shade the greenhouse to prevent overheating and avoid scorched plants.
-  Sow French, runner & broad beans, peas, squash, sweetcorn, & outdoor cucumbers directly into prepared beds.
-  Sow calabrese, turnips and kohlrabi for an autumn crop.
-  Plant out celeriac, celery, and ridge cucumbers.
-  Fill in the gaps between winter brassicas with quick-maturing plants like radishes or gem lettuces.
-  Start treating potatoes and tomatoes against blight. Watch out for asparagus beetles & larvae; flea beetles on brassicas; red spider mite, whitefly, codling moth, plum moth, and raspberry beetle. Protect against slugs !!!
-  Pinch out the top of broad beans once the lowest flowers have set to help prevent aphid attack.
-  Cover carrot plants with a fine woven plastic mesh to protect against carrot fly.
-  Pick yellowing leaves off brassicas promptly to prevent spread of grey mould and brassica downy mildew.
-  Carry on [weeding](#)! Shallow-rooted annual weeds can be hoed on a hot day and left to dry out. Deep rooted pests like dandelion, nettle, and bindweed need to be dug out carefully with a fork.

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

## SOCIAL EVENTS

### [Trip to Wilton House & Country Fair](#)

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2016

[House & Gardens](#) entrance £9.75  
includes Cecil Beaton photographic [exhibition](#)

[Country Fair](#) (entrance £5) features steam engines, vintage cars, dog and equestrian events, stalls, antiques & crafts, local bands, and a catering village. Coach £11.

**Book at the Trading Post**



### Summer Show



Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2016

30 Classes - flowers, fruit, vegetables, cakes, preserves, handicrafts, photography

**Schedule & Entry Form at the Trading Post  
and on the [website](#)**

## GLYPHOSATE - THE CONTINUING SAGA

The European Commission still hasn't managed to vote on whether to ban glyphosate weed killers or to re-licence them. The Commission seems evenly divided on the subject. There is little prospect of a decision before the present licence expires on 30<sup>th</sup> June, so presumably it will be illegal to sell glyphosate weed killers after the end of this month. Most gardeners think that "glyphosate" = "Roundup" - not realising that almost all available weed-killers are glyphosate based, in fact **all** the general-purpose weed-killers stocked at the WRHS Trading Post contain glyphosate.

If you use any weed-killer in your garden, or on your allotment, or to stop weeds from breaking up your paths or driveway, you will be well advised to stock up before the end of this month. Expect Chaos.

## MEMBERS' PLANT SALES

Members who have left home grown plants for sale at the Trading Post are asked to inspect them regularly. Some plants have remained unsold for a long time, and have got very tatty. Your cooperation will be appreciated.



## MODERNISATION

### ELECTRONIC POINT OF SALE SYSTEM (EPOS)

The WRHS modernisation programme is progressing rapidly, and everything looks most promising. The new EPOS system went live in May, with remarkably few "teething problems" being experienced. Initially there were a few delays, while the operators gained confidence in using the new till; the Trading Team wish to express their thanks to Members for their patience, during this period. Patience will be rewarded with significant benefits.

### TRAINING

Training is going well; four till-operator volunteers and all but one of the duty managers have received training. After some initial nerves, all the operators have taken to the new till very well, and seem to be happily surprised to find how easy the system is to use.

Richard Miller, our IT Manager, has been on hand at the Trading Post every Wednesday and Saturday, to ensure that everything runs smoothly. As time has gone on, operational changes have been developed and implemented, in order to ease the operation of the till and the system as a whole.

### BARCODES

Almost all pre-packaged items are barcoded by their manufacturers, but in addition, most other items stocked by WRHS now have barcodes, which makes till operation very quick and easy.

Progress is also being made with WRHS plants.

We are now able to barcode the plants grown in the WRHS polytunnel, using weather proof labels, so in future, instead of having to be manually searched for and individually priced at the till, these items will simply be scanned.

No promises, but if all goes well, this labelling process **may** be introduced for plants offered for sale by WRHS Members, which would be of great benefit to everyone. Sellers would no longer need to write two waterproof labels, as currently required; the till-operator would no longer have to laboriously record whose plant had been sold at what price, while the queue gets longer and longer!. The duty manager wouldn't have to work out how much sales money was owed to which Member - EPOS would do it all! We will keep you posted of any developments in this area.

### SOCIAL EVENTS

Payments for all social events, such as the trip to Wilton House, and entry fees for the WRHS Summer Show are now handled directly by the till and the EPOS system, which records exactly who has paid for what.

### LABOUR SAVING

The process of cashing up after each trading session used to be tedious and time consuming, but the introduction of an automatic coin sorter and counter has turned this chore into a doddle!. Cashing up now takes very little time.

Shelf-edge price-ticket holders have been installed throughout the Trading Post. Until now, some unfortunate person has had to wrestle with a price-labelling gun on every individual item of stock, before anything could go out onto the shelves. Price-labelling guns have an evil will of their own, and can be about as co-operative as Delaney's Donkey! Price labelling is one chore that will be waved goodbye with much rejoicing.

### MEMBERSHIP CARDS

All membership cards now carry a barcode, identifying the card holder. The initial batch of cards proved to be something of a problem, as the Canon printer had sneakily stretched the barcode, which made life hard for the barcode scanner. More recent membership cards carry a smaller barcode, which the scanner reads perfectly.

However all the till operators have also been shown two additional ways to link a member to the till so as not to cause too much delay. A different scanner will be tested to see if it can read the first batch of membership cards; if not, we may have to consider replacing those cards with the modified version.

### BACK OFFICE ORGANISATION

Stock counting has begun, and the database now holds records of much of the current stock-holding. At the time of writing, the stock in the back store room has yet to be counted and logged.

Richard Miller did all the initial work of populating the database before the system went live, but since then the Trading Team have been getting to grips with the "Back Office" system, adding new products to the database and updating supplier details, pricing etc. We can now see which products are the most popular, and which products never sell at all. For the first time since 1925, WRHS trading activities will be governed by reliable data, instead of guesswork!

### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

The EPOS system database now holds all membership records and subscription payments. The one remaining major problem is with Members who pay by Standing Order on the **wrong date !!!**

**There are still 21 standing order members who have not yet paid their subscriptions for 2016.**

If you pay by Standing Order, **please check your SO arrangement** and adjust the **date** and **amount** if necessary. All annual subscriptions are due on **1<sup>st</sup> April**. Standard Membership: **£5.00** Postal Membership: **£12.00**