



Growing Concerns

the newsletter for members of Harrow in LEAF

Harrow In LEAF Events:

Dates for your diary:

- **Barbecue Night – Saturday 20th July.**
6pm start, food 7pm
Ticket cost £7, to book call Frances now on 020 8907 0188
- **Harrow in LEAF Show – Sunday and Monday, 25th & 26th August.**

Trading Huts

Please support your local horticultural and allotment trading huts. You can usually get most of the things a gardener needs at much cheaper prices than the big DIY or gardening centres charge.

Details of opening hours can be found on our website under “member groups” menu item – www.harrownleaf.org.uk

Charity No 1108144
e-mail: leaf.membership@gmail.com
www.harrownleaf.org.uk

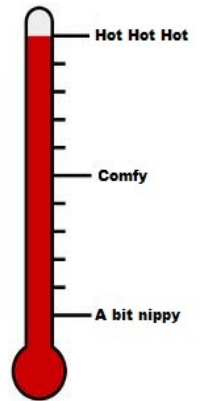
Newsletter No. 26
Summer 2013
Editor: B Vaughan, Membership Secretary

This time last year we were very wet!

Whilst writing this newsletter in 32°C (that's near 90°F in old money!) I remind myself that this time last year, my first time editing Growing Concerns, I was writing about how bad the rainfall had been since the 2012 national drought was declared. The wettest months since records began and a hosepipe ban in place!

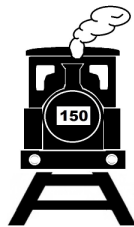
Today, the weathermen are giving out Level 3 heat wave warnings and this is following the coldest Spring since records began. Can you believe this run of challenges to all horticulturalists and agriculturalists?

Still, we struggle on through all climatic extremes.



Harrow in LEAF Show - August 25/26

Once again preparations are underway for our Harrow in LEAF 9th Horticultural Show and Family Fun Day on the August Bank Holiday at the Headstone Manor site. The Show Committee is hoping the good weather will last until the end of August 2013.



This year The People's Choice will be celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the London Underground. This is a free to enter and open class competition judged by the attending public. There will be no tasting of exhibits!



Organising a Horticultural Show & Fun Day involves many volunteers undertaking a variety of activities to ensure everything comes together. Their time and efforts are invaluable! Your membership gives heart to everyone, knowing that you support the concept of an independent and local community show continuing.

Here are just some of the elements needed to make the show happen:

- 1 Logistics** - book Museum site, hire marquees, transport, security, arrange judges.
- 2 Stalls** - find stall holders, take bookings, plan location on site.
- 3 Volunteers** - find, allocate roles, agree timings, entrance passes, free lunch
- 4 Exhibitors** - send Show Schedule, manage entries, entrance passes, award prizes
- 5 Show Promotion** - posters, media ads, estate agent boards, fliers, car stickers
- 6 Visitors** - make sure they have a fun afternoon

Interested in running your own Stall or becoming a Volunteer?
Please contact our Show Manager on 020 8907 0508

What about entering an exhibit?
Please contact our Entries Secretary, Judy Walker on 020 8427 2772



BRIAN COX
ESTATE AGENTS

Things can only get better.....

We are pleased to announce that for the 2013 Harrow In LEAF Show we are being supported by Brian Cox Estate Agents, 310 Station Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 2DX.

Look out for their Estate Agent boards outside the homes of our members helping to raise awareness across Harrow.

If you would be willing to have a board outside your property, either this year or next year, then please e-mail or phone us with your details. The keen quizzers amongst you can work out the reason for the heading of this item.

Since our previous newsletter.

It's all go as the growing season continues, here is some brief news of our recent events:

Quiz Night - 27th April

The return of our Quiz Night proved popular again as all tables were fully occupied, and it was quite a headache for organiser Diana Dolman to deal with the demand for places. Unfortunately our returning Quizmaster, Terence Frisch, had to drop out at the last moment, having set some cunningly challenging questions. So up stepped our Treasurer Judy Walker who did a magnificent job in delivering the questions and controlling the rabble! Senior kids!

The event was a rousing success and many are looking forward to next year's quiz and revising their "flags of the world". Many thanks to all those who attended and especially to those who joined Harrow in LEAF that evening.

AGM - 15th May and new Vice Chair

At a well-attended AGM it was voted by the members present that the existing Management Committee should continue and that Elizabeth Lawley should take over the vacant position of Vice Chair to our Chairman, Gordon Cox. Elizabeth has been taking an active role in West Harrow Allotments and in the on-site Trading Hut.

The proposed Harrow in LEAF constitution was agreed, and has been passed on to the Charity Commission in accordance with agreed procedures of being a Charity Organisation. In accordance with our obligations a copy was e-mailed to all current members, and for those who prefer a postal service a copy should be enclosed with this newsletter.

Annual Plant Sale - 18th May

A continuing success story.

The demand for tables was up this year and the public, attendance was good and many satisfied attendees left with economically priced and varied plants, or at least a nice cup of tea and cake inside them supplied by our excellent volunteer pop-up café crew. Many thanks to all those who attended and again especially to those who visited our membership table and joined Harrow in LEAF there and then.



Hoi Polloi - a Community Orchard across Harrow

Harrow Community Farm is an affiliated Harrow in LEAF Society, and one of their Directors is Russell Suttcliffe.

Russell is also involved with Hoi Polloi a voluntary initiative whose aims according to their website (<http://www.hoipolloi.btck.co.uk/>) are to - Harvest and maintain fruit trees sustainably; Use local food healthily; Develop a community network to provide fruitful lives; Celebrate with an "Apple Day" in Harrow.

