

Exercise your Brain Cells

Gardening Dingbats

Use the clues to find a garden related answer

1 **IV**

2 **Digging Digging**

3 **HERB A S UOEC**

4 **BEDS BEDS BEDS BEDS**

ANAGRAMS -ALL GARDEN RELATED ANSWERS

Heed Groans	
A Sugar Sap	
Posters Slur Sub	
Drainage	
Frank Gored	

Dictionary Corner

Gardening (gärd'ning)
 1 n. the art of killing weeds and bugs to grow flowers and vegetables for animals and birds to eat

Cutting Edge

U	D	C	X	X	V	X	H	O	K	H	E	N	L	B
S	C	V	J	W	U	W	S	C	A	R	I	F	Y	P
T	S	H	Q	Y	O	S	X	V	J	A	I	J	U	J
R	S	O	C	D	Q	S	X	C	O	L	S	Q	P	O
I	R	K	A	D	O	A	Q	S	A	Z	E	W	E	S
M	Y	E	Z	E	U	R	K	W	H	G	E	O	G	G
M	M	D	D	R	D	G	N	M	I	E	D	M	F	N
E	Z	G	D	O	B	I	B	Q	W	U	A	J	A	I
R	E	D	R	E	W	O	M	P	I	G	X	R	V	T
K	E	L	I	M	O	M	A	H	C	D	O	J	S	T
U	P	U	C	R	E	T	T	U	B	M	E	I	V	U
B	X	D	P	F	D	L	I	G	F	X	O	E	W	C
P	E	B	L	X	R	H	D	A	I	S	Y	S	W	E
C	Z	U	Q	F	Q	U	E	Y	R	I	X	D	S	X
T	Y	U	S	L	Z	Y	T	R	O	L	L	E	R	Q

Lawn	Cuttings	Strimmer
Grass	Moss	Seed
Mower	Meadow	Scarify
Roller	Turf	Mow
Daisy	Weed	Edge
Buttercup	Shears	Chamomile

Word Ladder

Complete the word ladder by changing the first word into the last. You can change only one letter per step and you cannot rearrange the letters each step must be a real English word

ANSWERS	ROSE
Word Ladder	
ROSE	
RODE	
BODE	
BADE	
BASE	BUSH
BASH	
BUSH	
Anagrams	
Garden Hose, Asparagus, Brussels	
Sprout, Gardenia, Garden Fork	
Dingbats	
Ivy, Double digging, Herbaceous	
border, Raised beds	

Annual General Meeting:
 Thursday: 7.00 p.m.,
 19th April 2018
 IN THE TRADING SHED

DIGGING IN

Newton Park Horticultural Society

www.newtonparkhs.co.uk Summer 2017

Trading shed
 Open
 10.30 - 12.30
 every Sunday.

Chairman's Report

In the last newsletter we reported the passing of Malcolm Blanch and for those of you attending our Christmas party you would have heard of the then recent passing of Anthony Myers. Sadly, soon after that event there was also the sudden passing of Peter Collins who many of you saw then. The loss of so many long serving and active Society members has been a bit of a blow, but the Committee is still looking for ways that the Society can flourish. I keep pointing out that all the usual crew will expire or retire one day - so the future viability of our Society will be dependent upon new volunteers willing to step up and contribute in some way. With sufficient active members anything is possible, so don't sit back and take your Society for granted, join in and help us in some way if you can.

Gardeners are generally optimistic people always looking and hoping for future successes in the coming season and putting any setbacks behind us. I hope that the lengthening of daylight has started not only to stir new growth but also fired up your enthusiasm. Whatever you are planning this coming year then I'm sure our Society will be able to help and provide for you. But do also think how you could help us too. Do not forget to **renew your membership**. We would also encourage you to bring a friend or neighbour to the Trading Shed to see what we have to offer. Membership numbers are falling and we need to spread the word about the fantastic bargains we can provide.

I know all I seem to have said so far has been to ask of something from you - well there's more. I am now hoping that you will make the effort to **attend our AGM on Thursday the 19th April at 7pm in the Trading Shed**. This is your chance to see how we are really coping, have a say and vote in our elections. It may all seem as if it is business as usual but we do now need more volunteers to keep the Society running smoothly. In the meantime, following the success of the Christmas raffle, we will be holding another **raffle at Easter**. Tickets are available now.

DONATIONS: For those of you who may wish to contribute in memory of Peter Collins we will have a collecting box in the Shed. Donations will go to the Alzheimer's Society.

Society Website
www.newtonparkhs.co.uk

Visit the society website for the latest news, sowing guides, growing guides and jobs for the month

Downloads include:
 Show schedule
 HiL guide to showing
 Show Poster
 Current Newsletter

Secretary's Report

Ron Dickens Hon.Sec

Our Autumn Show: Still the biggest and the best in the Borough - will be on the 1st September at our now established venue of the Roxeth Community Church, Coles Crescent. As previously advised, this is a superb venue in which to hold the Show. Wonderful architecture, roomy and with excellent natural lighting. The Show Schedule will soon be available from the Shed so come down and collect so you can start planning your entries.

