

ALLOTMENT NEWSLETTER MAY/JUNE 2015

Plot Inspections

The spring plot inspections have been completed and it looks like most people are looking after their plots really well. Some are looking in full production already as things are growing fast. Sadly so are the weeds and some plots are overgrown and untidy. This can be for various reasons, some folks have moved away and not told us which is unfair on the neighbouring plot holder and anyone on the waiting list who could have had the benefit of a full growing season. Some plots do need a clear sign showing which plot number it is. If the signs are placed in the same position along the row i.e. left hand/right hand side that would be helpful. New signs are available from your site manager if you need one.

The Addition List

Currently plot holders are allowed up to 15 rods. Some plots are larger but there were historic reasons for that. If you would like extra space please put your name on the additions list and if space becomes free close to your plot or you want to move we can get in touch with you.

A Taste of Honey

A bee keeper is coming to give a talk on bee keeping on the 10th June. This is to take place in the orchard area between rows 3 and 5 at 7 p.m. There will be honey to taste afterwards and hopefully a chance to try our own honey. Please bring something to sit on and warm/waterproof clothing.

On the subject of bees, as the warmer weather arrives they get more active. They will not harm you but as with all wild creatures it is worth exercising caution if you notice anything unusual. In the heat of the day when the bees are busiest it is best not to use petrol mowers, strimmers etc. The noise of these machines mimics a hostile swarm, so the bees investigate. This applies to our bees and wild bee colonies that we get from time to time. If you have any concerns please contact the bee keeper (07891321788) or your site manager. Sam the Bee Keeper will give lots of advice and help in the talk in June

Lawn Mowers

The Lawn mower on row 5 has been replaced as it was beyond repair. The new mower is a Husqvarna, a different make from the old one. We will try to get some printed instructions for the new mower, but please ask Martin or Norman for a demo if you are unsure. The grass is growing rapidly at the moment so we need all the mowers to be in good working order.

The shed for the mower on row 5 is being relocated due to its close proximity to the fence. Also it is a bit far away from some people so a central position might be better for everyone. This gives the question – where do we put it. If you can spare a couple of square metres please from your plot to house the shed it would help and we will adjust your rent accordingly. Plus you won't have far to go for the mower. The mower shed on row 30 has a leaky roof so this will need to be repaired as damp mowers are difficult to start and don't last very long.

When the sheds are moved and mended we will fit padlocks to them. These will be the same locks as the gates to make things easier.

The Spud Bucket Challenge

The spud bucket challenge is starting on Sunday 17th May. There are some very enthusiastic children taking part and you can check the progress of their buckets by photographs on the WWAA website (CMPR Section).