



## RAMSBURY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

# Spring Newsletter

**Hi everybody,**

I'm afraid you have me writing the spring newsletter, as Allan and Jenny are at this time cruising somewhere in south America, lucky them! It's that time of year again, you have your new schedule and I hope you are planning for the forthcoming season.

### **Monday March 3<sup>rd</sup> –Memorial Hall 7.45pm. 'HERBS'**

This is the first event on the schedule for this year. Wanborough Herb Nursery has supported our horticultural society for many years. They have donated a trophy for the summer show, bring a stand to the show, and donate prizes in the raffle. Bob will be giving us a talk on herbs and their uses, both old and new. He is also bringing plants for us to buy on the evening. I hope you will all support him by coming to the talk as he supports us.

### **Thursday March 13<sup>th</sup> Lambourn. 7.30pm QUIZ**

We are off to do battle with Lambourn at the annual quiz, in the hopes of continuing our winning streak. It would be good to see some friendly faces in the audience, so we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on the evening. If you would like a lift please get in touch with a member of the committee, and we will do our best to accommodate you.

### **Saturday April 5<sup>th</sup> Memorial Hall. SPRING SHOW & BOWLS CLUB FETE**

This is your first chance to show everyone the beauties in your garden. It seems that with our ever changing seasons we can expect to see more early flowering bulbs and spring flowers than ever this year. Included with the Spring Show is the Bowls Club Fete which I hope you will also support.

### **Monday April 7<sup>th</sup> Memorial Hall. 7.45pm and Monday April 28<sup>th</sup> Memorial Hall. 7.45pm TALKS**

These two talks are the follow on to the soil preparation talk from last autumn given by Mike Burgess. Talks giving advice on vegetable growing were requested by several of our members, so here they are. The first is 'Increasing yields in the vegetable garden' and the second is 'Making room for fruit'. Lets hope we will all be wiser on how to grow bumper crops of vegetable and fruit (enough to eat **and** to enter in the summer show).

Ian Richie has kindly agreed to let those who want to see firsthand what to do in the veg garden, visit to his garden during March or April–weather permitting – to see what preparations he has made for the forthcoming year. Details will be given at the March talk.

## **Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup> Millstream. 10 -11.30am SPRING PLANT SALE**

We have our Spring Plant Sale and coffee morning, kindly hosted by Michael and Jane Handford. The ideal time to acquire those new additions to the border or find replacements for those old plants that need renewing. We will have a superb variety, many that we get from our loyal members as they divide their tried and tested specials, and a great selection from Mr Paul New, who kindly donates many for our first fundraising event of the year. The ladies of the British Legion are kindly supplying the coffees, to them  
our thanks.

Please don't forget that if your child is between 6 and 7 and they want to grow on and nurture a plant to enter in the Summer Show, these will be available to collect at the Plant sale between 10 and 11.30am.

## **Saturday May 24<sup>th</sup> Outing.**

Last but by no means least, our first outing of the year will be to Longstock Water Park, part of the Leckford Estate owned by John Lewis. It is reputed to be finest water gardens in England. This visit has been arranged to coincide with the Leckford food festival, which should make a most enjoyable day. The full details should be available at the 'Herb' talk, but please get in touch with Sheila Glass if you are interested.

### **Notes:**

- a. The maturation chart on page 13 of your schedule is here to help you sow and reap at the **right** time.
- b. Please note the date on page 23 of your schedule for the Summer Show is incorrect and should read 9<sup>th</sup> –**not**- 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **NGS Gardens Open locally:**

March 5 <sup>th</sup>	Stockcross House. Newbury.
April 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Sharcott Manor, Pewsey.
April 6 <sup>th</sup>	Broadleas Gardens.Devizes. Corsham Court. Sharcott Manor.
April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Broomsgrove Lodge, New Mill, Pewsey. Oare House, Nr Pewsey
April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Inholmes, Woodland St Mary. Rooksnest, Lambourn.