Exciting news: Yes it's what you've been waiting for to complete one of your New Year resolutions, our AGM!

Please Do Attend. This is your Society so do come along and see how we have performed over the past year. Think we could do better? Great! We always welcome suggestions upon how we can improve.

APPEAL. Given the loss of four stalwarts last year we are desperately low on both Committee Members and Shed helpers. Please do consider standing for the Committee - 6 meetings a year - or volunteering to help down the Shed - its only one Sunday in five - as without either we will cease trading. We need your help, fresh ideas, and above all your support. So do come along and tell us what you think.

MARKET RESEARCH: POTATOES, ONIONS, & SHALLOTS: Just checked out our local Homebase and it only reinforces our claim to be the cheapest and the best. Remember all ours are sold pro rata by weight, hence you have the convenience of buying precisely the number of spuds/onions/shallots that you want to plant.

ONIONS & SHALLOTS: Homebase sell their onions in £2.50 bags of 50 and shallots in £2.50 bags of 10. All ours are at the rate of £2.40 per Kg giving 50 onions at c. 72p, and 10 shallots 96p.

POTATOES : Homebase "Earlies (e.g. "Swift") are sold in £1.50 nets of 5, and 2nds/mains spuds in 1.5Kg bags at £3 each (i.e.£2 per Kg). All ours spuds are pro rata at £1.70 Kg. Hence 5 of our "Swift" potatoes cost around 80p (not £1.50!), whilst 1.5kg of 2nds/mains would cost only £2.55. Additionally you only need buy the number you want, so you can buy say 60 onions whereas at Homebase you would be forced to buy 100. Similarly with us you can buy 2kgs of spuds and pay for 2Kgs. whereas at Home base you would have to buy 3Kg!

NOTICEBOARDS: As I persistently emphasise, you do need to regularly check our noticeboards. Remember they are our quickest way of updating you. They will inform you of our latest offers and news of what is going on throughout the year besides giving monthly gardening tips, action lists and other topical news.

CHARITY BEGINS AT.....THE SHED!

Its always the same seed sowing isn't it? Either none come up or every single seed overwhelming you with their abundance. What to do with the surplus? Easy, pot them and donate them to our upcoming plant sale or charity stall. You feel good, and other members benefit from your green fingers.



**Annual General Meeting:
Thursday: 7.00 p.m.,
19th April 2018
IN THE TRADING SHED**

Show Report Our Show 2018 – Christine Salter

As soon as we have caught our breath from last year's Show, planning for the next Autumn Show starts. The hall and Judges are booked and the new Show Schedule is compiled with a few changes to reflect comments received and some updates to give regular exhibitors new challenges. In the Handicraft Classes the photograph classes feature "A Woodland Scene" and "Rain", so the latter may have some interesting interpretations. Full details are in this year's Show Schedule which will be available at the Trading Shed or on-line.

I was really heartened last year with the number of new exhibitors. A local Society show such as ours is ideal for anyone new, willing to have a go at exhibiting. We do try to encourage this by having plenty of novice classes. These are designed to be encouraging rather than demanding and ideal for anyone starting out and wanting to try something new. Everything for your growing needs should be at the shed along with lots of help and advice.

The Show Committee have done their bit so it is now up to you. With no exhibits there will be no show for anyone! So, you can start planning too and there are really are no excuses for all to have a go at something. In the meantime, I do hope that whatever you are growing or making this year turns out to be successful and if it is something special we don't want to hear about it – we want you to share it with everyone at our **Show on 1st September.**

Trading Shed Report

For anyone who has been to the Trading Shed recently they will be aware that we are nearly out of some bulk goods, apart from large multipurpose, but never fear the Shed will be fully stocked in time for the major planting and growing season. If you are not yet a member of my Loading Crew and would like to help when the bulk delivery arrives please let me, or a Shed Helper, have your name and phone number and I will get in touch when the delivery is expected.

Seed potatoes, onions and shallots are now in stock and selling well so come along to make sure you get the varieties you want. Potato varieties are –first earlies - Arran Pilot and Swift: second earlies - Charlotte and Kestrel and main crop – Desiree, King Edward and Cara. Onions are Sturon and Shallots are Golden Gourmet both old favourites.

Dahlias and gladioli have just been ordered and should be on sale very soon.

I would now like to turn to flower, vegetable and green manure seeds. Last year I had a large selection of all these seeds and, to be honest, some of them did not sell at all well and a lot of them, especially green manures are now out of date. They are now being offered at half price and they can be found on a table in the far end of the shed. Following these poor sales in 2017 I have reduced the varieties for 2018 but hope there will be something to take your fancy. On the subject of green manures I will not be buying any this year but if any members would like some I will order them for them but the minimum order will be 5 packets.

This measure is to try to reduce the loss the Society made in 2017.

Tony Racher Trading Secretary



The Society would like to thank
Estate Agents Gibbs Gillespie for their
continued support and sponsorship