

# BRIDPORT and DISTRICT ALLOTMENTS SOCIETY

Newsletter

Spring 2019

## Bridport Potato Day 2019

*On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2019 the annual Bridport Potato Day took place once again in the United Church Hall, East Street.*

This year, for the first time, several members of BADAS were involved in the organisation, alongside some of the original founders of the event. As with purchases from Groves Garden Centre, all "card carrying" BADAS members get a 10% discount on the day.

Pennard Plants of Somerset brought along an amazing variety of seed potatoes as well as many other seeds, onion sets, fruit bushes etc. There was a real buzz as everyone streamed into the hall as soon as the doors were open. It was, as always, very well arranged with plenty of information about each variety as well as Pennard's staff there to answer questions. The brilliant thing is that you can buy just one potato of any given variety and so there is the opportunity to really experiment with small numbers of unknown potatoes. It makes harvesting so exciting.

As well as the plant/seed sales the organising team also provided refreshments – this year a lovely selection of home-made cakes to go with tea or coffee and also jacket potatoes with a variety of toppings – thanks to our "chef of the day" Nick Greenhough!

All proceeds from refreshment sales and the percentage of sales donated by Pennard have always been donated to a local charity. This year we were delighted to be able to donate £229.05 to the local branch of Mencap. This money will be used to help support the work of Mencap in Bridport.

*We already have a date in the diary for 2020 – Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> January. So if you missed this year's event, make sure next year's date is in your diary!*

**Mandy Rathbone**

## Our next meeting

### Wednesday 6th March

The next meeting of the Bridport and District Allotments Society will be held at Mountfield (the town council offices), on Wednesday 6th March at 7 pm. All members are welcome.

We will have a guest speaker, by popular demand, Jim Binning, who will speak on "A simpler form of beekeeping".

Our secretary, Lynne Atkinson, has asked us to remind members that future meetings of the Society will be held on Wednesdays not Thursdays.

### Beware the Asian hornet!

You may have read or seen information about the threat of the Asian hornet establishing itself on the UK mainland. It is reported that this non-native species has caused severe problems in France and has reached Jersey.

The Asian hornet is more aggressive than the European hornet and it devastates bee populations. It also affects other insect groups which in turn can affect the bird population.

For more information, visit  
[www.westdorsetbees.org.uk](http://www.westdorsetbees.org.uk)

### Bridport and District Allotments Society

**Membership of the Bridport & District Allotments Society** costs £2 per annum, and gives entitlement to discounts e.g. on some items at Groves. Our Membership Secretary/Treasurer Mandy Rathbone will be pleased to receive your subscriptions at [redacted]

[redacted] For information please contact Mandy by email at [redacted]

**Receiving the newsletter:** We now send out the newsletter, meeting agenda and minutes by email — if any member is unable to receive these by email, please contact the Secretary, Lynne Atkinson, on [redacted] to receive a copy by post or hand delivery.

**Website:** visit our website at:  
[www.bridportallotmentsociety.co.uk](http://www.bridportallotmentsociety.co.uk)

**Next BADAS Meeting - Wednesday 6th March 2019, 7 pm at Mountfield (town council offices). All members welcome.**