



NEWSLETTER  
Number 175  
July 2021

## **THE GREENAWAY STORE**

**Open for supplies**

**Sunday 9:00am to 10:30am**

**Thursday 6.30pm to 7.30pm**

**Please wear a mask  
Social distancing measures required**

**Please present your 2021 membership card**

**Payment by cheque please**

**Web Site: <http://www.bgclub.uk>**

## Your **Burbage Gardening Club** committee members are:

			Tel:
Chairperson:	LINDA BARRATT email:	2 Lyndhurst Close, Burbage chairperson@ bgclub.uk	07954 404490
Secretary:	HELEN STANIFORTH email:	3 Ashburton Close, Burbage secretary@ bgclub.uk	444471
Treasurer	ANNE BRETT email:	32 Woodstock Close, Burbage treasurer@ bgclub.uk	635045
Store Manager:	JOHN BROWN Email:	3 Kirby Close, Sapcote tradingsecretary@bgclub.uk	272285
Newsletter Editor:	DENISE KOVAROVIC email:	9 Grove Park, Burbage newsletter@ bgclub.uk	632528
Social Secretary:	GILL HIGGINS email:	2 The Poplars, Earl Shilton socialsecretary@ bgclub.uk	07766 208383
Membership Secretary:	DENISE KOVAROVIC email:	9 Grove Park, Burbage membership@ bgclub.uk	632528
General Committee Members:	MARY HANSON	28 Goosehills Road, Burbage	637425
	DEREK LLOYD	9 Lychgate Lane, Burbage	238762
	JAN BOLD	16 Woodstock Close, Burbage	324211
	TREVOR ALLCOAT	47 Goosehills Road, Burbage	613119
Vice Chairperson:	BOB GWYNN email:	36 Woodstock Close, Burbage vicechairperson@ bgclub.uk	632221
Show Manager:	BOB GWYNN email:	36 Woodstock Close, Burbage showmanager@ bgclub.uk	632221
Webmaster	JONATHAN LLOYD Email:	25 Donald Cobley Close, Hinckley webmaster@bgclub.uk	710592
Press Officer:	Vacant Position		
<p><b>Please be mindful that all our committee members are volunteers and that should you contact them there may be some delay in them responding to you.</b></p> <p><b>Should you not receive a response within 7 days or it is an emergency then please contact another member of the committee.</b></p>			

### Disclaimer:

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are the views of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Burbage Gardening Club.

# EDITORIAL

Well what a difference a year makes!

I hope you enjoy reading this issue and thank you to those who contributed to the pages. Lots of information for you all, with some promise of getting back to normality.

Once again we have had a mixed bag of weather and my garden and allotment on the whole is quite behind. My French and Runner beans are taking their time climbing up their supports. Didn't get my nets over the gooseberries in time so nothing from them this year!

More rhubarb gin made and a batch of strawberry jam already done.  
Yum

There is one thing that never fails to grow quickly and thickly and that is my hair!

Have a good read.

## NEWSLETTER CUT OFF DATES

### Issue 176

Last date for articles	10th September 2021
Delivery to distributors	20th September 2021
Delivery to members by	27th September 2021

Denise Kovarovic

[newsletter@bgclub.uk](mailto:newsletter@bgclub.uk)



# CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Hello again to you all,

Our cold Spring turned into summer overnight didn't it and if you're like me took me by surprise and left me a little behind with my planting plans, but as of 22nd June I have finally got all my vegetables planted at my allotment, sadly I can't say the same for various flowering plants I had grown from seed for the garden, but I'm on holiday now as I write this so they'll just have to wait until I get back! Those couple of weeks were so lovely and welcome after all the cold though. Sadly as I write this in the Lake District the skies are trying to keep the lakes filled, hence I'm inside typing, lol.

We have finally managed to have a face to face committee meeting at the Conservative Club, which was lovely, 11 of us attended, following social distancing guidelines etc. It was certainly easier to discuss matters between us.

