

WYKE REGIS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



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

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

Price
10p

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

OPENING TIMES
WEDNESDAY 2pm – 6.30pm
SATURDAY 9.30am – 12.30pm

AUGUST 2017 NEWSLETTER

BALL COLEGRAVE SUMMER SHOWCASE

Four members of the society visited the Ball Colegrave Summer Showcase in Banbury (thank you Carrie for driving the 8 hour round trip!) on the 25th July to view the plants available as plug plants in Spring 2018.



On show were a huge variety of annuals, perennials and herbs currently available as well as a range of experimental varieties

The plug plants we ordered and received this year were of excellent quality and sold well.

We will be ordering a range of plants again next spring to sell as plugs and as potted-on plants.



If you would like any particular varieties, the catalogue will be available in the Trading Post until the end of August.

We will try to include your selections in the order.

We can only order for delivery in one specific week - probably week 14, early April. This will be confirmed on the front of the catalogue.

Please speak to a member of the Horticultural Team if you have any queries.

WRHS NEWS AUGUST 2017

ALL PLANTS NOW BARCODED !

Plants are our most popular sales line at the Trading Post. WRHS plants and Members home-grown plants are always much in demand, and have become so popular that the old labelling system was too slow and caused till-queues the length of the shop !

We reckon we now have the problem cracked. All plants owned by the Society have bar-coded labels showing the price, and now each Member who sells plants has their own set of bar-coded price labels.

The barcode identifies the **price** and the **seller**, so that the till can add up how much each Member has sold as it goes.

When you bring in plants for sale, you must record how many plants of each price you have brought - there's a new form for this - and stick one of your barcoded price labels on the pot, **before** it goes out for sale. Your sheets of bar-coded labels are stored in the "Plant Sellers" folder with your record sheet. Just ask in the Office when you need more labels.

The barcode reader cannot read round tight curves, so if you use very small round pots, please ask for white plastic T-labels - just stick the bar-code label onto the T-label and pop it into the pot. The Society will lend you the T-labels, and will reuse them.

Once a month each seller will get an envelope with the cash due and a list of how many plants of each price have been sold.

The Society keeps 20% of the selling price to cover running costs.

Shorter till queues - less stress for the volunteer till operators - no lost plants - it's got to be good !

The Horticultural Team horticulture@wrhs.org.uk

WRHS SUMMER SHOW

The WRHS Summer Show was held on Saturday 15th July

Thirty entrants submitted a total of 110 entries

Horticultural Section	58
Fuchsia from cutting	7
Bucket-grown potatoes	10
Cookery Section	22
Handicrafts	29
Photographs	10
Children's Section	1



A good number of Members volunteered to help in setting everything up on Friday afternoon, and to clear up on Saturday evening. Thanks goes to all those who gave up their time and made everything happen smoothly and efficiently. Thanks are also due to those who helped on the day with stewarding, weighing potatoes and manning the café and till - it was a long day.

The raffle covered the cost of hiring the Hall - thanks go to those who generously donated prizes.

All in all, the day was a success, giving enjoyment to a good many people and raising the profile of the Society. In the past few months the Society has attracted a lot of new and enthusiastic members – let's hope that next year's Summer Show will also grow and flourish.

Thanks are due to Rachel Waldock, who organized the event so successfully.

Examining WRHS Accounts

In last month's newsletter we advertised for a someone to take over as WRHS Accounts Examiner next year, when Derick Howe steps down from the post.

We are grateful to Michelle Lindley, who has volunteered to undertake this task.

A RECIPE FOR AUGUST

Spiced Pickled Runner Beans

Contributed by The Kitchen Gardener

This is a lovely recipe for all those runner beans and a good way of preserving them for eating in the winter.

Makes about six 0.5 litre jars



Ingredients

900g runner beans, weighed after trimming and slicing
 700g onions, chopped
 850ml malt vinegar
 40g cornflour
 1 heaped tablespoon mustard powder
 1 rounded tablespoon turmeric
 225g soft brown sugar
 450g Demerara sugar
 Salt

Method

- Put the chopped onions into a preserving pan or large saucepan with 275 ml of the vinegar. Simmer gently until soft (about 20 minutes).
- Cook the sliced beans in boiling salted water for 5 minutes, strain, and add to the onions.
- Mix the cornflour, mustard, & turmeric with enough of the remaining vinegar to make a smooth paste. Add to the mixture.
- Add the rest of the vinegar and simmer for 10 minutes.
- Stir in all the sugar until dissolved.
- Simmer for a further 15 minutes.
- Pot the pickle in warmed, sterilised jars. Seal and label when cold.
- Keep for at least a month before eating.

