



WAGS News

April 2018



Wallingford Allotments and Gardens Society
Affiliated Member of the Royal Horticultural Society No. 10572234

www.wags-wallingford.com

Trading Store at Centre 70 open to members only Every Saturday 11-12 am
Annual subscription £4.00 (per household)

News from our 2018 AGM

Our AGM was held on Friday 13th April, unlike last year only 4 members came alongside the committee members, which was a shame. A few regulars contacted to say they could not make it and were greatly missed.

Summary of news:

- Jill Hudson has agreed to be Secretary, following Toni Littledale leaving the committee.
- We still want to increase membership by increasing awareness of WAGS, and ensure we are offering what members want, several good ideas were voiced but we need someone to come forward as publicity officer if the ideas are to be actioned
- The store is still making a loss, mainly due to lower stock sales. To increase sales we need to think of new items we can stock at a good price – please let us know what you want from the store.

Important roles still to fill (similar text to 2017)

- Publicity officer to help drive up membership and get people to come to the Show / Store, by submitting articles to local publications, for example, and putting up flyers in town when we have events
- In the old days membership fees covered the cost of the show, but due to lower membership, the show now makes a significant loss. To avoid making this loss, the Show needs sponsorship and so we need someone willing to approach local businesses and ask for money. It is possible, a few years ago we managed to get £700 sponsorship – we could really do with someone willing to help in this role – anyone? Think about it and contact Sandra if you would like to find out more about what's involved.



Madam Chairman's Piece

The key to keeping WAGS going is to have enough members willing to help out. So a big thank you to all the committee members who take on roles and support behind the scenes.

Sad to say Toni Littledale has stood down as Secretary and Assistant Show Sec – I would like to take the opportunity to thank her for her time and support to WAGS.

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Plant sale on Saturday 5th May: This is our next event, starting at 9am. We hope to have a wide selection of veg this year, as well as great value summer bedding and perennials. Annuals will include Busy Lizzies, Trailing Lobelia, Petunias and Geraniums.

The sale is so much better when members bring their spare plants and take home new plants to try – so please bring a donation or two (or ten!) on Saturday morning, ideally before 9am.

Do come and support the sale, as the funds really help WAGS, particularly in covering some of the costs of the Autumn Show. Any plants not sold will be available the following Saturday 11-12, if you can't make the 5th.

Sandra Halstead
01491 836527, s.halstead2@btinternet.com



Store News

Hello from the WAGS Store!

Finally we have some better weather which means the store has been busier than ever. Our WAGS members have bought up lots of stock and we very recently placed a large re-stocking order to replenish many items. We have many types of compost back in stock as well as Grow-bags, Growmore, sulphate of potash, bone meal, lawn tonic and Compost Maker. We have sold a lot of potatoes and seed onions and some stock is still available.

In February and March we had a few members place large quantity orders for compost, nutrients and potatoes and we were only too happy to help out – do get in touch if we can do the same for other members.

The store is open 11am-12noon every Saturday February-July and September-November and there is usually a parking space available for WAGS members in the Centre70 Car Park.

If there is any item you would like to see in stock please get in touch in person or via the message centre on the [WAGS](#) page on Facebook.

The Store will also be open whilst the Annual WAGS Plant Sale is open 9am-12noon on Saturday 5th May – do come early to get the best bedding plants. All plants are sold at good prices and all profits help to fund the running costs of the Annual Show in September – extra donations are always welcome! If you have any good quality items that could be donated for onward sale to other gardeners please bring them along (but note that we have a surplus of plastic plant pots and do not require any more).

So from all of the WAGS store team who work very hard to keep the store open we would like to wish you a great season of gardening and growing and may all your weeds be little ones!
Have a great summer and see you in store,

Happy Gardening and hope to see you in store soon!

P.S. We received requests for WAGS to stock Compost Maker and Liquid Lawn Feed – both of which we now have in stock.

Jayne Page
Store Manager
jbumley@hotmail.com

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Show Time

The 2018 show will be on Saturday 8th September, opening at 2pm for viewing.

I've said it before, but I will say it again, cos it works – if you haven't tried before then **this is your year to enter something** and have a go! All the newbies tell me they really enjoy themselves!

To get you thinking about items that need some advanced preparation, here are the titles for Art, Children's classes and Floral Art (photography classes were in the Oct 2017 NL). Note: class numbers may change on the final schedule so please check.

There may also be one or two new challenges in the Specialities section this year, look out for those in the July Newsletter.

