

# SOUTH EAST ESSEX ORGANIC GARDENERS

NEWSLETTER NO: 116 – JULY 2014

<http://seeog.org.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Southendfoodgrowersandproducers>

[https://www.facebook.com/?ref=tn\\_tnmn#!/groups/43705483846/](https://www.facebook.com/?ref=tn_tnmn#!/groups/43705483846/)

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**Soil Association**

SEEEOG was formed in 1994, to promote the principles of organic gardening by:

- Composting organic waste
- Protecting wildlife
- Reducing pollution
- Encouraging species diversity

Membership is currently £8.00 per annum, £12.00 family.

Is your local school a member of SEEEOG? If not, we offer free membership on receipt of application form!

*"If you grow food in a way that exploits natural capital, diminishes soil fertility, causes emissions that lead to climate change, pulverizes biodiversity, and causes rainforest destruction, you don't pay for any of that damage. We are living in a completely rigged economic system, where the polluter doesn't pay and where farmers who deliver positive benefits to health and the environment, who create jobs, who reduce emissions while building soil carbon, who produce food while coexisting with biodiversity, get no financial reward."*

*Patrick Holden, former director of the Soil Association and Founding Director of the Sustainable Food Trust discusses the claim that food grown with sustainable farming practices costs more.*

<http://sustainablefoodtrust.org/about-us/>

## Venue

The Cheryl Centre, Growing Together Community Gardens, 47 Fairfax Drive, Southend-on-Sea SS0 9AG (corner of Fairfax Drive and Prittlewell Chase) - please let us know if you have difficulty with transport and we will try to help.

Housekeeping notes: unless stated otherwise, our speakers start at 8.00pm, but Growing Together is open from 7.00pm to allow members to change their books, etc. The next committee meeting is on Thursday 17 July, 7.30pm at Ron's. Please notify Graham Oster-Ritter at [grahamoster@btinternet.com](mailto:grahamoster@btinternet.com) if you wish to receive your newsletter by post/email, or to change your email address.

For future reference, our newsletter copy 'deadlines' are as follows, but please do not wait until the last minute! September newsletter: Sunday 31 August; November newsletter: Friday 31 October

## Joan Wills

We are sad to report that Joan, Ron's predecessor, died last month. Joan joined SEEEOG around March 1997 and was a keen and enthusiastic supporter until failing health forced her to resign in 2006. She fully supported all our fund-raising events: our annual plant sale in her front garden (plus lunch for all helpers at end of sale) and by growing plants for our farmers' market sales. Joan and George picked damsons in Violet's garden for many years and made jam to sell. On one occasion, we remember Joan and George helping out at one of the Rochford Farmers' markets - and bagging and selling plums non-stop!

Joan believed life was for living, regardless of her health, and supported homeopathy as well as many other causes. She was strongly committed to her family - an extremely kind and helpful person - and popular with all who knew her. She will be missed.

## SEEEOG Group Nights/Events

Our AGM starts at 7.30pm sharp on Monday 21 July and we look forward to seeing as many members as possible at Growing Together. The month of July is also the time when we must think about our subscription renewals (and even introducing a friend, relative or neighbour, perhaps?)

For those who like to support allotment events, the Manchester Drive Allotment Society's Open Day is on Sunday 31 August, 11am - 4pm and the Westcliff Land Cultivation Society's Summer Show at Springfield Drive Allotments, Westcliff-on-Sea, is on Sunday 7 September from 2.00pm.

## **Saturday 5 July, 1.00pm – SEEOG's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

Around a dozen people have put their names down for the picnic lunch hosted by the Braintree Organic Gardening Club at the home of Sally and Tony Dunn, two of their most long-standing members. We should have a very enjoyable time meeting some of their members and perhaps pick up tips from each other about running our respective groups. [http://www.ballaglass.co.uk/Ballaglass/Contact\\_us.html](http://www.ballaglass.co.uk/Ballaglass/Contact_us.html)

## **Monday 21 July**

Please note that we will be holding our AGM at 7.30pm sharp (or as soon as we can set up!) before Kathryn's presentation at 8.00pm. Our AGM is usually brief but it is your forum for commenting on how SEEOG is performing and what you wish to see happening in the following year.

