

Western Wards Allotment Association

Salisbury Site Managers

Robin Green email - robin.green505@gmail.com

Martin Wheeler e mail – firefly21@hotmail.com

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Salisbury Green Allotment Site – An Autumn Update 2021

Dear Plot Holders,

2021 - Another extraordinary year

In the autumn newsletter published a year ago, I wrote that 2020 had been a most extraordinary year from the weather and pandemic perspective. I am sure you will agree that 2021 year to date has mirrored 2020 with extremes of weather and further COVID 19 pandemic restrictions.

Nonetheless in this period, the Salisbury Green site appearance continues to improve thanks to your efforts. 100% of plots have been let.

Waiting List and Plot Vacancies

There is a 'healthy' waiting list of 20 applicants for plot vacancies at Salisbury Green and another 15 persons interested in joining that list. Where suitable vacancies occur and to ease the pressure, Martin and I have started to create 'mini' plots of just two and a half rods. Unsurprisingly, the first three mini plots on 29a have been 'snapped up'.

Rent Renewal Notices

Martin and I will be sending out rent renewal notices in the second week of September for payment on or shortly after 1st October which is the start of the 21/22 financial year. You will be pleased to note that there is no increase in fees this year.

Salisbury Green Site Projects

General Site Rubbish

Martin and I continue to improve the appearance of the site by removing rubbish and plastics in 'ton bags'. These have been disposed of using Hampshire Waste Disposal Co. This is a more cost effective and efficient means of disposal rather the use and expense of skips.

Scrap Metal

A 'mountain' of scrap metal has been disposed of during the year via a local dealer, Dave (07772 609679). As well as collecting scrap metal, he also supplies water butts if you are in need of one. Call him on his mobile telephone.

Other waste

We continue to find and dispose of vehicle tyres as required by the FBC and, more importantly, properly dispose of broken corrugated asbestos sheets using RH Insulation Services Co Ltd. Proper disposal of asbestos, which has been found on site, is important due to potential serious health risks.

Container

Martin has been the lead on the renovation of the equipment container replacing the leaking roof with new metal sheeting and it is hoped to give the exterior metal work a coat of paint in the autumn to prevent further rusting. Martin has also considerably tidied up the area behind the container removing buried lorry tyres and a 'mountain' of rubbish.

New Equipment

Due to the age of allotment site mechanical equipment and uneconomic repairs constantly required, we now have two new Mountfield mowers and replaced the two new Stihl trimmers. If you are not sure how to use the machines, please ask site managers or another plot holder who knows how to do so.

Barnes Lane Corner Area

We are both grateful to volunteers developing the Barnes Lane 'corner area' with wild flowers and other plants, many of which have been grown for the purpose at home. Thank you for your commitment to the project and I know it will look wonderful next year.

Plot Changes

During this autumn season, we welcome the following tenants:-

- Joint tenants Jason and Julie Hall Plot 8b(2)
- Tina Laurence 11a (2)
- Samantha Place 12a(1)
- Ros Cooper 16b (2)
- Corina Barrett 19a (1)
- Ro McKenzie - Mini Plots 29a (1) and (2);
- Paul Beaumont - Mini Plot 29a (3);
- Julie Roberts Plot - 27a (1);
- Robert Squire Plot - 34a (2).

We wish you all well on these plots.

Leavers

We wish all those who have 'retired' in this period from allotment keeping at Sarisbury well and thank you for your contribution to the site.

Amongst the 'leavers', we say 'farewell' to Mrs Janet Baldwin, plot 27a(1) who after some 33 years at the Sarisbury Green site, has decided to retire from allotment keeping. We wish her well in the future and thank her for her considerable commitment to allotment keeping over many years.

Western Wards Allotment Association

Bi monthly committee meetings

WWAA committee meetings have at last resumed in person, rather than the use of Zoom throughout the COVID restrictions. The first committee meeting in person was held at Victory Hall, Warsash on Tuesday 7th September. Minutes are available from the Secretary Julie Prescott.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The date of the 2021 AGM will be held on Tuesday 23rd November 2021 at St. John's Church Rooms commencing at 7.30pm.

It is important that any agenda items which members may care to raise at the AGM should be sent to the Secretary Julie Prescott (jprescotthr@gmail.com) no later than

1st November 2021. An AGM agenda will be circulated with a copy of the 2020 AGM minutes and the accounts.

Facebook Social Media – ‘Allotment Road’

It is pleasing to note the growing number of plot holders using and contributing to ‘Allotment Road’, our social media account. The moderator, Abigail Harrison, Plot 31B, is always available to advise new plot holders who would like to take part. Abigail’s email address is [‘abigail.attic@gmail.com’](mailto:abigail.attic@gmail.com)

Fareham Borough Council – Cutting external hedges

The external contract hedge cutting was delayed this year due a failure in the FBC cutting equipment - but work has now resumed and the hedge in Allotment Road looks a lot tidier and the roadway and pedestrian footway will be safer.

Tenancy Terms and Conditions Reminders

Bonfires

Thank you to all plot holders for observing the rule which states that bonfires shall not be lit during the months of June, July and August on the allotment site.

Bonfires lit on the allotment site between the months of September to May to burn wood and accumulated rubbish are permitted but should **not be lit** during the daytime:-

- more than two hours before sunset, and,
- as far as possible, ensure that the wind is blowing smoke away from neighbouring properties/dwellings;
- bonfires must be attended when alight and be of a manageable size;
- the burning of plastics, carpets, tyres, MDF and laminated wood is prohibited. A means of disposal will be provided on at least one occasion during the year.

Tidying Plots

As the autumn season is upon us, we also would remind tenants of the need to keep plots tidy in accordance with the tenancy agreement.

The WWAA Jim Lett ‘Trading Hut’ at Hunts Pond Road

John Parsons, the WWAA shop manager has given notice that you will be able to buy garlic, onions and shallots as from the end of September along with broad beans and peas for over-winter planting. The Hut is open on Sundays, from 10.00am until 12.00 noon.

Keep in touch with the shop opening and the range of products available at <https://www.wwaa.org.uk/new/>

Marketing Allotment Keeping and Displays

The Sarisbury ‘Show on the Green’ was held on Saturday 14th August this year (delayed from June due to COVID restrictions). The WWAA marketing stand promoted and supported the Sarisbury Green Community Horticultural Society (HS) by gathering names of those who would like to exhibit at next years horticultural society show. Continuity of the HS exhibition has been lost due to the COVID restrictions and I hope plot holders will support the event next year.

Warsash Garden Show was held on 4th September at Victory Hall. Various vegetable and floral exhibits were submitted by Sarisbury plot holders for judging which attracted a glittering array of prizes for John and Pam Barber, Ben and Maria Kimble, Abigail Harrison and me.

However, without doubt, the star of the show was **Penny Daish Plot 26A** who received a **first prize for her C11 category ‘5 vegetables’ display and the silver cup for ‘Best in Show’**. This is the second year Sarisbury Allotment Site plot holders have won ‘Best in Show’. Penny follows in the footsteps of Abigail Harrison who won the cup in 2019. Congratulations Penny!

Best wishes and happy allotment keeping,

Robin Green and Martin Wheeler
Joint Allotment Site Managers