

B Whiteley Farmshop & Nursery
Newsletter May/June 2010

Well where has the newsletter been you may be asking yourself and so have I. Just do not seem to have had the time to sit down to write as have been so busy over the last few months so after a long absence here goes!

And the Oscar goes to Meg!

So the end of the last Newsletter gave out the news that meg was to be a mum again. A trip or two to Alfie back in January and we thought we were on for pups at the end of March. Trips to the vets showed a steady weight gain and towards the end of March her body shape changed and teats dropped but there was a distinct lack of movement within her belly. Due dates came and went but no pups arrived. Once again Meg became the phantom menace and a month or so of grumpyness ensued. Not only from not having any pups but from the diet that she had been put on to lose the 3 ½ kilos of imaginary puppy fat. She is now back to her lithe self all be it with a bit of grumpyness thrown in every now and again.

Cancer Causes

Another reason Meg is looking so

trim is that I am in training for a walk that I am doing on the 31st July. I along with 3 other mad souls (and many others) am doing a 23 mile walk in the wilds of Scotland in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care. (This is also the reason why no newsletters) We are doing the Devils Staircase and Mountain Challenge which finishes at the bottom of Ben Nevis. I have been up and down Post Hill (our training ground) more times than a brides nighty.

Like Mother Like Son

Not to be outdone Lloyd is also taking up a challenge and is doing the Three Peaks in memory of Lauren Kisby. Lauren sadly died last year of cancer and the whole of her school year are walking the Three Peaks to raise funds for the Teenage Cancer Trust. Lloyd's event is a little sooner and takes place on 12 June. Sponsor forms for both these events can be found in the shop and we would be very grateful if you would help to raise as much as possible for these very worthy causes. Thankyou. Also a big thank you to all who donated to the daffodil appeal in March. I am still awaiting to hear how much we raised but hope to get a letter from them shortly.

Blowing Hot & Cold

We are definitely having a lot of strange weather this year. One week its really warm and the next it is freezing cold. We were hoping to harvest from our crop of asparagus this year however the weather put paid to that. With it been very cold up to the end of April it was a late season anyway. Normally Asparagus season begins on St Georges Day 23 April but there were no signs of ours poking through by then. When it eventually did put in an appearance it was very thin and not really suitable for harvesting so once again we have left it to bulk up some more. Hopefully next year we will have a fabulous crop (after 4 years it better be worth the wait!)

Everything else is behind where it normally is however we have now sown and have growing lots of things and hopefully will have a bumper summer, autumn and winter crop of varied and tasty vegetables.

First Tastes of Summer

We are now harvesting the first of our summer veg and are currently pulling radishes, spinach, lettuce, mixed leaves, ridge cucumbers, cauliflowers, rhubarb and herbs.

The only way is up from here on in.

Growing Your Own

We have lots of vegetable packs ready now for you to grow your own along with fruit trees and bushes suitable for you to grow your own in your garden, allotment or even a tub! If you need any advise we are more than happy to help.

New Just In

We have just taken delivery of some fantastic terracotta pots in varying sizes, they are Yorkshire Flowerpots and are (I am told) frostproof. They will look stunning when they are planted up with summer bedding plants, herbs or with a specimen shrub to take the centre stage on a patio or deck.

Hope to see you all soon!

Vicky, Bryn and The Team!