### **AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of last AGM
3. Chairman's report
4. Treasurer's report, as follows:

*I am pleased to report that finances seem to be in a healthier position than last year. Our income was £981.18 and our expenditure £919.17 so we have not spent more than we paid in, which we did last year. However, the amounts are lower; we have had no coach trips and we have made no donations apart from our GO membership.*

*Membership of the club is more buoyant and we have also done very well on sales at meetings and Farmer's Markets. This is very much thanks to Vic and Carole who have done a good trade on nuts, potatoes and apples. The cost of the newsletter has been reduced as many members now receive it by email and the number of pages has been reduced. Finally our Potato Day was very successful and made us a profit of £208.68, so with the money left over from last year we can add £564.06 to our account which means we have a healthy balance at the start of our coming year of £2,241.48.*

5. Election of Officers
6. Election of Committee Members
7. Any other business, followed at 8.00pm sharp by 'River of Flowers'

And at 8.00pm Kathryn Lwin, the founder of River of Flowers, will describe how her social enterprise works with communities to create a trail or 'rivers' of wildflowers in urban spaces as forage for bees, butterflies and other pollinators, responsible for pollinating a third of the food on our tables. Kathryn will be giving a talk called 'Feed the Bees that Feed Us', recommending which wildflowers to plant in spaces such as verges, gardens, hanging baskets, with vegetables and under fruit trees, and explaining how to plant in 'bee pastures' and create bee homes as shelter for wild bees.

<http://www.riverofflowers.org/city/southend-sea/about-our-river>

## **Monday 15 September**

Natural Beekeeping' presented by Spencer Christie, Lauriston Farm, Goldhanger. Situated right on the Blackwater Estuary, just outside Goldhanger, Lauriston Farm's 225 acres are managed using biodynamic organic techniques and philosophy inspired by Rudolph Steiner's agriculture lectures from 1924. The farm is home to Rare Breed cattle and sheep, bee hives, laying hens, vegetables and woodland. Eighty-five percent of the farm is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Within this, there are also two listed ancient monuments.

## **Saturday 11th October: Apple Day at St Laurence Orchard, 11am to 3pm**

## **Monday 17 November**

Danielle Perkins, Chairman, East Essex Smallholders Group. Formally constituted in July 2011, they are a group of micro farmers who operate different size "smallholdings"; some of them have a few backyard chickens, maybe some grow a few fruit or vegetables, while others may have a pig, small herds/flocks of sheep or even a cow (named Tilly!)

## **Monday 15 December**

An oasis in Benfleet and the last of its kind: Mo Perkins and Hilltop "Pick Your Own" Fruit Farm. Her land is not easy to farm because of the steep slopes, but a visit to her hidden valley is a refreshing and rewarding experience.

## Allotment news

The e-petition 'Tell Eric Pickles that allotments must not be sold off!' signed by you recently reached 18,821 signatures and a response has been made to it.

As this e-petition has received more than 10,000 signatures, the relevant Government department have provided the following response: An e-petition has been suggesting that the Department for Communities and Local Government is examining plans to remove council duties to provide allotments. This is completely untrue and has no basis in fact.

In 2011, the Government compiled a list of statutory duties that councils must follow, but Ministers made very clear to Parliament there were no plans to change any of the duties on allotments (<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110524/text/110524w0008.htm#1105257001663>). This remains the case.

Local authorities continue to have a specific responsibility for the management and provision of allotments in their area, ensuring those who want to start an allotment can do so. There are no plans to change this, and the e-petition's claims are simply false.

In January 2014, the Department published Allotment Disposal Guidance: Safeguards and alternatives (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/allotment-disposal-guidance-safeguards-and-alternatives>), replacing the previous guidance from 2002. The new guidance strengthens allotment protection, as the requirement for waiting lists to be taken into account must now be rigorously applied to all that council's waiting lists, not just the waiting list for the site to be disposed of. This aims to ensure that poorly maintained sites are not used to justify disposal.

The Government has introduced a range of measures to help communities who want land to grow fruit and vegetables. Through new community rights, local residents have increased opportunities to protect existing allotments from development and increase provision of green spaces. For example, in Thame, in Oxfordshire, their new neighbourhood plan will create an additional hectare of allotment land. Allotments have also been listed as assets of community value.

