

Elaine interviews: Maggie about the AIKB “Potato competition”

- Elaine So Maggie thank you very much for taking time out to talk to us. Er now can you spill the beans or should I say spill the spuds about this potato competition. When and why did you decide to do it?
- Maggie Well erm I like going to the monthly open gardens and they had a slot for August and I volunteered to do it but my garden's a bit bare in August erm we've only been here five years and I haven't quite got the hang of it yet, er too much to do. So I thought okay you can come to my garden but it needed a focal point and I thought it would be fun if we ran a potato competition to see who could grow the heaviest weight of potatoes in a bag.
- Elaine So what do you need to do to get started?
- Maggie It's quite simple you can put it in a bag, any bag, a shopping bag, you can get special bags, just one bag about five litres and just fill it up with compost and look after it. Put one potato in there when it's been chitted and water and feed it and it will produce a lot of potatoes
- Elaine Excellent. So people can actually follow the instructions then on the AIKB email that went out about it?
- Maggie That's a good way to do it if you've no idea at all
- Elaine If you're not a potato grower?
- Maggie Absolutely it will give you a good idea.
- Elaine And then you'll get hooked on it
- Maggie Lots of bags
- Elaine And how long does it actually take then for the maybe for the potato to grow from the chitting stage?
- Maggie Well the chitting is a bit slow sometimes but at this time of the year it should be okay, um four fourish plus weeks and then the er potatoes can start to develop and take about ninety days
- Elaine So that's around about in time for the competition which is going to be judged when?
- Maggie On actually it's at the garden open afternoon on Thursday 21st August so it's the end of August
- Elaine So they've just about got
- Maggie Just about

- Elaine Time to do it. Right get the skates on. Um And how will you choose the winner, a bit like judging the best baby competition?
- Maggie Well it's not necessarily the most beautiful, just the heaviest crop
- Elaine So the biggest potato will have a smile on it's face
- Maggie Well yes hopefully it will be a pretty one. You should have lots you should have several pounds of potatoes, yeah
- Elaine Yeah and what about the prize?
- Maggi There might be a booby prize but there definitely will be a prize but we haven't quite decided exactly what, we're going to find something, something hopefully relevant
- Elaine To a potato
- Maggi To a potato
- Elaine And to Brittany
- Maggie Or to Brittany and enjoying a potato. A bag of salt?
- Elaine Yes. Erm And when and where will the judging take place?
- Maggie It'll be in my garden, yes the same afternoon
- Elaine On the same afternoon August 21st
- Maggie Yes
- Elaine Okay. And your garden is where?
- Maggie It's in Gouarec, get the details from AIKB if you don't know where it is just google it and look online. You can either send an email or contact Sarah who runs the office there and she'll send out, if you're are able to come, she'll send out a sheet with all the full instructions on there. Elaine
And that will also apply then to people who are not members of AIKB and won't have seen this email about the competition?
- Maggie Yes because er members of AIKB who have said yes they want to come will be given that, will have already seen that sheet so if you haven't seen it that's the best way to get it.
- Elaine Okay. So we'll tell people, listeners out there if you do not belong to AIKB then ask Sarah, get in touch with Sarah at AIKB by going, googling the website.
- Maggie Erm yes

- Elaine Erm and and they will also find all the instructions, okay. So, well thank you very much Maggie and is there anything else you would just like to add?
- Maggie I don't think so.
- Elaine Right thank you very much.
- Maggie Thank you.
- Elaine That's great.