

Mondays are my composting days, this was last Monday. Lid off my Blackwall black plastic bin, carpet cover removed to expose worms active in my compost

A close up also shows my spring tails are in abundance, if you have these you have excellent compost, I've also had these 2 years running in one of my raised beds in the garden, top dressing each year with compost, keeping moist and covering, the same environment as my compost bins! Spring tails feed on decaying vegetation and organic matter



Went round to a mate of mine during the week to pay a visit, he supplied Harry Johnson and myself with some pot leeks, Chris Evans...he has the bug! Cheers Chris



Next stop was Harry's place in Essington (shield your yield). Dropped off his leeks and had a few freebies to trial...plus a cuppa and a chin wag



One thing I'm already trialling is this diffuser...thrip have been a pain in the aris for me for a few years



The good thing about this diffuser is you can plug it in or if in the tunnel (no mains power) you can use the batteries incorporated in it. 150ml of the diffuser liquid left on overnight. Here's mine sat in the middle of my produce



Had a reply from my mate during the week...Prince Charles, just talking compost, as you do!



On the plot again today from 1 pm, after finishing down our trading sheds at 3 I then had a couple of hours on my own plot replacing another raised bed, 3rd one! With

this one to get the beds level it's easier to use 3 high scaffolding boards on the bottom of the bed instead of bricks and 2 boards! Getting there, these boards (when dry) are covered in horticultural plastic, meaning they will last at least 30 or more years

Someone took the pee out of my old spirit level saying it was antique! So another trip to Wilko; new level, more black tape for my plastic and some small holed chicken wire for the bottom of my raised beds



Usually got good size plants by now...still no heat on in the greenhouse (getting close though) My onion seedlings are only on their 2nd leaf, you can still see the seed pod. The seedling is taking food from the seed head, when exhausted the seed will drop off!

These plants will have 24 hr lights to catch up, another trial!



A couple of nail makers from the black country. A few of the terraced houses just below us had nail shops on the back of their houses, one chap a couple of months ago dismantled his nail shop! Took some photos can't find 'em...

Another black country woman this time making chain, at least she has shoes!



The black country was known for chains, nails and glass making. On the black country flag; the white glass house, the chain, black; smoke from the foundries and forges, caused by using coal! Red: the glow from the foundries, forges and furnaces

The Midland branch of the NVS have a stand again at BBC Gardener's World Live this year, Sandra is letting me run it this year, I'm also talking daily which I enjoy, so if you're free come along have a nose at our display or to my talk, show runs from June 15th to the 18th