As part of our commitment to supporting local community groups, the Department has also published a best practice guide for community groups wanting to find land to grow fruit and vegetables <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/space-for-food-growing-a-guide>

An additional guide on establishing community orchards and other spaces for food growing is at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/community-orchards-a-how-to-guide>). This e-petition remains open to signatures and will be considered for debate by the Backbench Business Committee should it pass the 100,000 signature threshold.

However, you may wish to write to your MP again after reading the following:

### Pickles approves 59 allotment sales

Communities Secretary Eric Pickles has approved 59 applications by councils to sell allotment sites to make way for development, it has emerged. Local authorities are required by law to receive the Secretary of State's approval to sell allotment land and are also supposed to provide displaced holders with new land. Hilary Benn, the shadow Communities Secretary, told the Daily Telegraph: *"These are the green lungs of our communities and growing your own salad and vegetables is a good way of getting exercise, keeping costs down and helping family budgets. That's why they need to be protected."* <https://uk.news.yahoo.com/pickles-approves-59-allotment-sales-221559867.html#dsx7ITG>

### Are allotments the key to farming sustainably?

Soils under Britain's allotments are significantly healthier than intensively farmed soils, according to the researchers from the University of Sheffield behind a set of new findings. An increase in urban allotments could help us meet the rising demand for food throughout the world, without damaging the Earth's soils, the Sheffield researchers claim.

<http://www.soilassociation.org/sustainablefoodcities>  
Farming Online (29 April 2014)

Hockley Parish Council has formed a little sub-committee to oversee their allotment project brief which met for the first time at the end of April. It is now in the process of identifying further pieces of land and arranging visits to neighbouring allotment sites.

## **Crapes Fruit Farm**

It was a delight to visit the farm again and to 'meet' Ben for the first time. So much information, so much detail to absorb and to remember when we got home! In the end, we stopped off at Fordham for a spot of lunch, being recommended by the pub we first visited (which is having a complete makeover, kitchen closed, etc). Andrew said he enjoyed his Saturday morning with us and was pleased to have so much to exchange on matters growing. The weather was most obliging, though the cold winds the previous day would not have been appreciated by the cherries. You can read more at

<http://crapes.wordpress.com/author/crapes/>

Ben's Diploma site is at: <http://dreadbensdiploma.weebly.com/index.html> - just hover over Projects at the top of the screen to view each of one.

## **Farmers' Markets 2014**

These are the two markets where we have a stall and always appreciate help, produce and plants where available!

**Leigh-on-Sea** in Leigh Community Centre, Elm Road: Friday 18 July, Friday 15 August, Friday 19 September, Friday 17 October, Friday 14 November and Saturday 20 December from 9:00 – 12:00

**Rochford** in the WI Hall, Market Square on (Saturday) 5 July, 2 August, 6 September, 4 October, 1 November and 6 December from 09:30 – 12:00

## **Friends of Cherry Orchard Park's Apple Day: Sunday 28 September**

Apple Day is from 11am until 4pm.

They told us they hope to have a time during the day when interested people can gather in the orchard to find out about the different varieties of traditional Essex apples that are planted there. It won't be a walk as such.

SEEOG members Maiké and Gerhard have agreed to bring different varieties of apples to taste, offer an identification service, and if they have some to spare they said they would bring extra. There will be an apple press and demonstration, with tasting, but they don't think there will be enough to sell.

This is the first time we have been invited to this all-day event, which is why we are now appealing early for items to sell and folks on hand to help sell them! We shall be outside, which means we may well have to scrounge for a gazebo, depending on the weather forecast!

As you'll see if you look at their website, the young trees were purchased from the East of England Apples & Orchards Project nursery, an organisation which is dedicated to the restoration of our county's orchards.

The young apple trees are grafted onto a root stock, referred to as one or two letter M's (these refer to Malling and Merton, the research nurseries that developed the rootstocks) and a number which will refer to the final height and vigour of the grafted tree. Their apples are on MM106; this will give the trees good support, with no need for a permanent stake, and a final height of around 10 to 12ft. The pears are on Quince A stock and the cherries on Colt stock.

The cherry trees, a mix of East Anglia varieties, will be planted outside the main orchard to create an area to picnic and play and you may also enjoy the fruit if you can get to it before the birds!

