

March /April Newsletter

The Easter break is now upon us and signs of Spring mean that conditions are at last suitable for the busy weeks ahead.

It is traditional to plant early potatoes on Good Friday but as Easter is very early this year you may be wise to wait a while yet. Potatoes can be planted without the need to 'chit' if you have not already begun this process. After digging the trench a tip would be to add a good potato fertilizer at the time of planting and a sprinkle of slug pellets before covering up the seed potatoes.

We are now able to sell many varieties of potatoes at reduced prices at the Trading Store this SATURDAY March 26th so it is not too late to pop in and get some high quality potatoes at great value.

We also have a supply of both red and white shallots for sale as well as all our usual ranges of sundries and composts.

Just in are our new 8 foot canes which many people have been waiting for so another good reason to call in.

Our new membership cards look fantastic and nearly 100 members now have theirs and Alex will be available from about 10 am for a couple of hours this Saturday 26 March if you can drop by to renew your membership for 2016.

You may know Geoff has not been well recently and we all wish him a full and speedy recovery.

This is the time when a large range of seeds should be sown under glass or even on a windowsill or outside in pots in a cold frame. Many species can be sown now including tomatoes, peppers, chillies and cucumbers if you have not started on these and all marrows courgettes and squash will benefit from an early sowing now to get healthy plants to put out after the danger of frost has passed.

Many people begin sowing their beans too over the next few weeks, of all varieties.

PLEASE think about growing a few extra of any varieties so that you can come along to our plant sales in May at the trading store and both donate and purchase a wide range of plants which we hope to have available on May 7th and 21st and 28th.

We are planning a visit to the Windmill at Willesborough thanks to our treasurer Brian Stamp and this will be on 14th May so keep this date free and more details will follow about precise times.

Other dates for the diary:

Summer Show is on the 16th July at Kennington Junior School and again this is an ideal time to be planning to sow seeds ready to harvest a great range of produce to enter in a full range of categories this year.

I wish you all a successful growing season and hope you have a Happy Easter,

Penny Winston (Allotment Society Chair)