



Tilehurst Horticultural Association Newsletter January-March 2016

Dates For your Diary

17 January	Gratwicke Road re-opens 10.00 – 11.00 a.m.
28 January	Talk by Mick Bradley - Growing and Preparing Vegetables for Show 7.45 p.m. in the Village Hall
6 February	Oak Tree Road Shed re-opens 2.00 – 3.00 p.m.
11 February	75 th AGM & Celebration evening 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall
5 March	Oak Tree Road Shed opens 2.00 – 4.00 p.m.
6 March	Gratwicke Road Shed opens 10.00 a.m. – 12 noon
31 March	Talk by Stefan White - Skulduggery in the Shrubbery 7.45 p.m. in the Village Hall



75th AGM – DIG FOR VICTORY

We look forward to seeing you when we celebrate our 75th AGM on Thursday 11th February 2016 at 7.30 p.m. at the Village Hall. The theme of the evening will be "Dig for Victory", as it was as a result of this campaign that the THA came into being. After the business part of the AGM, we have planned a social evening with refreshments. If you wish to wear clothes of the era to help to set the scene, please do! Thank you to those who have already contributed photographs and memorabilia – if you are able to share any photos or items from the early days of the THA or from wartime Tilehurst, please let Pauline Sinclair know by the end of January, tel. 0118 9453658 or email tilehurstha@gmail.com.

We hope that as many members as possible will be able to join us to celebrate this special anniversary.



URGENT – CHAIRMAN REQUIRED

Our current acting Chairman is due to finish her term of office at the AGM in February and, as yet, we do not have a replacement. The role of Chairman involves chairing Committee meetings 6 times a year, chairing the AGM on the second Thursday of February and announcing the prize winners at the Annual show on the first Saturday

of August. There is a very supportive Committee to assist with these duties.

We are looking for someone with energy and drive to step into the shoes of our retiring Chairman. If you feel you could help your Association by filling this vital role, please speak with our Secretary before the AGM.

Trading Sheds - Opening times -

Sunday - Gratwicke Road: January (from the 3rd Sunday), February, August, September, October & November 10.00 – 11.00hrs - March- July 10.00 – 12.00hrs - December closed.

Saturday - Oak Tree Road: February & September – 14.00 – 15.00hrs, March – July 14.00hrs – 16.00hrs. Closed all other times and for the whole month of August.

Royal Berkshire Show 2015 – Inter Village Competition

We did extremely well in this year's Inter Village Competition at the Royal Berkshire Show and achieved second place, against very tough competition. We were pleased that so many THA members contributed to the exhibit and were spoilt for choice with flowers, but in the end none could surpass Matt Ordidge's beautiful Daleko Jupiter dahlias. The judges complimented us on the quality of the cauliflowers in our exhibit, grown by John Green. Some of our members also won awards in the Grow Your Own competition at the Show. We will be meeting in the spring to kick off our entry for 2016. If you would like to find out more then please watch out for details or contact Pauline Sinclair (0118 9453658) or Claire O'Brien (07903 269554).



Our Cauliflowers



The final entry

THA Discounts

Members of the THA can obtain attractive discounts from a number of local nurseries and other outlets. Full details can be found on the website or from the list in Gratwicke Trading shed.

<i>Chairman</i>	<i>Joan Macphee</i>	<i>Tel</i>	9414873
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Pauline Sinclair</i>	<i>Tel</i>	9453658
<i>Membership Secretary</i>	<i>Sylvia Hickman</i>	<i>Tel</i>	9429947
<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	<i>Peter Chesworth</i>	<i>Tel</i>	9429066
<i>General Email</i>	tilehursttha@gmail.com		
<i>Website</i>	www.tilehursttha.org.uk		

Membership – Renewal Reminder

The membership year is from January to December so renewal subscriptions are now due for 2016. You can renew at the Trading Sheds or at our monthly talks. If you have any queries please contact the Membership Secretary, Sylvia Hickman, via email,

membership.tilehursttha@gmail.com,

or on 0118 942 9947.

Trading Shed – Plastic Bags

Whilst we are exempt from having to charge the 5p for a carrier bag we do expect surplus supermarket bags to become less common. It would be helpful, if you plan to buy loose goods, to bring your own container if possible. However, we still will have bags available if you forget!

Christmas Wreath Workshop

A very enjoyable evening was had by all who attended the Christmas Wreath Workshop on Thursday, December 10th. Run by Jenny Edwards, this workshop gave us instructions and tips for making a Christmas wreath and a candle table arrangement. We all went home with an arrangement to be proud of and having enjoyed a festive evening. Jenny kindly provided 2 door decorations and 2 candle decorations for a raffle, the proceeds of which benefitted the THA funds.



FINALLY

A Very Happy New Year to you all and wishing you a very successful 2016 in your garden or on the allotment from all of the Committee.