You can continue reading at: <http://www.friendsofcherryorchardpark.org/the-orchard.html>

## **Garden Organic news**

Our Group copy of their Annual Review will be available for you to read at Growing Together – and please do because they would love to hear your views on the new style of this publication. In response to previous feedback from their readership, they have now made it three times larger so that they can provide much more in-depth coverage of their work. You will find detailed explanations of their organic growing programmes, education projects, campaigns, Heritage Seed Library and research initiatives. And you can read a series of features on key issues and successes for them in 2013. Articles include:

- The wonderful work of our volunteer mentors
- Impact of the Garden Organic Master Gardener programme
- Learning to grow organically
- Horticultural therapy flourishes
- Fighting for an organic future
- Bees – understanding the current situation

## **Garden tips from the Chelsea Physic Garden**

Nematodes, a type of roundworm, are applied to the soil and parasitize slugs, reducing their feeding activity. Snails are hampered by circles of wool clippings, known as daggings. Aphids are a problem for plants in most temperate regions. They treat them by spraying a non-toxic soap-based product, which blocks the insect's respiratory pores. Ferns can develop fungal infection, impeded by better air circulation and leaf removal. Mealybug is a common glasshouse problem; this fluffy sap-sucker can be treated by a parasitic wasp which lays eggs in the pest, mummifying the mealybug into a pale husk. Sap-sucking leafhoppers are a common invader and can be treated with parasitic wasps or non-toxic soap-based sprays. This website will take you to The Organic Gardening Catalogue should you wish to buy any of the products mentioned above:

[http://www.organiccatalogue.com/Pest-Control/c61/index.html?](http://www.organiccatalogue.com/Pest-Control/c61/index.html?osCsid=536e8997d467bf4d5714b0bb09d8cd3c)

[osCsid=536e8997d467bf4d5714b0bb09d8cd3c](http://www.organiccatalogue.com/Pest-Control/c61/index.html?osCsid=536e8997d467bf4d5714b0bb09d8cd3c)

With thanks to Pat for sending us this information.

## **GM Watch Review**

For those who want to find out a lot more, there are plenty of GMO information leaflets available on their website:

<http://www.gmwatch.org/files/10-reasons-we-dont-need-GM-foods.pdf>

You can also read their evidence-based examination of the claims made for the safety and efficacy of genetically modified crops: GMO Myths & Truths at:

<http://gmomythsandtruths.earthopensource.org/>

Website: <http://www.gmwatch.org>

## **Manure, Ashingdon**

Mandy Chaplin's free rotten manure is a mixture of horse, donkey, goat and pig. Her animals are fed an organic diet. You can help yourself to as much or as little as you want. Please ring Debbie on 07449 314 914.

## **Members' contributions**

Some of you may remember our visit to Copped Hall in July 2007. Well, Jane found this in a Tate gallery memo about paintings to be displayed again:

[http://www.tate.org.uk/art/images/work/T/T07/T07555\\_10.jpg](http://www.tate.org.uk/art/images/work/T/T07/T07555_10.jpg)

After some research Alan Cox, the Administrator, told us that the painting and its companion used to hang in the Billiard Room at Copped Hall. He was offered the two paintings in 1996 and they were purchased by the Tate soon afterwards.

<http://www.coppedhalltrust.org.uk/>

A bit off beam on this, so Simon reckons, but may be of interest to SEEOG members - one of his photos of El Alamein was used in this month's Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) newsletter - see <http://www.cwgc.org/learning-and-resources/newsletter.aspx>

A while back he and Mary stayed in Alexandria and visited the Bib Alex Library (amazing), meeting Egyptian library colleagues etc. By the way, the opening Southend and The Great War programme is out now and tickets are on sale - for more information, visit [www.theforumsouthend.co.uk/events](http://www.theforumsouthend.co.uk/events) or pick up a print copy at any library in the Borough.

## **Members' feedback**

We would like to ask SEEOG members if they have any comments or suggestions regarding the club. Please give or email to Carole.

Are there any topics for talks or speakers that you would like to suggest, as we are now preparing our calendar of talks for next year?

Are there any activities you would like to promote within the group?

If we started a member's spot in the newsletter with questions, observations and tips, would you be interested in reading and contributing to it? (This could also include offers and wants)

Is there anything else? Would a visit to the Chelsea Physic Garden next year be well supported?

