

GPHS BRING & BUY SALE on 17TH MAY from 10am to 2pm

All replies and queries to arun@gphs.org.uk

Last year was our best ever Plant Sale and we are seeking every member's help to make it a similar success this year. We received a really wide range of small to very large items including raised planters, fence panels, polycarbonate sheeting and a petrol strimmer as well as a good selection of plants. As you can see, we are happy to **accept all types of suitable items and plants**.

Donations can be dropped off at the Trading Hut on any Saturday or Sunday between 10am and 12pm from this week onwards (particularly if you are going to be away on holiday) but **towards the end of April and beginning of May would be helpful for managing our storage space**.

Over the next few weeks you may be undertaking a Spring clear-out around the house including the shed & garage. Please consider setting aside anything that could contribute to our Bring & Buy Sale. **Here are a few examples to prompt ideas, but the range of suitable items to donate is clearly much more:**

GARDENING and INDOOR ITEMS

Tools, Watering Cans, Hoses, Vases, Plant Holders, Troughs, Seed Packets and other Gardening Accessories and Miscellaneous items.

PLANTS

The event is still 6 weeks away so this is the perfect time for bringing on plants in time for the sale. While you are sowing your seeds, please do consider starting a few more.

Vegetables are extremely popular and some easy to grow examples are tomato, cucumber, pepper, sweetcorn, courgette and squash. Pots or module grown seedlings of Peas, Beetroot, Runner beans and French Beans will be at the right size if sown during the next fortnight. There were many other types of vegetables last year, including some unusual ones, so all types will sell well.

All kinds of bedding flowers and flowering bulbs are most welcome. If you have shrubs and other plants in the garden which can be divided up, then pot them up in the next couple of weeks so they can establish nicely. Strawberry runners should be ready for potting up too. Seeds such as nasturtium, calendula, rudbeckia, marigold and sunflower, for example, can be sown right now.

HOUSEPLANTS

If any indoor plants have outgrown your home or you have others that you want to simply give up, then please do donate them. Anything in good condition will be well received.

LABELLING

Where possible please can you add a label to identify the plants you are donating if it's not very obvious what they are. There were a few examples of houseplants & shrubs last year which turned into "guess the plant". Many people also like to know the actual variety or type of plant, for example: tomato (moneymaker), lettuce (cos), French bean (cobra) so please identify where possible. We will have spare labels available if required.

CAKES & BAKES

Please confirm if you are able to bake a cake, brownies or cookies for our refreshments stall. We are lucky to have so many members who are expert bakers and your homemade treats are always a highlight at the sale.

VOLUNTEERS

The sale takes quite a lot of effort to co-ordinate and manage so if you have just an hour or two available on 17th May then please offer your support for any of these following times.

The day is divided into 4 parts: setting up 8.45 to 10.00 am, manning the sale tables in **either** of two shifts from 10.00 to 12.00pm and 12.00pm to 2.00pm; then clearing up/putting away tables etc. 2.30pm to 3.30pm

POSTER & PUBLICITY

A poster with information about the sale is attached. Please share this with friends & family or even print a copy to pin on noticeboards where it would be suitable/acceptable.