One of the items discussed was the hanging baskets that we normally plant on behalf of the Parish Council. Sadly they have decided not to use us this time and on later pages you will see a copy of the email I received from the member of staff I liaise with. I had been in touch regarding the baskets back in January and February as it takes quite a bit of organising to order the plants and composts etc, then there is the matter of dates and volunteers to be addressed and to set the dates. The council had sent a list of requirements that we were to comply with. After much consideration, myself and the committee felt that unfortunately as amateur gardeners albeit with years of experience between us, we felt unable to comply with the criteria put forward. The staff at the Council are having to show different ways of auditing and are required to present at Council meetings that they have received the best value for money in their purchases etc. The baskets have been contracted out to a nursery in Warwickshire I believe. Maybe in time we can again be considered and I'm sure our army of volunteers would gladly become involved again if approached.

Lastly I would like to thank everyone who has helped with the baskets over the 17 or 18 years, we can honestly say we have done a good job and done the village proud.

Again please read your newsletter carefully to find out any changes in our operations as and when we are allowed and I look forward to meeting with you again soon.

**Linda Barratt**

[chairperson@bgclub.uk](mailto:chairperson@bgclub.uk)

## **SHOW NEWS**

As you know the show has been cancelled again this year. However we have around 30 entries for the members only Potato Growing Competition. We propose to come and collect these from you again in August as we did last year and will contact you in due course to arrange a suitable time to see you or make arrangements for collection. Good luck to all those who have entered.

Anyone with children or grandchildren who are growing sunflowers for the children's competition please send your photos with rule or tape measure across the flower centre at the beginning of September to [showmanager@bgclub.uk](mailto:showmanager@bgclub.uk). Full instructions were supplied with the seeds but if they have been misplaced let me know and I'll send another copy. Good luck to them too.

**Bob Gwynn**

[showmanager@bgclub.uk](mailto:showmanager@bgclub.uk)

# THE GREENAWAY STORE

Thanks again to all the members who have supported the Greenaway Store over the past few months.

A big thank you also to Linda, Bob, Derek, Trevor and Nick for being available on Sundays and Thursdays to help serve our members.

From a survey done earlier this year we have a list of volunteers who indicated they would like to help out on Thursdays or Sundays at the store. Hopefully Covid restrictions will be lifted in July and we will be contacting you for your help and drawing up a rota with names and dates for you to attend.

Below I have listed eight products at reduced prices, which will be held until current stocks run out. A brief description of their uses has also been given. If you do not require a full 3Kg, smaller amounts can be weighed out. Alternatively a full bag can be purchased (usually 25Kg - price pro rata for 3Kg).

## **BONEMEAL** £1.60/3Kg

Slow release fertiliser produces from sterilised bone meal.

- Encourages healthy root development
- Rich in phosphates and nitrogen
- releases nutrients slowly over an extended period
- Ideal for bulbs, herbaceous plants, shrubs, roses, fruit trees and strawberries

NPK: 3.5-17-0

## **JOHN INNES BASE** £2.25/3Kg

A balanced general fertiliser for using around the garden

- Used for mixing up John Innes range of composts

- Can be used as a base dressing in spring, summer and autumn for lawns
- Use as a spring dressing on beds and borders to give your plants the best possible boost

NPK: 5.1-7.7-9.7

**DRIED BLOOD**      £2.70/3KG

Fast acting organic fertiliser rich in nitrogen.

- Promotes above the ground growth
- Particularly beneficial to leafy crops such as lettuce, spinach and cabbage
- Also an excellent feed for foliage plants
- 

NPK: 12-0-0

**EPSOM SALTS**      £1.50/3Kg

Rapid cure for magnesium deficiency

- Particularly good for tomatoes and house plants
- Use as a base dressing or liquid feed
- Apply as necessary during the growing season

Contains 10% magnesium

**NITRATE OF CHALK**      £1.50/3Kg

A quick acting growth promoting nitrogen fertiliser in granular form

- Contains a little lime to help reduce acidity
- Nitrate of chalk is particularly good for brassicas and root vegetables
- Avoid acid loving plants

NPK: 27-0-0

**CALCIFIED SEAWEED**      £2/3Kg

Ideal as a soil conditioner and clay breaker

- Rich in calcium, magnesium and trace elements
- Use on lawns, beds and borders to correct soil acidity
- Highly favoured by chrysanthemum, sweet pea, dahlia, leek and onion showmen

**SULPHATE OF IRON**                      £1.80//3Kg

Greens turf, helps roots and hardens turf to help protect against disease

- Reduces alkalinity of soil
- Improves the cultivation of acid loving plants

Contains 20% Ferrous sulphate

**SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME**      £1.50/3Kg

Promotes strong root growth and healthy plants

- Fruit, root and seed crops produce high yields
- Improves ripening of fruit
- Ideal starter feed for seedlings, rooted cuttings and transplants
- Apply through the growing season

NPK: 0-17-5

Finally we hope to have the Kings Seed Catalogues available sometime in August.

