

WAGS News

WAGS needs you!

At only £4.00 a year, Membership of WAGS offers great benefits:

- Competitive prices on garden supplies at the Trading Store
- 30% discount on seeds from the Dobies catalogue; 10% on other items
- Participation in the Autumn Show
- Discounts on garden supplies from selected local retailers
- A quarterly newsletter

BUT, for WAGS to continue to operate, **we need your help**. You might assume that someone else will come forward, but that's not always the case. You don't necessarily need to become a Committee member—any time you can spare would be greatly appreciated. Could you perhaps spare **an hour or two** to:

- help at the **Store** on a **Saturday** or Sunday morning serving customers or weighing out products or stocking the shelves?
- help unload **deliveries** to the Store during the week?
- help with the **Show** preparations or on the day?
- help with the **food** for the Band Concert, the Show, or the AGM, as part of a team of helpers?
- help at the **Plant Sale**?
- help with publicity for WAGS?
- help deliver the Newsletters?

This is a great opportunity to get to know other like-minded people, get hints and tips from other gardeners and support your local community.

Any questions? Please do speak to a member of the Committee (p. 2). We will all be happy to discuss with you how you can support WAGS.



The **2012 subscription rate** is £4.00 per household – valid from January 2012. To **renew** your subscription, please complete the form on the reverse (p. 7) and hand it in to the Store. Please include an **email** if you have one, especially if you live outside Wallingford. As well as the newsletter in electronic format (and colour, where available), you will receive other occasional news. New members are welcome to join at any time.



Next issue: October 2012

Deadline for copy: 10 September 2012

Please send contributions to Frances at wagsnews@gmail.com

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WAGS News

July 2012

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



News online at: wallingfordags.blogspot.co.uk



Autumn Show Schedule inside this newsletter

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Trading Store at Centre 70 **open to members only**
Every Saturday and first Sunday in the month: 10:00 – 12:00

Annual subscription £4.00 (per household)

The views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Society.

WAGS News

WAGS Committee 2012/13

President	Peter Atkins (ex officio)
Chairman	Colin Timmins
Treasurer	Richard Guppy
Secretary	Sam Timmins
Store Manager	Colin Timmins
<i>Asst Store Manager</i>	<i>Vacant</i>
Show Secretary	Sandra Halstead
Asst Show Sec.	Toni Littledale
Newsletter Editor & Membership	Frances Watkins wagsnews@gmail.com
Trips Organiser	<i>Vacant</i>

Committee*:

George Small Ivy Small Joyce Stickley Bernard Thorrington

* *there are vacancies on the Committee*—please contact any of us if you are interested in helping run WAGS, and have an hour or so a month to spare.

Visit wallingfordags.blogspot.co.uk for up-to-date news, or contact wagsnews@gmail.com to receive eNews.



Forthcoming WAGS events

- Sunday 12 August 2012 Band Concert in Wallingford
- Saturday 8 September 2012 Autumn Show
- Friday 12 April 2013 Annual General Meeting (new date)

The **WAGS Band Concert** with Goring and Streatley Concert Band will be held in **Wallingford Castle Gardens** on **12 August**, between 3 and 5 pm. Bring a picnic for a lovely afternoon of music. WAGS will also be selling teas and cakes to concert-goers. Please contact Ivy or Joyce if you can help by donating a cake. And if you can help on the day, for example serving teas, please get in touch with Sandra—any help will be greatly appreciated.

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Discounts

Discounts are currently available at the following businesses (if you ask first), on the production of your **CURRENT** WAGS Membership Card, which must be shown before the transaction is started:

- Goring Hardware**, Red Cross Road, Goring – 10% on gardening products
- Norman Cox & Partners**, Scotts Common, Checkendon – 5%
Most items, but check at cash desk – NOT with any other offers
- Root 1**, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell – 10% *Mondays and Tuesdays only*
Shrubs, herbaceous plants, pot plants – NOT with any other offers
- Toad Hall**, Marlow Road (Fawley Court), Henley (Mon–Fri) – 5%
Most items except fencing and machinery – NOT with any other offers
- Wears Nursery**, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell – 10%
Shrubs, plants, trees, alpines, composts, bark and fertilisers
- Woodcote Garden Centre**, Reading Road, Woodcote – 10% on plants
- Yarnton Nurseries**, Sandy Lane, Yarnton, Kidlington – 10%
excluding items already discounted, purchases in restaurant or franchises

[List subject to revision]

WALLINGFORD ALLOTMENTS & GARDENS SOCIETY

Membership Application / Renewal 2012

Please complete – **print clearly** – and hand in to the Store.
Membership fee: **£4.00** (per household)

Name:

Address*

Postcode

Tel no.:

I would like to receive the Newsletter by email....

