

# Hill Rise Allotment Association

## St. Ives [Cambridgeshire] Gardening Club

### Newsletter

December 2023

Hi Everyone,

Rather than include the following in an e mail I thought, given the state of the weather, I might just as well put the following in this format since outdoor activities are on hold for the time being.

Our meeting next week is our annual pre-Christmas Table Decoration Craft Evening and Social Soiree. As we have a number of new members, the following is a bit of scene setting. Meet at the Free church at our usual time but bring with you some foliage and some berries. I will provide oasis holders, oasis, foil, Candles some pinecones, lotus pods, coloured grasses and some scented sprinkles. To cover the cost of these there is a charge of £1.00 for each unit made. Please, on arrival put a £1.00 in the tray provided and labelled accordingly. Refreshments will be available the usual tea and coffee plus orange squash with all hands assisting as necessary. Please bring some nibbles to share.

The table decorations are easy to construct, however I will be on hand as will others with experience to show how they are put together. See Below photos.





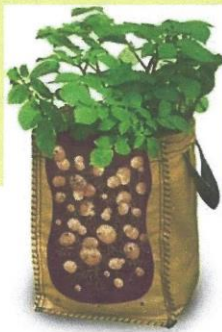
The Foliage used in the foregoing photos included the following: Cupressus, Leylandii, Cotoneaster 'Moonlight', Ivy, Ivy seed heads, Garrya elliptica, Rosemary, Helianthemum (Curry plant) and Holly. Basically anything evergreen works well.

During the course of the evening membership renewals for 2024 and for new members the issuing of membership cards. As agreed at the AGM the subscription fee for 2024 remains at £15.00. This may be paid by way of (a) Cash (b) Cheque made payable to HRAA St Ives Gardening Club (c) BACS internet payment. For the latter you need the following: Account Name: HRAA St Ives Gardening Club Sort Code: 30-97-67 Acc. Number: 23351368 and for the required reference, please use your initials plus 2024 e.g. mine would be: RCB 2024

Now a message from the Cambridgeshire Self Sufficiency Group (CSSG) with reference to their potato day 2024. Note the new venue, there is limited car parking on site.



# Cambridgeshire Self Sufficiency Group



## POTATO DAY

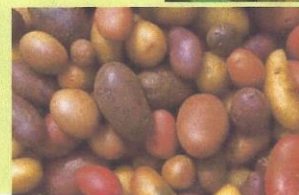
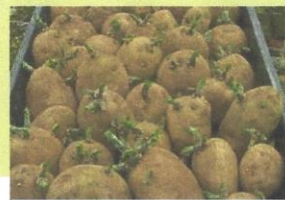
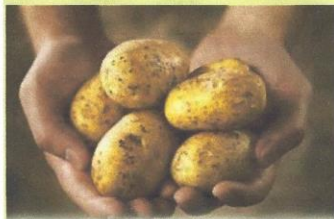
**10th February 2024 10.30am-1pm**

Over 30 varieties of seed potatoes for sale  
All £1.50 per kilo for members or £2.00 per kilo for non members.

Also onion sets and shallots.

Please bring your own carrier bags if possible.

Refreshments available



**ALL WELCOME**  
Free entrance

King Edward  
Community Centre  
King Edward Road  
Chatteris  
PE16 6NG



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[cambs.selfsufficiencygroup.co.uk](http://cambs.selfsufficiencygroup.co.uk)



...and now to finish on a festive note. Jo and I discovered via our daughter, Chloe, this festive lights bonanza at Waresley Park Estate, Gamlingay Road, Waresley SG19 3DD.

## **Christmas at Waresley**

For Christmas 2023 at Waresley Park Estate, they are extending a warm invitation to immerse yourself in a brand-new, enchanting Illuminations trail that will bring the beautiful gardens to life with twinkling lights and the enchanting sounds of the season. Their courtyard cafe will offer an array of festive treats and beverages and be sure to visit their charming, mulled wine stalls along the trail.

And for an extra touch of festive fun, don't miss the silent disco under the stars! Put on your headphones and dance to your favourite Christmas tunes.

Also new for this year is an outdoor cinema experience showing beloved classics such as "The Gruffalo," "Stick Man," and "The Smeds and the Smoos." Grab some popcorn from the bar for snacking!

Plus, indulge in the warmth of the season with S'mores toasting experience. Gather around the crackling fire pits, toast marshmallows, and create your perfect S'mores. It's a great way to add a sweet and cosy touch to your festive evening.

And, for the little ones, don't forget to check out the Elf Workshop in the courtyard!

The Christmas festivities take place from 4:30 pm to 9:30 pm every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from the last weekend in November and throughout December. While you're welcome to stay for the entire event, we kindly request that you arrive within your allocated time slot to ensure everyone has a chance to enjoy this magical experience.

Tickets: Adults - £15, Children (up to 17) - £10 - 0-2 years -Free

Web Site with booking information: [waresleyparkestate.co.uk/whats-on](http://waresleyparkestate.co.uk/whats-on)

Tel: 01223 491396 Jo and I will give feedback as we are going this Sunday.



For those of you who are unable to get to Wednesday evening's get together best wishes and season's greetings for Christmas and the New Year ahead.

Robin ([robin.bletsoe@yahoo.com](mailto:robin.bletsoe@yahoo.com))