WELCOME TO BLOG NUMBER 9

WELL, IT’S NOW 8 WEEKS AND COUNTING AND WE HAVE HAD A VERY LITTLE BIT OF A RELAXATION IN THE RULES, BUT AS PAUL DANIELS USED TO SAY “NOT A LOT”. ANYWAY WE ARE KEEPING OURSELVES QUITE BUSY BUT WOULDN’T IT BE SO MUCH NICER IF WE COULD GO OUT TO THE SHOPS AND BROWSE WITHOUT IMPOSING ON FRIENDS OR FAMILY TO GO AND DO OUR SHOPPING FOR US?

THE WEATHER THIS WEEK HAS BEEN QUITE A SHOCK TO THE SYSTEM, SEVERAL DAYS WITH A STRONG, COLD NORTHEASTERLY WIND OFF THE SEA, FOLLOWED BY SOME NASTY FROSTS ON WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, RESULTING IN ME RUSHING UP TO THE ALLOTMENT TO PROTECT THE NEW POTATOES. FORTUNATELY NOT TOO MUCH DAMAGE WAS DONE, BUT OTHER PEOPLE WHO HAD NOT COVERED THEIR POTATOES HAVE SUFFERED BADLY FROM THE FROST AND THEIR POTATOES ARE BLACK AND SHRIVELLED.

SOME DIFFERENT PICTURES THIS TIME, I HOPE YOU ENJOY THEM

JEREMY
SOME PICTURES TAKEN BY WENDY BUTCHER, THE FIRST IS OF HER BACK GARDEN, WITH HER MAGNIFICENT Ceanothus IN FULL FLOWER. SHE HAS ALSO TAKEN SOME INTERESTING PICTURES ON ONE OF HER WALKS ALONG THE PROM TOWARDS THE FERRY WHILST WALKING HER DOGS.

VALERIAN ON THE LEFT AND A POPPY CLINGING ON IN TINY CREVICES.
MORE FROM WENDY WITH A LOVELY BANK OF POPPIES OUTSIDE THE BEACH HUTS, AND SEA CABBAGE WHICH IS NOW LOOKING WONDERFUL ON THE SHINGLE

HAVING SEEN WENDY’S PICTURES, WE COULDN’T RESIST GOING AND TAKING SOME MORE, THE SEA CABBAGE; CRAMBE MARITIMA, IS BETTER THAN I HAVE EVER SEEN IT, GREAT HUMMOCKS OF CREAMY WHITE FLOWERS, AND IT’S YOUNG FOLIAGE IS QUITE SPECTACULAR, IT’S ONLY FAULT IS THAT THE FLOWERS ARE EXTREMELY PUNGENT. WHO NEEDS A GARDEN WHEN WE HAVE THIS ON OUR DOORSTEP? THERE ARE LOTS OF OTHER INTERESTING WILD FLOWERS GROWING IN THE SHINGLE AND WE WILL GET SOME MORE PICTURES OF THEM WHEN THEY BEGIN TO FLOWER
MORE FROM SALLY GALLANT’S GARDEN NOW WITH A BLUISH THEME

A VERY PRETTY VERONICA AND A HUMBLE VIOLA WITH NICE DARK FOLIAGE

TWO ALLIUMS, THE ONE ON THE LEFT I FIND VERY INVASIVE BUT THE FLOWERS ARE LONG LASTING AND PURE WHITE
NOW FOR SOME PICTURES FROM
EMMA PITT-STEELE

NO FLOWERS THIS TIME BUT VERY WELCOME VISITORS TO ANY GARDEN KEEPING PESTS AWAY FROM OUR PLANTS. A VERY LUXURIOUS_bug_hotel WITH A RESIDENT RED MASON BEE, THEN MR & MRS BLUE TIT’S SNUG AND WELL FED FAMILY
BACK TO OUR GARDEN NOW, WITH THE VERY LAST TULIP TO FLOWER BUT WORTH THE WAIT IT IS TULIPA SPRENGERI. GOLDEN PETALS IN BUD AND A REAL PILLAR BOX RED WHEN THEY OPEN,

SOME PROPER COTTAGE GARDEN PLANTS; -FOXGLOVES AND GRANNY’S BONNETS
MORE AQUILEGIAS

THIS ONE ON THE LEFT IS STILL AN AQUILEGIA, BUT KNOWN AS THE CLEMATIS FLOWERED VARIETY FOR OBVIOUS REASONS.
NOW FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

AS A YOUNG BOY, MANY YEARS AGO I BECAME FASCINATED BY CACTI, THE INTEREST WANED A BIT AS WE CONCENTRATED ON FEEDING THE FAMILY WITH VEGETABLES AND HAD A GARDEN TO BE KEPT UNDER CONTROL. BUT I HAVE NOW REKINDLED MY INTEREST AND THEY ARE NOW BEGINNING TO FLOWER WELL
MY ALLOTMENT IS COMING ON VERY NICELY NOW AS YOU CAN SEE AND THERE IS NOTHING LIKE HAVING FRESH VEGETABLES PICKED AND THEN EATEN WITHIN A FEW MINUTES

IF ONLY WE COULD HAVE SOME NICE WARM RAIN NOW