Thanks again for all your support in 2021.  
Happy gardening

**John Brown Store Manager**

**Telephone - 272285**

# COACH TRIPS



## TRIP TO RHS BRIDGEWATER

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2021 Cost :£17 pp Trip open to all.**

Booking forms enclosed/attached. Also available at the Greenaway Store.

### Information for RHS Bridgewater

RHS Bridgewater, one of the largest gardening projects in Europe, originally due to open to the public in summer 2020, is the venue for our first trip for two years. Many of you will have seen it featured on the television recently.

Named after the historic Bridgewater Canal which runs along the southern end of the site, RHS Bridgewater is situated on the former estate of the First Earl of Ellesmere who built Worsley New Hall in the early 1840's. The first phase of the development of this 154 acre site includes:

- One of the largest walled gardens in the UK (11 acres)
- Beautiful new gardens designed by award-winning landscapers, including Tom Stuart-Smith and Harris Bugg Studio
- Living plant collections and horticultural trials
- Cafes, plant centre and shop
- A well-being garden and community gardening plot

It will be fascinating to see the new garden in its early stages and then return in several years' time to see how it is progressing.

**Helen Staniforth**

**[secretary@bqclub.uk](mailto:secretary@bqclub.uk)**

# SOCIAL SCENE

## Restarting Social Meetings

As I type this the PM has just announced that the easing of all COVID restrictions will probably not now happen before the 19th July.

However at our last committee meeting, which we were able to hold face to face in the Canning Suite at the Constitutional Club, we made the decision not to try and hold any social meetings until September.

So all being well our first meeting for over 12 months will take place at 7:45pm on Tuesday 7th September 2021 at the above venue and this meeting will be the long overdue AGM.

At the time of our committee meeting the Constitutional Club had restricted the number of people in the Canning Suite to 30 but this may all have changed by September. We understand that some people may still feel nervous about gatherings in a restricted indoor space and we fully respect that if you do not wish to attend. But if you would like to attend the AGM in September please contact one of the committee to confirm that it is going ahead and to reserve a place in case numbers are still limited. Places will be allocated on a first come basis if this is the case and the number of committee attending will be reduced if necessary to accommodate more of the general membership. We will of course have to comply with any remaining government restrictions, e.g. wearing face masks etc. and any restrictions imposed by the Constitutional Club.

We hope to be able to meet up and see you all again in September.

**Bob Gwynn**

[vicechairperson@bgclub.uk](mailto:vicechairperson@bgclub.uk)



# BASKETS

## The following email received from the Parish Council

Hello Linda,

I am sorry it has taken me some time to get back to you on this. It has taken considerable time to investigate all options and possibilities.

Having considered the suggestions for the provision of baskets put forward by the Club Committee in your mail of March 23, attempts were made to order plants on behalf of the Council for Club members to plant up but, with the added difficulty of nurseries having reduced orders and, in some cases staff, due to the restrictions of the pandemic, among other things, it became clear that it would not be viable for the Council to proceed on that basis, given the extra staff time and resources that would have been required.

As a result, invitations were extended to local, independent outlets who were able to offer a full planning, planting and delivery service and it was confirmed last week that a local supplier has now been commissioned on that basis, with baskets due to be delivered later in June.

I am sure you will understand the reasons for this decision and thank you and the rest of the Committee again for the time and thought that you put into this matter in these challenging times.

Please do pass on the thanks of the Parish Council to all Club members for all of the hard work and creative support that has gone into brightening the parish over the past 17 years.

The Council is keen to support the Gardening Club, and all other community organisations, where possible and any opportunity to work together again in the future will of course be given full consideration.