## **New members**

When you join SEEEOG, not a lot will happen in the beginning. If you join on Group Night, you can collect a current newsletter from Carole, our Secretary. Alternatively, you can download a newsletter from SEEEOG's website at <http://seeog.org.uk/resources-information/newsletters/> - our website will also give you lots of useful information. In future, you will receive a newsletter bi-monthly either by email or post. We do not issue receipts or membership cards at present in order to keep down costs.

## **Potato blight – there's no need for GMOs**

As a new blight resistant GM potato has arrived on the market, pressure for the EU to relax regulation on genetically modified crops is gaining momentum. But in the rush to celebrate another GM innovation, the existence of non-GM blight resistant varieties has largely been overlooked by the mainstream media.

The Ecologist (10 June 2014)

[http://www.theecologist.org/blogs\\_and\\_comments/Blogs/2386292/potato\\_blight\\_theres\\_no\\_need\\_for\\_gmos.html](http://www.theecologist.org/blogs_and_comments/Blogs/2386292/potato_blight_theres_no_need_for_gmos.html)

<http://www.soilassociation.org/gm>

## **SEEEOG library**

Please contact Sue if you wish to change your books. Any book may be borrowed by members at a cost of 20p per book for each 2-month period. There are also back copies of The Organic Way, the PAN journals, the Soil Association's Living Earth and the Norfolk Organic Group's newsletters. We have two new books in stock: 'Good Earth Gardening' by Tim Foster and 'The Complete Book of Vegetables, Herbs & Fruit' (donated).

## **SEEEOG website**

John Tate has kindly provided two new links, under Local Suppliers and Local Links: Modern Mint (aka SEEEOG member Darren Lerigo) are now offering an 'Organic Topiary' service - if anyone has a pruning job (perhaps a wisteria that has got out of hand?) that needs attention, please do let them know and they will take a look.

<http://seeog.org.uk/local-suppliers/>

<http://seeog.org.uk/links/>

Have a look also at Kamil's Southend in Transition Community Allotment photos on the home page, plus Simon's Library Flowers, Dig for plenty and El Alamein – very many thanks for sending these in!

## **Soil Association news**

Commenting on the decision by the EU to allow Member States to go GM free, Peter Melchett, Soil Association policy director said:

“Most English farmers now face a looming threat to their business. The decision is likely to leave English farmers at a huge economic disadvantage. If so, it would be catastrophic for all farmers in England – not just organic farmers.

“This decision now has to be agreed by the European Parliament, and there are currently no GM crops authorised for use in the EU that can be grown in England.

“However, in future a committed pro-GM Secretary of State like Owen Paterson could take the decision to make England a 'GM country', and once that decision is taken, and GM crops are established, it will be extremely difficult for any future Government to adopt a different position. Indeed, the current proposal suggests that it may be legally very difficult for future governments to disallow a GM crop once it has been agreed for that country.”

You can continue reading at <http://www.soilassociation.org/news/newsstory/articleid/6883/soil-association-reaction-to-eu-decision-to-allow-member-states-to-go-gm-free>

## **Soil testing**

Logan Labs, based in Ohio, was recommended by Andrew Tann when we visited his farm in May.

<http://www.loganlabs.com/contact-us.html>

## **South Essex Natural History Society**

SEEEOG member Pat has been involved with SENHS for as long as we've known her. The Society was formed in 1934 as a direct result of the move to have Hadleigh Great Wood preserved as a nature reserve for the enjoyment of future generations. The aims are to further the study and conservation of the flora and fauna, particularly in South Essex, and to interact with the community to create an awareness of the

importance and benefit the public of local wildlife. The Society takes an active interest in local affairs relating to natural history. It holds meetings both indoors in Southend and outdoors to which the general public are invited.

If we are to continue to protect our natural heritage, they need our support. Membership is open to anyone interested in natural history or who wishes to learn more, which you can do by visiting their website at <http://www.essexinfo.net/senhswildlife/>

### **Southend in Transition Community Allotment**

The SiT plot can bring so many yields. Apart from the obvious food growing possibilities - people coming together to learn new skills and make new friends -we would like to contribute to the wider research efforts around food growing techniques, biodiversity and anything else which pops into the creative minds of the crew. One such opportunity arose with the Big Worm Dig organised by Riverford. Designed to give more attention to the important (and cuddly!) earthworms, and help researchers gather data, we got to work as set out in the pictures on the SEEORG website. We had one result! A lovely Blue-grey worm *Octolasion cyaneum* - Violet with orange saddle and yellow tail tip - or at least that is what we think we found. Amazing the diversity of colours and features a worm can take. Hopefully in the future we will know our worm from others. Results were submitted and we continued the work on the greenhouse, which has a base now, the frame is screwed onto it and glass panels are being fitted. One more session and we might have a home for our tomatoes.

