

A.W.S.L.G. TRADING CENTRE NEWS
ADDISCOMBE, WOODSIDE & SHIRLEY LEISURE GARDENS LTD
GLENTHORNE AVENUE, CROYDON. CR0 7EZ.
www.awslg.org.uk

ANNUAL SHOW
SUNDAY 7th SEPT.

Newsletter

September 2025

2.30pm Show Hall opens. Afternoon Teas
Tombola and Apple Pressing

4.30pm Auction of Produce

Cakes for the afternoon tea would be gratefully received on the day from 10.30am onwards.

Exhibit staging times: Saturday 6th 2:00pm to 4:pm. Sunday 7th 9:am to 10:30am.

It is not too late for you to enter, just go on to our website and download, fill in the attached entry form and drop it in to the Office, Canteen, Post Box or Trading Hut over the next week.

Do come and join us even if you are not entering the show. This annual event is always great fun for all plot holders and our neighbours from the surrounding areas who come to view our site and for the auction of the show produce.

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT
COFFEE MORNING

This is a worthwhile charity founded In 1911. A young man named Douglas Macmillan watched his father die of cancer. His father's pain and suffering moved Douglas so much, he founded the Society for the Prevention and Relief of Cancer.

AWSLG canteen, Saturday September 27th.
10am - 12 noon

Do join Beth and Victoria for a drink, cakes and biscuits: if you are short of time, you can buy a cake or two to take away. Donations of baked goods are very welcome, to be given in by 10am on the morning if possible.

All the morning's proceeds go to Macmillan.

Card or cash accepted.

We look forward to seeing you.

No hot food will be served that morning.

ANNUAL STOCKTAKING

The Trading Centre will remain open on Sunday September 28th and we are asking for volunteers to help stocktake between 10am and 12.30pm on the following 3 days, 29 & 30th Sept & 1st October. Please add your name to the list in the trading centre if you can help in any way or just turn up if you find you have a couple of hours to spare.

FOOD BANK PLOT

Thanks to our industrious volunteers the food bank plot has provided much appreciated fresh produce over the summer months to the Shrublands Food Bank. The metal rack for additional donations can be found under the trees on this plot.

Thanks to all those plot holders who have kindly shared their spare fruit and vegetables. Please can we receive any fresh donations on a Wednesday or a Thursday morning as the Shrublands Trust only take donations on a Thursday prior to the food being distributed on a Friday.

Praise and thanks must go to our hard-working ground steward Peter and volunteer Dave Guest for repairs to a major leak. In early July on one of the hottest days of the year, Dave spent the morning digging a rectangular trench down into our heavy clay soil to expose the main water pipe that delivers the water to all our standpipes.

Contrary to rumours all repairs to our underground pipework system are dealt with in house, not Thames Water. The job in total cost a mere £80. This was a difficult repair, the water had to be turned off for the day, two sizes of pipe, metric and imperial had to be joined together by different sized joints. The trench was left open for a couple of weeks to test the joints for leakage and has now been refilled.

As we are approaching our annual rent review and collection time in October it is worth considering how much we owe to volunteers such as Dave and Peter. I know I speak on behalf of all plot holders when I send them our very grateful thanks for a job well done.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY CANTEEN OPEN FROM 10AM TO 12 NOON
SATURDAY ONLY OFFICE OPEN FROM 10.30AM TO 12 NOON

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JOBS TO DO IN SEPTEMBER

FRUIT CARE:

Cut out fruited canes of summer raspberries and tie in new canes that will fruit next year. Select strong, healthy canes and cut out weak, forked or misplaced ones.

Blackcurrants can be pruned once they have finished fruiting but wait until the leaves have fallen, sometimes it is better to prune the plants while dormant during the winter.

Continue to pick blackberries, they freeze well if the fruit is dry frozen first on trays then use boxes as this will help to keep the fruit intact. According to traditional folk lore you should stop picking the fruit on 30th September as on this day the devil flies over and claims any berries left for his own.

This is the last chance to plant out new strawberry beds as they need to get established before the cold sets in.

Remove apples, pears and plums infected with brown rot, the same advice for disposing of blighted matter i.e. tomato or potato debris applies.

Prune out any dead, dying or diseased shoots on fruit trees that are affected by diseases such as bacterial canker, cherry leaf scorch, powdery mildew or other problems that can overwinter or continue to worsen. Avoid pruning stone fruits (e.g. cherries or plums) once they are dropping their leaves, as this can make them vulnerable to silver leaf. Peaches and apricots can be sensitive to cold, so for this reason are best pruned in spring and summer.

By the end of September, start fixing **grease bands** around the trunks of fruit trees in order to deter the wingless female winter moths from climbing up the trunks to lay their eggs in the branches.

New trees can be planted once the autumn sets in. The soil will still be quite warm in September even if the weather is cool, and the roots of new plants will benefit from this. This is particularly important for peaches and nectarines.

Harvest top fruit such as apples and pears. Look for fruit falling under the tree (windfalls) to indicate which apples are ready, but also assess taste and texture to determine whether they are ready for harvesting. Begin harvesting quinces and medlars.

Order cold stored strawberry runners for delivery in winter and order new fruit trees, canes and bushes.

VEGETABLE CARE:

Dig up potatoes before slug damage or blight becomes a problem. Leave them out to dry for two to three hours before storing. Only store sound tubers in paper sacks or boxes.

Remaining outdoor tomatoes should be picked by the end of the month and ripened indoors. The whole truss can be cut off to allow the fruits to ripen 'on the vine', perhaps under a cloche or on a windowsill. Any green fruits can be used in chutneys.



Harvest marrows, squashes and pumpkins, leaving them in the sun to dry and harden the skins off, then store in a cool, dry, dark place.

When asparagus foliage turns brown, it is time to cut it down. Take care of the spines, and give the plants a good mulch afterwards. Any new asparagus beds can be prepared at the same time, adding grit if your soil is poorly drained (e.g. heavy clay).

Plant overwintering onion sets in late September. Don't forget to use the **insect netting** which helps prevent the Allium Leaf Miner which has been devastating both leeks and onions.

Celery can be earthed-up for the final time this month, leaving just a tuft of foliage sticking out of the trench or collar in order to blanch the stems.

Because of the ban on blight control products it is even more important to do all we can to check this fungal condition. Outdoor tomatoes are more vulnerable than greenhouse ones. Be careful not to splash the plants when you water, it will make easier if the bottom leaves are removed first. Blighted potato haulms can be cut off and the tubers can still be harvested if you catch them quick enough. this qualifies as diseased material, seal in a plastic bag to minimise the spread of fungal spores, ideally this should be removed from the allotments but if this is not possible cover and burn when bonfires are allowed. Blight ridden foliage can be buried as long it is deeper than the depth of cultivation. **On no account compost in a bin or on the compost heap.**

The trading center have ordered: Garlic, onions and spring bulbs, the bulbs are due to be delivered this weekend and on sale soon.

**TRADING CENTRE OPENING TIMES - SATURDAY & SUNDAY 10.30AM TO 12.15PM
SATURDAY 2.30PM TO 4.15PM.**