With many thanks and kind regards,

Rachel

Rachel Parrish  
**Administration Officer**

**Linda Barratt**

**[chairperson@bgclub.uk](mailto:chairperson@bgclub.uk)**

# LEASE

The lease is now all signed and we are just awaiting the invoice from the solicitor's. Unfortunately I was unhappy with the length of time the process took and so discussed this with the solicitor, this seemed to delay it some more, so it took 11 months to extend the lease for another 28 years. The solicitor finally came back to me and informed me that one of the directors of the firm had looked at my complaint and they acknowledged that they could have, maybe, completed the work more quickly.

Linda Barratt

[chairperson@bgclub.uk](mailto:chairperson@bgclub.uk)

# EMAILING & WEBSITE

Please note the new email addresses for our committee members on the inside cover of the newsletter. Please use these addresses if you wish to email.

Our new website address is: <http://www.bgclub.uk>

## BGC Committee



# RHS BANKSIAN MEDAL

As I'm sure all our members and exhibitors know we present the RHS Banksian Medal every year at our annual show in August. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic we were unable to hold our annual show in 2020 and the RHS offered a suggestion that we present the medal to someone who has done outstanding work for the club.

As you may remember after we sadly lost Geoff Briers in 2019, his wife Ann found that the lease on the Greenaway Store had expired while sorting through some of Geoff's paperwork.

To this end our chairperson, Linda Barratt, has had many, many months of correspondence, emails and telephone calls between solicitors, Burbage Parish Council and the committee members trying to get the lease updated and completed. This has been an extremely arduous task and one Linda was not expecting as the new chair to the club. Needless to say she has persevered to get the lease agreed and signed and the committee felt that Linda was fully deserving of this award. As we were able to meet in person on 27th May for a socially distanced committee meeting, Linda was duly presented with the medal and certificate by vicechair Bob Gwynn before the formal business of the meeting began.

Thanks to Jonathan Lloyd for the photograph.



**Bob Gwynn**

[vicechairperson@bgclub.uk](mailto:vicechairperson@bgclub.uk)

# COMPOST CORNER

Although we have not been able to meet face to face for some time I have received an occasional email from our members. Thank you for those .Here is a copy of an email I received at the end of May and it really cheered me up on the day I received it.

I know blowing one's own trumpet is never good, but I'm rather blown away with this.

These attached photos are exactly, to the day, one year apart. I think the, what felt like, millions of bags for farmyard manure was the key in laying the decent soil foundations, but I just love the results and they surely help make the prospect of a repeat performance for another new patch very palatable. The turf has been turned over and will go this week, then we'll break out the 30 bags of manure already bought. That'll do, just for starters.

Moving on a little, we went to the Plant Fair at Donnington le Heath and came away with a few nice bits and bobs.

Hope this finds you well, and able to dodge the shower. Apparently, according to the BBC, we will have hail later.

Enough already!

Best regards.  
Moirira

**2020**



**2021**



## **RHS MY CHELSEA GARDEN COMPETITION 2021**

The RHS in partnership with The One Show ran a competition, asking the nation to share pictures of their green spaces. There were four categories to the competition - Back Garden, Front Garden, Alternative Garden and Community Garden. The winners were announced in May.

Our member, Dave Baggott came runner up in the back garden section of the competition and appeared on The One Show.

Well done Dave and keep up the good work.

## **STOKE GOLDING 90th OPEN FLOWER AND VEG SHOW**

**SATURDAY 28th AUGUST 2021. At Stoke Golding Club**

Exhibits entered between 10am and 12 midday. Doors open after judging at 5pm

Full range of flower, vegetables and baking classes. Also 'novice' vegetable classes.

Schedules out early August-will be available at the Greenaway Store or email: [tinawaters999@gmail.com](mailto:tinawaters999@gmail.com). or [phil\\_burgess@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:phil_burgess@hotmail.co.uk).

Any questions. Phone. Phil on 07561686985.

**Denise Kovarovic**

**[newsletter@bgclub.uk](mailto:newsletter@bgclub.uk)**



# BGC AFFILIATION

**Burbage Gardening Club is affiliated to the following National Societies:**

The National Society of Allotment and Leisure  
Gardeners



web site: <http://www.nsalg.org.uk>

The Royal Horticultural Society



web site: <http://www.rhs.org.uk/>

National Dahlia Society



web site: <http://www.dahlia-nds.co.uk>

Produced and Published by Burbage Gardening Club MMXXI