

## **South Downs Folk Singers**

### **New verses to Sussex Growers' folk song - *The Turmut Hoer***

Worthing heritage is closely woven around its superior climate (see Bradshaw's 1863), excellent for growing horticultural produce & the famed Worthing Tomato.

Malcolm Linfield, whose family were Sussex Mushroom Growers, has researched much of the history and offers guided walks around Broadwater Cemetery highlighting the graves of Nurserymen, Growers and Market Gardeners.

## **The Worthing Grower**

**I be a Worthing Grower, from Sussex I do come  
My family is buried 'ere, you'll find 'em all by name.  
And on a summer's evening towards the end of day  
I take my hoe and away do go, to allotments up the way!**

*Now some delights in digging earth,  
And some delights in raking  
But of all the jobs that I like best, give I the compost making.  
The flies, the flies, the flies get in my compost  
And it's all my eye for I do try to keep 'em out my compost*

**I be a tidy kinda chap and like to heap my muck  
I pile up lots of leafy mould and horse manure for luck  
And when the sun warms up my heap I go to see what's brewing  
Them Brandling worms inside the pile soon gets the mixture stewing**

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**Compost flies** - *Phorids, Sciarids & Cecids* - have long been a problem in mushroom houses where their larvae eat the mycelium growing in compost.

In 1970s/80s a research team from Glasshouse Crops Research Institute (later known as Horticulture Research International) developed a natural biological pest control mechanism using *Nematode* worms. These parasitise the tiny fly maggots of these flies. They have been produced commercially and are still very much in use in Sussex.