SEEDS TO SOW NOW

Beet, Leaf Perpetual Spinach £1.25 £1.15		Beet, Leaf Rhubarb Chard £1.45 £1.35		Beet Leaf Rainbow Chard £1.55 £1.35		Carrot Amsterdam Forcing £1.30 £1.15	
Cauliflower All the Year Round £1.30 £1.15		Pak Choi Hanakan F1 £1.45 £1.35		Pak Choi Joi Choi F1 £1.50 £1.35		Pak Choi Red F1 £1.50 £1.35	
Cress, Land American £1.25 £1.15		Lettuce Winter Density £1.45 £1.35		Basil Classic Italian £1.45 £1.35		Rocket Salad £1.45 £1.35	
Coriander Leisure £1.45 £1.35		Parsley Extra Triple Curled £1.45 £1.30		Parsley Afrodite £1.45 £1.30		Candytuft Spangles £1.05 £0.95	
Lathyrus Latifolius Everlasting Sweet Pea £1.55 £1.40		Mustard Dig in before flowering £1.50 £1.35		Fenugreek Dig in before flowering £1.50 £1.35		Phacelia Dig in just before flowers open £1.50 £1.35	

WHAT TO DO THIS MONTH

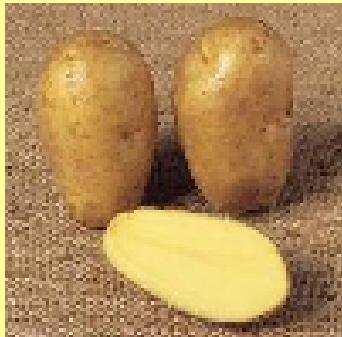
-  Prune Wisteria and Pyracantha.
-  Deadhead flowering plants regularly, but leave ornamental grasses to provide interest later in the year.
-  Tubs, troughs and hanging baskets need watering, however hard it rains!
-  Collect seed from garden plants. Why not donate your excess seed to the Society ?
-  Harvest sweetcorn.
-  Cut out old fruited raspberry canes.
-  Lift and pot up rooted strawberry runners.
-  Plant green manures in plots from which crops have been removed.
-  Colchicum, Daffodils and Madonna lilies can be planted now for Spring flowering.
-  Rambling roses can be pruned once they have finished flowering.
-  Many garden shrubs such as Box, Ceanothus, & Lavender can be propagated by taking semi-ripe cuttings.
-  If August is dry, raise the lawn mower blades and cut the grass less closely, to avoid drought stress.
-  Lawns on thin soils can benefit from a high phosphate feed to strengthen the roots before Winter.
-  Keep ponds topped up. If you have to use tap water, let it stand for a few days to release the chlorine.
-  Use a net or rake to remove blanket weed & duckweed from ponds.
-  Remove dead leaves & flowers from marginal pond plants to reduce the nutrients that promote algal growth.
-  Black spot on roses is very common at this time of year – remove and burn affected leaves.
-  Check chrysanthemums for white rust, and treat immediately if found.
-  Apply nematodes to control vine weevil grubs, in pots or the ground.
-  Paint preservative on wooden fences & greenhouses during dry weather. Clear greenhouse gutters.

 Remember to keep notes throughout the year - which 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. Local knowledge is worth more than the generalisations you can get from gardening books!

If you grow any food crops, please take part in research by Jill Edmonson of the University of Sheffield.
See www.myharvest.org.uk or get more information from the Trading Post.

Remember to pick up your free copy of the August edition of Country Gardener and the Wyke Register from the Trading Post

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW ?



Charlotte

A Member's Potato Experience

This year, I planted **Charlotte** and **International Kidney** varieties. I set them in trenches filled with seaweed and added pelleted chicken manure when the leaves appeared. Both varieties have cropped well. The Charlotte are a waxy salad potato and the Kidneys are a tasty yellow-fleshed fluffy type, which I will grow again next year.

Last year I grew **Sarpo Mira**, but although prolific, were lacking in flavour.

Carrie Dalby



International kidney

Share your experience with the other Members. What flowers, fruit & veg have you planted ? How did they do ?

Your gardening & allotment experience is interesting - don't keep it to yourself !