On 20th July, from 1pm to 5pm there is a free Community Orchards Network Conference taking place at Woolmer Green, near Knebworth. Full details are on our website harrowinleaf.org.uk.

If you are an apple grower and interested in finding out more about Hoi Polloi in Harrow then visit their website listed above and go to their Contact Us page.

LEAF Tips

There are many challenges in a heat wave for gardeners and allotmenters in keeping their plants well watered and ensuring the ground retains as much moisture as possible.

Our only tip however, is that you should take care of yourself and do not overdo it in the sun, wear sensible clothing, wear plenty of high factor sun block, drink water regularly and only go out if really necessary. Siesta!

As Noel Coward once sang "Mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the midday sun....."

Affiliated Societies' Events - July/November

JULY:

HARROW IN LEAF

Barbecue Night at LEAF HQ.

- **Saturday July 20th at 6.00pm**

HARDY PLANT SOCIETY
MIDDLESEX GROUP

Display stand at Chenies Manor
Plant and Garden Fair

- **Sunday July 21st 10am – 5pm**

HARROW RECREATION
GROUND USERS ASSOC.

Art and Sports Event

- **Sunday July 21st at 2.30pm**

HARROW IN LEAF

Committee Meeting at LEAF HQ.

- **Wednesday July 24th at 7.00pm**

AUGUST:

HARROW FUSCHIA SOCIETY

Main Summer Show at St
Andrew's Church Hall, Malvern
Avenue, South Harrow

- **Saturday Aug. 3rd at 2.30pm**

HARROW RECREATION
GROUND USERS ASSOC.

Musical Afternoon

- **Sunday Aug 4th at 2.30pm**

WEST HARROW ALLOTMENT &
GARDEN ASSOCIATION.

Visit to RHS Hyde Hall

- **Sunday Aug 4th early start**

NATIONAL ALLOTMENT WEEK

- **Sunday Aug. 5th to 11th**

AUGUST (cont...):

HARROW FUSCHIA SOCIETY

Informal Evening Show at St
Andrew's Church Hall, Malvern
Avenue, South Harrow

- **Thursday Aug. 22nd at 8.00pm**

HARROW IN LEAF

9th Annual Horticultural Show &
Family Fun Day at Headstone
Manor Park

- **Sunday 25th and Monday 26th
from 12noon to 5pm**

BELMONT HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY

Autumn Show 2013 in St
Anselm's Church, Uppingham
Avenue, Stanmore.

- **Saturday Aug. 31st 3pm-5pm**

SEPTEMBER:

HARROW RECREATION
GROUND USERS ASSOC.

Musical Funday

- **Sunday Sept. 1st at 2.30pm**

HARDY PLANT SOCIETY
MIDDLESEX GROUP

"Hardy Annuals" - Pamela Holt at
Field End Junior School, Field
End Road, Eastcote

- **Monday Sept. 2nd at 7.15pm**

NEWTON PARK
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Autumn Show at Tithe Farm
Sports & Social Club

- **Saturday Sept. 7th, public
admittance at 2.30pm**

SEPTEMBER (cont...):

WEST HARROW ALLOTMENT &
GARDEN ASSOCIATION.

Autumn Show at Vaughan School
The Gardens West Harrow

- **Saturday Sept. 14th, public
admittance at 3pm**

HARROW RECREATION
GROUND USERS ASSOC.

Musical Afternoon

- **Sunday Sept. 15th at 2.30pm**

HATCH END HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY

Autumn Show at the Guide and
Scout Headquarters off
Grimdsyke Road, Hatch End

- **Saturday Sept. 21st
from 2pm -4.30pm**

OCTOBER:

HARDY PLANT SOCIETY
MIDDLESEX GROUP

"Ferns" with Des Martin at Field
End Junior School, Field End
Road, Eastcote

- **Monday Oct. 7th at 7.15pm**

HATCH END HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY

Annual Quiz for members and
friends at the Guide and Scout
Headquarters off Grimdsyke
Road, Hatch End

- **Saturday Oct 26th at 7.30pm**

NOVEMBER:

HARDY PLANT SOCIETY
MIDDLESEX GROUP

"The Perfect Marriage..." with
Anne Godfrey at Field End Junior
School, Field End Road, Eastcote

- **Monday Nov. 4th at 7.15pm**

Your Free Gift:

Just for fun and to help promote our show this year we would like to see as many cars as we can in the Harrow area displaying our car sticker.

Just add a bit of sticky tape and put in your rear window in a safe position.

No car? Then just stick in your home window - easy!

By the way

Here is how you make a tenuous quantum leap to make sense of the earlier and obscure article title "Things can only get better....."

Brian Cox happens to also be the name of the popular TV presenter of science programs Professor Brian Cox.

Brian Cox was originally in an 80's pop band D-ream who had a big hit with the song "Things can only get better...."

*Please help us advertise the Harrow in LEAF Show by cutting out and displaying this banner in your car!
Also available to download from our website.
If you are not an internet user then contact us on 07968 417367 if you require more copies.*

Stop press:

Gardeners are the happiest people.

We all knew that, but now its official according to this week's results of the Gardener's World Magazine's poll of 1,500 UK adults.

Gardeners' World editor Lucy Hall said: "We have long suspected it, but our research means we can definitely say gardening makes you happy."



Harrow in LEAF Show 2013

Sunday 25th and Monday 26th August 12 noon to 5pm

at the Harrow Museum & Heritage Centre

harrowinleaf.org.uk