

June 2015

Visit our website: <http://www.cheshamallotments.org.uk>

The Grower



Newsletter

The delighted victors!



The devastated losers!

FISH & CHIP SUPPER / QUIZ EVENING

On the 30th of May, 64 cheerful allotment holders, family and friends gathered at the function room of Trinity Baptist Church in Red Lion Street for one of our social get-togethers.

Lots of generous members had provided raffle prizes and in the corner Yvonne had a table of her knitted delights that were being offered to raise money for the Amersham and Chesham branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society. The room buzzed nicely, full of people greeting each other. It felt as though we were in for a pleasant evening.

We began with fish and chips – or one of the alternative options - provided by Annie's Fish Shop. This was followed by one of Phil Folly's fiendish quizzes: five rounds and a table round of pictures of people whose first name initial spelled out the title of a famous song, which if guessed on the basis of getting all the answers right led to a handsome points bonus.

After three rounds we had dessert, choosing from a terrific selection of pies and trifles brought to be shared by those attending. The raffle draw took place, raising a wonderful £138, and Vince Crompton auctioned a Flymo lawn mower for £40 with a good deal of help from the youngest person present, who was

clearly trying to raise the bidding as far as possible; the proceeds will go to the Hospice of St Francis.

Then back to the fiendish quiz. There was a moment of mild controversy over the right answer to the question of who was currently playing 'M' in the Bond films: should points be awarded for the person who played the part in the last film released or the new actor in the role in the next? With consummate diplomacy, our quizmaster decided both were right.

At the end, winners and losers were declared and identified, but the great thing was that there was very little difference between the two, and all agreed that the quiz had been nicely put together and great fun.

Lots of people helped to tidy and clear the hall. We had raised a modest amount for the Allotment Group's funds. But most importantly, we had had a lovely evening together, for which those who bore the burden of organising it, Allen Tilbury and his 'volunteers', must be heartily thanked.

Report by Tim Andrew

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

CHESHAM ALLOTMENTS GROUP CALENDAR DATES

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date and time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Coffee Mornings	Saturday mornings until October 10 am—12 noon	Focal Point Hut, Cameron Road
Cheese and Wine evening	Saturday 18th July—6.30pm	Focal Point Hut,
Open Day	Saturday 8th August 10.30am—3pm	Focal Point Hut
Chesham Allotments Group AGM	Thursday 10th September 7.30pm	Chesham Town Hall

CHESHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY CALENDAR DATES

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date and time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Early Summer Show	Saturday 4th July 2015	Trinity Baptist Church
Wisley Harvest trip	Saturday 24th October 2015	Wisley
Late Summer Show	Saturday 5th September 2015	Trinity Baptist Church

CHESHAM IN BLOOM CALENDAR DATES

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date and time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Britain in Bloom Judging	Tuesday 21st July	All around Chesham, including Cameron Road allotments

YOUR ALLOTMENTS GROUP AND REPRESENTATIVES

ALLEN TILBURY (Chairman) Plot 104 CR	TIM ANDREW (Vice Chairman) Plot 48A CR	RAY WILLIAMS (Treasurer) Plots 215/216 CR	YVONNE WEBSTER (Secretary –minutes) Plot 63A CR
ANDREW SINCLAIR (Secretary– correspondence) Plot 45B CR	JIM ABBOTT (Representative) Plot 31/32 CR	VINCE CROMPTON (Representative) Plot 36 CR	BEVERLY MACKAY (Editor— The Grower) Plot 3B AR
JAMES BOLE (Representative) Plot 9A/B AR	VINCENT LUCAS (Representative) Plot 227D CR	KATE HUTCHINSON (Representative) Plot 58D CR	JANE MACBEAN (Council)
CR = CAMERON RD AR = ASHERIDGE ROAD			

ALLOTMENT GROUP MEMBERS HONOURED BY TOWN

Everyone at the allotments knows Allen Tilbury and Vince Crompton for the amount of time and effort they have put into the Allotments Group over the years. Both of them, however, also work tirelessly with other groups in the town, aiming to make Chesham a pleasant place for all to live and helping those less fortunate than themselves. Their unstinting efforts have recently been recognised with both of them receiving awards from the Town.

Vince has been made the first Honorary Freeman of the Town of Chesham for his outstanding contribution to the well-being of Chesham. He was presented with his award by the Councillor Mo Fayyaz. Allen was nominated for Pride of Bucks for the huge amount of time he gives to various groups and charities and both men were nominees for the Mayoral Peoples Award. Further details of their work can be found on the Bucks Examiner website. I am sure that both Allen and Vince would welcome help from anyone who could donate their time—even an occasional hour—to assist their efforts.



COFFEE MORNINGS

Saturday morning coffee and cake at the focal point is now a regular date for many people. Lots of volunteers have manned the urn, with many others also helping out with cake making—including some delicious new experiments. If you are willing and able to make a cake occasionally, please contact Beverly Mackay on the email address above. £2 is refunded for every cake given and your help will be much appreciated! New volunteers to man the urn sometimes are also welcome. The more people who help, the less work for everyone!

REMINDER!

Please remember to turn off taps and lock the gates when leaving the allotment sites.

Thank you

BRITAIN IN BLOOM

The Royal Horticultural Society judges from Britain in Bloom will be judging areas of Chesham on Tuesday 21st July 2015. The Cameron Road Site will again be part of the judging route. Please could you help by ensuring that your allotments are as neat and tidy as possible on that date. We have our Gold Medal standard to live up to now!

Rhubarb BBQ Sauce - serves 2, just double up if you need to serve more

1 onion, chopped (I like large chunks but it's up to you)

A little oil

1 medium stick rhubarb, chopped into small pieces

2 tablespoons lemon juice

4 level tablespoons dark brown sugar

2 tablespoons Worcestershire Sauce

half a teaspoon dried mustard

1 stock cube

Salt and pepper

boiling water

Gently fry the onion in the oil until translucent. Add the rhubarb, give a stir for a moment, then add all the other ingredients and enough water just to cover the veg. Bring to the boil, then simmer gently until everything is cooked through, adding more water if needed. Also taste to see if you need a little more of any of the ingredients. I always seem to need more mustard when I am coming to the bottom of the tin.

You can then either keep it chunky or process it into a smooth sauce and use as you would any BBQ sauce. I often fry other vegetables with the onion and then simmer all together, chucking in a tin of tuna at the end or I add some chicken and simmer it with the sauce. You may need more water and please make sure it is thoroughly cooked.

ALLOTMENTS OPEN DAY 2015

This year's Open Day is on Saturday 8th August at our Cameron Road Site. This date has been chosen to link with National Allotments Week. All donations of produce and cakes will be much appreciated. Please could any produce donations be left at the focal point on the Friday evening or early Saturday morning if possible. Notices and further information will be posted on the Allotment gates. Please support this very popular event.

CHEESE AND WINE EVENING

Once again it is the time of year for our Cheese and Wine Evening. This year it will be held this year on Saturday 18th July 2015. Everyone is invited and all ages are welcome, so bring your family and friends along. All we ask is for attendees to bring along a food/drink contribution to share: quiches, cheese, biscuits, crisps, bread, wine, beer, a pudding or cake for afters. We usually have a magnificent spread! **Rain or shine, this event always goes ahead.** So please join us at the Focal Point, Plot 38A, Cameron Road from 6.30 pm onwards.

...and finally...

The recent visit by Chesham Horticultural Society to the Cambridge University Botanical Gardens proved to be a very relaxing day out in beautiful surroundings. A much-deserved rest!

