

Barney, Fulmodeston and Thursford Food Production Club Newsletter – January 2024



News

Happy New Year and welcome to the Winter edition of the B,F&Th FPC Newsletter. We wait to see what the remainder of the winter has in store for our gardens and allotments, but so far the weather has been mild and very wet.

Annual membership is now due and the Committee have reluctantly raised the subscription this year to £10 per household – however this covers all members of the household and most events are then free to members. Payment may now only be made in cash at events, or – **until the end of January ONLY** online using the bank details below. After that point we will be changing our bank account as the charges are too high for a Club our size and the Club's name can confuse the automatic name reader leading to rejection of payments.

Come along and renew membership or join for the first time at the **annual Winter Social and Seed Swap** (details below) –you don't need to bring any seeds, there are always plenty for you to take some away to grow something different in your garden.

Alongside this email Newsletter you should also have received a copy of the **Schedule** for this year's **Annual Show**. The Committee have come up with a number of new ideas and will consider further changes for the following year. There remain 2 categories open to non-members for a small charge - for visitors and those who do not want to commit to join, but would like to take part, and this year we have a choice for young people who may enter either or both of the 2 classes on offer. If you receive this by printed copy, please contact Kerry for the Annual Show Schedule – details below.

The Committee are not including the Pot Challenge in the Annual Show this year, so, if you have one of our numbered pots which you are no longer using, please return it to Kerry.

Upcoming Events

Friday 26th January, 6pm – 7.30pm at the Old School Hall, Fulmodeston
Barney, Fulmodeston and Thursford Food Production Club Seed Swap and New Year Social Gathering

Bring seeds to swap, if you have them, just collect some seeds to sow at home if you don't - but mainly just come along and see everyone.

The Bar will be open; tea, coffee and light refreshments will be available.

Membership renewal will also be due before 31st January (or join for the first time) and is £10 per household for the year – New members always welcome.

We can now only accept payment in cash.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Thursday 14th March, 7pm for 7.30pm at the Old School Hall, Fulmodeston

Talk on SLUGS by Dr Ian Bedford. Free to members

Whether you love them or hate them they are part of the garden community. Ian will share some hints and tips on garden survival with them..

Tuesday 14th April, 7pm for 7.30pm at the Old School Hall, Fulmodeston

Talk on ROSE GROWING MADE EASY: by Simon White of Peter Beales. Free to members
Simon also usually brings along some plants to sell.

Most events are free to members, £3 per person to non-members – payment by cash only

Dates to note in your diary

Annual Plant Sale – Saturday 27th April

Annual Show – Saturday 20th July

Members' and Friends' Hints & Tips and tales from the Almanacs

Deciduous Trees and Shrubs – Once in their fully dormant state these can be moved to a new spot in the garden.

Pruning – The perfect time to prune many shrubs and trees such as wisteria, roses, grape vines and many fruit trees to encourage fruit production and to maintain an open structure (except stone fruit trees, eg cherries and plums which should be pruned in the summer). However be aware and leave some berries and rosehips for birds and mammals as the harsher weather arrives.

Outdoor pots – Group pots left outdoors over the winter together to help protect them from the harshest weather and stand them on brick or pot feet to help protect them from frost; further protection can be gained if they are placed near to a wall.

Wildlife in the Garden - Leave a pile of logs, twigs, leaves and other natural debris in a corner for sheltering over-wintering creatures such as toads and hedgehogs. If possible, allow small tunnels under fences for them to forage further afield.

Food Production Club Committee 2024

Chair: Kerry Harris Tel: 822583, email Kerry_FoodProductionClub@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Di Dann

Committee Members: Sarah Alton, Amanda Horn, Stephanie Jenkinson, Liz Joule, Cara Ross, Helen Sephton-Pike, Russell Sephton Pike, Julia Smith, Ritchie Tennant

Any member is welcome to join the Committee or simply to attend the meetings as a member and give their views and suggestions of things to do.

Membership

The cost to join or renew in for 2024 is **£10** per household

Payment may be made in cash at events or given to a member of the committee

Unfortunately we are no longer able to accept cheques:

ON-LINE PAYMENT FOR RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP WILL ONLY BE AVAILABLE UNTIL 31ST JANUARY

On-Line Payment to: **Barney Fulmodeston and Thursford Food Production Club**

Sort code: **40 20 08** Account Number: **01437607** Reference: **FPC and your surname**

Please also email Kerry to let her know you have paid