You can read more at <http://sitcommunityallotment.wordpress.com/2014/06/07/big-worm-dig-results-and-greenhouse-in-place/>

### **The Oak Tree Low Carbon Farm: Saturday 27 September, 2.00pm**

We have the great opportunity to join them for their Guided Farm Tour, which is Suffolk's First Community Supported Agriculture Farm. The address is Playford Lane, Rushmere-St-Andrew, East Ipswich. To join the tour costs a minimum donation (to their not for profit, social enterprise, farm) of £5 per adult – please bring cash on the day. Wood fired tea or coffee (and biscuits) included. They expect to have finished by 4pm at the latest. <http://www.the-oak-tree.co.uk/tour-of-the-oak-tree-low-carbon-farm/>

### **Thundersley Ramblings on the BBC with Eileen Peck**

If you missed this BBC radio 4 programme, first broadcast on Thursday 22 May, do have a listen! There's a watery theme to this new series of Ramblings, as Clare Balding walks along rivers, lakes and streams. In this first programme we find her exploring part of the Thames estuary in Essex, with local enthusiast and SEEORG member, Eileen Peck. Eileen's written a book of local walks around her village of Thundersley trying to encourage locals to enjoy walking in their own area, rather than feeling they have to travel further afield.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006xrr2/episodes/player>

### **Trust Links update June 2014**

Both Growing Together projects in Westcliff and Shoeburyness are blossoming.

In Westcliff, we now have six chickens that are enjoying the care and attention received from our volunteers, members and visitors. Please let us know if you are interested in joining our weekend watering and chicken care rota – you can get free eggs and veg in return! The herbaceous border has been re-done so we have lots of beautiful perennials for sale along with our vegetables and locally produced chutneys.

Our Shoeburyness site is coming on very well. A very large pond has been dug, and is being filled, and we are encouraging more wildlife and wild flowers. There are two days per week for adults with mental health problems and learning disabilities, two weekly school groups, a new youth group on a Monday evening and we are introducing a women's only group on a Wednesday afternoon. We are going to be constructing more raised beds over the next few months as the vegetable harvest grows and grows!

Upcoming events include:

- Wednesday 9th July at 2 pm, Afternoon Tea with Southend Mayor in aid of Southend Community Fund at Growing Together Westcliff (SS0 9AG). £10 per ticket please call 07935 334813 to book
- Saturday 26th July, Saturday 6th September and Saturday 25th October all at 1.00 pm – 3.30 pm, Community Garden Day at Growing Together Shoeburyness (SS3 9RZ) open to all
- Thursday 24th July coach trip to Cressing Temple and Hanningfield Reservoir £10 – please call 01702 213134 or email [office@trustlinks.org](mailto:office@trustlinks.org) to book
- Saturday 11th October at 11 am to 3 pm, Apple Day at St Laurence Orchard, Eastwoodbury Lane

We welcome visitors at other times and Growing Together Westcliff is open Monday to Friday 9 am to 4 pm.

Please take a look on our website at [www.trustlinks.org](http://www.trustlinks.org) to view films of some of our members talking about their experiences of the projects and also our schools programme. For more information on any of the above please call 01702 213134.

Matt King, Chief Executive

## Websites & information

1. The UK Soil Observatory (UKSO) provides a unified starting point for accessing UK soils data and underpinning research, with the specific objective of providing these data for free where possible. Such access to fully described datasets will allow users to access information for novel research, for public and private decision making and for general interest groups.

<http://www.ukso.org/about.html>

2. For the benefit of our new members, Yalding Organic Gardens started with the generous gift of 10 acres of land, and a sum of money in trust, from Donald and Pixie Cooper, who owned an organic farm at Yalding; with the intention of setting up a display garden for the Henry Doubleday Research Association – now Garden Organic. You can read more of Yalding's background history at <http://www.foyog.org/>

## SEEOG Committee

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