





"Growing People, Growing Plants"

# **FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER**

**Braywick HEATH Nurseries** is a social enterprise that works to improve the life chances of people with disabilities and those needing support, by providing Horticultural Employment And THerapy. We do not receive any government funding. Your help and support is greatly appreciated.

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## **Opening Hours Change**

As from March the shop will be open: 9.00 am to 5.30pm Monday to Saturday And will be open 10.00am to 4.00pm on Sunday.

# **Chairman's Report**



The past year has again been unusual but a positive one for Braywick HEATH Nurseries.

The weather mis-behaved with the prolonged cold which damaged the spring and start to the new season. It was followed by a return to normality and we can report a better year in 2013.

Our customer numbers were better, but still need to grow and that is our focus for the new year, because there is more competition from the supermarkets etc and we need to get our customers back.

We regret that our domestic maintenance team was not available, because of

continued staff problems. We intend to restart it this spring, because it is that need that caused us to start Braywick HEATH Nurseries in 1997.

We were sorry to loose the factoring work, which was a great success for our people wanting work. It proved that we have the capability and capacity and we need more, to help our people into work. If you know of anyone needing casual work solutions please lets us know.

Our expansion plans were again dented by the weather, but we have managed to suceed, beating our 2012 revenues. Our team has better managed the business and, by controling staff and costs, we had one of our best year to date. That is due to our good team, friends and brilliant volunteers and loyal customers, thanks to you all.

We are busy working to plan the future of Braywick HEATH Nurseries, and the difficult economy means there are more people in our community that need our support. We can only help those vulnerable people, if our community supports our Social Enterprise.

We hope to serve you again in the coming season and thank you for your past

#### **NURSERIES**



## IN THE NURSERY -

Lots of pot grown crocus, daffodils, snowdrops, bluebells, hyacinths, pansies etc and containers and hanging baskets to brighten up your patio/garden. Our summer flowering bulbs are now available.

Here are a few reminders of things to do during January/February. The weather has been very mixed, and also very wet, but if you get a chance to get out into the garden or greenhouse it will pay dividends later.



**FRUIT** 

**VEGETABLES** – Prepare seed beds sow some vegetables under cover

chit potato tubers

- Prune currants, gooseberries and autumn sown raspberries



#### **SHRUBS**

- Prune winter flowering shrubs that have finished flowering.
- Prune wisteria
- Prune hardy evergreen hedges

#### **FLOWERS**

- In the greenhouse hardy annuals can be sown in pots or modules.
- Sweet peas can be sown under cloche or cold frame, as leaves appear protect from aphids as they can transport sweet pea virus.
- Continue to dead head pansies and remove any leaves infected with black spot or downy mildew and destroy. Remember not to plant in the same place every year to avoid build up of disease.



POTS/TUBS

- can dry out even in winter, check by hands depth to see if they feel dry, keep moist not wet.
- remove top layer of old compost and replace.

Towards the end of February- improve drainage in the garden by working lots of organic matter into the soil and clear up weedy beds before mulching.

Protect lilies, delphiniums and hostas from snails and slugs before they appear- try sharp gravel, egg shells or copper tape if in containers.

#### TRAINING CENTRE

We have three well equipped training rooms available for hire. One room has nine PCs with access to the Internet. There is wi-fi access in all three rooms We are conveniently located on the Braywick Road (A308) about a mile from the Maidenhead town centre. There is no problem parking as there is a large free carpark adjacent to our premises.

Please telephone on 01628 622510 or why not call in to discuss your requirements.

#### **MAINTENANCE**



Braywick HEATH Nurseries have maintenance services to help a wide variety of organisations and individuals. Our Corporate Maintenance team has been working hard on several projects in the area. These range from the routine tidying up of flower beds to performing complete garden landscapes. We have the expertise to solve your garden problems.

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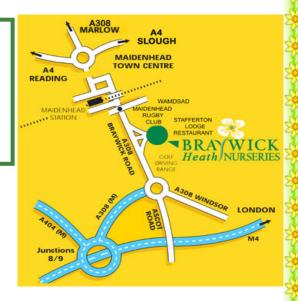
Contact Martin on 01628 622510, or call in to see us.

#### **EVENTS**

#### **Volunteers**

**Dates for your Diary** 

February 14th St Valentine's Day.



Opening Hours Mon-Sat 9.00am to 4.00pm

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In association with The Braywick Charitable Trust - Reg No 1057275



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