

# The Grower

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## CESHAM IN BLOOM

Fish & Chip  
Evening + Quiz

Temperance Hall  
Saturday 5th March  
7.30pm

Ticket Price: £8.00

Contact:

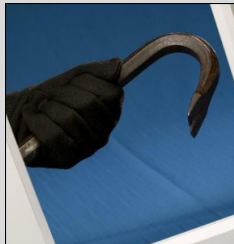
Kathryn Graves,  
Chesham Town  
Hall, 01494 583798

## COFFEE MORNINGS

Recommence  
16th APRIL 2011

Join us every  
Saturday 10am to  
12noon, Focal  
Point, Cameron  
Road

## Winter of Rest—but not for the wicked



This winter, with its snow, frost and ice, has ensured that many of us have taken a well earned rest—because conditions have not been suitable for working our plots. However, that hasn't stopped others visiting the plots and causing problems. This winter saw a large number of break-ins to sheds and huts, with items being vandalised or removed.

It is very difficult to entirely prevent such occurrences, but working with the local police and the Town Council, we can minimise the risks. Our advice:

- ◆ Fit a shed alarm
- ◆ Mark all tools and equipment with your postcode and house number with invisible marker, so if it

is stolen and subsequently found, it can be returned.

- ◆ Report all unusual movements to your Allotment Watch co-ordinator\*, and to the local police.
- ◆ If you see a crime taking place, call 999.
- ◆ Ensure that the allotment gates are locked behind you, particularly if you are the last person on the plot.
- ◆ If you are a victim of a crime, it is your responsibility to report your incident to police, & obtain a crime number for insurance purposes.

The Allotment Group will continue to work with the council to enhance the fencing and security for the plots.

Thank you for your co-operation.

\*Allotment Watch contact:

Kate Hobbs, plot 62a/b Cameron Road. 07531 492986.

## Chesham Horticultural Society February Potato Sale



For all your seed potatoes, onion and shallot sets, and fertiliser needs, take a visit to the Horticultural Hut, plot 3 Cameron Road.

On Saturday 12th, 19th and 26th February, the hut will be open for you to buy potatoes; early, main crop and

lates. You will need to be a member of the Horticultural Society, whose membership rates are around £1 per year. For that you can get discounted prices on all products.

AFTERWARDS, JOIN US FOR A CUP OF TEA OR COFFEE, WITH A PIECE OF CAKE, ALL FOR 50P AT THE ALLOTMENT FOCAL POINT.



## JOBS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

- ◆ Start a compost trench for your runner beans
- ◆ Purchase seed potatoes and start chitting in egg boxes
- ◆ Ensure you have enough pots, bean & pea sticks, netting
- ◆ Scrub seed trays and pots with hot soapy water
- ◆ Feed strawberry plants with potash
- ◆ Cut down winter fruiting raspberry stems from last year. These bear fruit on this year's growth.
- ◆ Finish clearing plots of plant debris and compost well.
- ◆ Rhubarb can be "forced" in early February to produce slim pale pink stems.
- ◆ Keep feeding birds during this time of year. Ensure that they have fresh water.



### Winning Schools Visit Allotments

Winning schools in the 2010 Chesham in Bloom competition had the opportunity to visit the Allotments in November. Allen Tilbury and Vince Compton hosted the event which saw children learn more skills used to grow fruit and vegetables. Also great to see was the children tasting and touching the produce straight from the plot, something in today's cellaphaned world is not always possible. It is hoped that this venture will continue in 2011. Anything the Allotments Group can do to help young people look at food differently, and to excite them into growing their own food, is to be encouraged. Here's to the next generation of allotmenters.

### New Website Launches soon: Your chance to be part of it.

This spring sees the launch of the Allotment Group Website. Aimed at existing allotment holders, and those who wish to own an allotment or grow their own food in their gardens, the site will contain details of when and what to grow, forthcoming events, copies of "The Grower" newsletter, photographs and much, much more. Throughout the year, more pages and articles will be added and we all hope that you will contribute to it. So, if you have a favourite recipe, photographs, ideas, questions, why not visit the website and fill in the contact form.

We are missing one thing—Are you creative? Can you put designs together? If so, we want to hear from you. We thought it was about time that Chesham Allotments had it's own logo which we can incorporate on any literature and on the website. So, get designing, and email your winning logo to: thegrower-newsletter@googlemail.com by February 28th.

Can't promise a great price but you will get recognition on the website.



18th–20th March

Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire.

Ticket Prices range from: £9 to £11

Visit: [www.theediblegardenshow.co.uk](http://www.theediblegardenshow.co.uk)

## LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

### ALLOTMENTS GROUP

- 14th April Open Meeting, Chesham Town Hall, 7.30pm
- 16th April Fish 'n' Chip Supper
- 16th April Coffee Morning Commence

### CHESHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

- 14th May Plant Sale at Trinity Church Hall
- 2nd July Early Show—open to all
- 3rd Sept Late Show—members only

## Fish & Chip Supper with Quiz, Saturday April 16th, 7pm, Temperance Hall

**BOOKING REQUIRED. COST £6.00 PER HEAD**

There will be a raffle, so bring some extra cash.

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Tel: .....

Please Indicate the number of meals required below.:

FISH  
SAUSAGES  
FISH CAKES

Please bring your own drink; Wine, Beer, Non-alcoholic AND a dessert with a view to share.

Hand your form/money to any Allotment Group Officer/Representative. Or post to Kate Hobbs, Flat 4, 68 Eskdale Ave, Chesham. HP5 3AY This form may be photocopied.