Section I – Art & Craft – Open to all

Class 68 – "Fun in the garden"

Any media painting, i.e. oil, water colour, pencil drawing, pen & ink etc. or mixed media

Section K

Children aged 5 to 8 years

Class 76. 3 biscuits decorated with happy faces (biscuits can be shop bought)

Class 77. A vase of flowers to give as a present to a friend (combined maximum height 45cm)

Class 78. A painting or drawing of a bug using any medium (max. size A4)

Class 79. A scary animal or insect made from vegetables/fruits (cardboard, cocktail sticks and cello-tape also allowed)

Children aged 9-12

Class 80. Picture or collage entitled "My favourite plant", any material (max. size A4)

Class 81. 4 small cakes decorated with animal faces

Class 82. A photo entitled "What a view!"

Class 83. A seed tray scene "Beautiful vegetable bed". Size not to exceed 25cm x 40cm.

Section N Floral Art – open to all

Class 84. Prince Charles is 70 this year and to celebrate his birthday dinner, design a table arrangement to add to the party spirit. The design must not exceed 45cm x 45cm x 45cm.

Accessories allowed and these and only these can exceed 45cm in height*.

(*Note to judges: this is to allow someone to use balloons as the accessory).

Class 85. The year of the Marigold. Design a bouquet using material only available from the garden (must be in water). Not to exceed 30cm x 30cm x 30 cm.

Class 86. 50 years ago Stanley Kubrick released 2001 'a space odyssey'. Design an exotic display to cheer up HAL and possibly Dave! Not to exceed 45cm x 45cm x 45cm. accessories allowed.

Class 87. In 1918 our brave heroes came home from the 1st World War. Those greeting them home wanted to give them a little reminder of what they had missed, so design a button hole using either fresh or dried material not to exceed 7.5cm x 7.5cm x 7.5cm.

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CLASS 60: Longest Runner Bean

I have purchased a packet of runner beans from Medwyns of Anglesey, called Jescot-Long-Un. It is a bean that has been reselected for sheer length. Definitely not one for the quality classes, but they say it is guaranteed to win in the 'Longest Runner Bean class'.

There were 8 in the packet and I only need two. Giles has his name on one, but if I manage to get them to germinate and you would like one, let me know at the plant sale on the 5th.



Sandra Halstead
01491 836527, s.halstead2@btinternet.com



RETURNING YOUR CUPS: Remember to return any cups to the store and pick up a copy of the schedule if you're not on the email list. Please do this in **early JULY**, as the store is closed during August.

If you are a first time exhibitor and would like any advice, please do feel free to give me a call or email me.

I very much look forward to seeing you all on Show Day.

Sandra Halstead
01491 836527, s.halstead2@btinternet.com



HAVE YOU VISITED WALLINGFORD COUNTRY MARKET?

Wallingford Country Market, formerly known as Wallingford WI Market, is open every Friday morning between 9.30 am – 12 noon in St Mary's Church in the Town Centre. The only times we are not open on Friday is when we have our Maundy Thursday Market and our annual outside market in the Market Place in early June.

Wallingford Market sells a wide variety of home produced goods including Fresh Home Baking, Seasonal Plants, Produce and Flowers, Preserves, Honey, Eggs, Greetings Cards and Hand-Crafted items. The church team also offer great tea, coffee and cake in lovely surroundings.

Country Markets are run on a co-operative basis and anyone aged 16+ can become a shareholder and sell their goods according to their particular skills. Being a producer is a fun and enjoyable way to earn some extra income in convivial surroundings, the market taking just a small amount for running costs. We are always on the look out for new producers to join the current friendly team. NEW BAKERS are particularly required at Wallingford to ensure a good weekly supply of different goods. If you enjoy baking and think you might like to become involved in this area, or any other area of our market, please do pop in one Friday morning and have a chat with Alison, our Market Manager, (or phone her on: 01491-681596). Producing for a Country Market can quickly become a way of life!

As a customer, or producer, we look forward to seeing you soon.

Wallingford Country Market Committee

Tables for Hire

WAGS owns 10 trestle tables which are available for hire at £5 per table, or £30 for all 10. Each table is 6ft by 2ft 6" (L x W x H: 180 x 75 x 74 cm) and folds in half to 3ft x 2ft 6".

So remember if you are having a party, or a garage sale, and need some tables for the day, please contact George: georgesmall68@yahoo.co.uk



Membership

WAGS membership is £4.00 per household and valid for one year. To renew for 2018, please complete the form below and bring to the store with your payment. Newsletters are distributed by email – news is generally posted at the website too.

A few printed copies of the newsletter will be available in Store if you don't have email/Internet.

WALLINGFORD ALLOTMENTS & GARDENS SOCIETY
Membership Application / Renewal Form

Name:.....

Address:.....
.....
.....

Postcode:..... **Tel no:**.....

eMail:.....

I would like to receive the Newsletter by email: