

AGM November 2017 - Trading Secretary's report

The Store continues to provide a community hub where members can share experiences and expertise.

Products that have continued to be popular this year are Country Natural Composted Manure, our loose fertilisers, particularly Fish, Blood and Bone, Bonemeal and Growmore, Maxicrop Original and Tomato liquid feeds, and garlic.

We have introduced some new products to the Store. Particularly popular was our selection of seed composts. John Innes Seed Compost continued to sell well and members appreciated the easy to carry packs of Gro-Sure Seed and Cutting Compost.

We also introduced a wool based seed compost called Lakeland Gold made by a farmer in the Lake District Fells by mixing wool from his flock with local bracken. This proved very popular and had good results.

Other new products include top soil, weed suppressant fabric, cloches and Spring bulbs. The daffodil and allium bulbs sold well at our Autumn Show. This month, the Ballerina Tulip bulbs sold out in the first 10 minutes of the Store opening!

We spruced up the tea and coffee area, thanks to Greg Willcox. We also now offer a selection of specialist teas.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who help with the Store; Liz Chrominska for sourcing the seeds and garlic, Carol Martinez for the potatoes, Greg Willcox for helping with the deliveries as well as general improvements to the Store and allotments (his structures for the manure and wood chip bins on Site 3 are works of art!), and Jackie for her support.

Also, the Store could not operate without all those who give up their Sunday mornings to help at the Store and bring fabulous cakes, so a big thank you to all of them.

Gill Tamsett
Trading Secretary