Email [please print!].

* If you live outside the Wallingford area and do not receive the email Newsletter, please collect your copies from the WAGS Store.

WAGS News

WAGS Store News

I hope your seeds are growing well, but at the time of writing this article the rain never seems to stop.

The Dobies seed catalogues will be available in late September or early October.

The WAGS Store stocks a variety of composts, fertilizers (by the kg), liquid fertilizers and tomato feeds, not to mention seed trays, string, labels, etc. Let me know if there is something you need that is not in stock.

More people are needed to help out on Saturdays during the year – or maybe you are interested in helping to manage the Store – please contact me at the Store or speak to one of the Committee.

Colin Timmins
Store Manager



A Very Successful Spring Plant Sale

The Spring Plant Sale held on Saturday 12th May was a great success, both in terms of plant sales and the fact that it was one of the first warm days after that cold/wet spell! If you came along, thank you for your support and we hope you are very happy with your purchases. **Please do return the trays**, so we will have something to grow next year's plants in.

As you know, the proceeds are needed to help run WAGS, in particular the Autumn Show, and we had our best year for quite a while, raising over £520.

The bedding plants that committee members grew on from plugs were very popular, particularly the Petunias and Lobelia. The Begonias were less popular and we're not sure why. The vegetables also sold out and we could have sold more. So, those of you who are keen vegetable growers, please sow a few extra and bring them along next Spring.

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Chairman's Piece

We have once again come to the season when we are having battle the weather and the weeds, as well as all the garden pests and, moreover, the birds, who seem to have a good time eating the fruits of your labour before you can.

The plant sale was a great success and our thanks to Sandra who ordered and potted up all the small seedlings. All the money will go to help run the Autumn Show.

I understand that the visit to Wisley was a great success and the coach was full. However, this was Toni's last trip as organizer and I wish to thank her for all her hard work. So if there is anyone out there who would like to take on this role, please contact me or any of the committee members.

We will also add up-to-date news online at the WAGS blog wallingfordags.blogspot.co.uk, so please take a look on a regular basis, or sign up for email alerts of changes.

Don't forget to claim your discounts from those local firms who support WAGS by offering money off their products on production of your WAGS Membership Card. Make sure you show this to the cashier before they start the transaction.

If you have any suggestions on any aspect covered by the Society, please do let myself or one of the Committee know so that we can discuss it and take any necessary action.

Happy Gardening!

Colin Timmins

Autumn Show

Saturday 8th September 2.00-4.00

You will find the Show Schedule & Entry Forms with this Newsletter.

I'm sure the cold, wet and windy start to the summer won't prevent you all from growing some great vegetables and flowers this year. Everything takes off when the sun comes out! It will come out won't it? Perhaps the wet weather has given you time for craftwork, or to hone your baking skills. Also don't forget the photography and wine classes!



I'm looking forward to meeting all our past entrants again this year along with a few new faces. I believe we all have potential prize-winning vegetables and flowers, and as always we really appreciate seeing new entrants every year.

We also have many new faces on the judging panel, with the retirement from judging of the Novell family. There are new judges for the children's classes, the large vegetables and the floral art. I should like to take this opportunity to thank Bernard, Judy, Iris and Les for their sterling work over the years and hope we haven't seen the last of you at WAGS!

There are two new classes this year:

Class 66: Oddest shaped vegetable

Novice Floral Art Class 86: (for those not entering classes 82-85) "Al Fresco" An arrangement suitable for a buffet table

On the children's classes, our judges suggested a Diamond Jubilee theme. The different classes will give the children lots of scope to show their creative skills.

Remember, if you won a trophy last year, please return it to the store and in clean condition, **by Saturday 28th July.**

HELP! I really do need some of you to volunteer an hour or two on the day to help out with teas and supporting the judges. Last year I wrote "*Please **don't assume** someone else will offer, instead contact me to say you have an hour to spare*". This year I repeat it and hope a few of you hear me!

Do get yourselves along to the show and see what great produce and beautiful/tasty exhibits your fellow WAGS members produce; admission is free.

Sandra Halstead
Show Secretary