

## Western Wards Allotment Association

### Salisbury Green Site Managers

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### **Salisbury Allotment Site – Spring Update 2020**

Dear Members,

I am told that spring equinox starts on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. After a very long and wet winter season, let's cross our fingers for some drier and warmer conditions to work on allotment plots. The water supply will be switched back on 1<sup>st</sup> April.

#### **Coronavirus – Message from the WWAA Chairman**

'The rapidly developing coronavirus situation has led to concern amongst plot holders. The WWAA continue to follow Government guidance and monitor daily briefings.

As a community organisation operating locally at five sites throughout the Western Wards, our sites are as safe as practically possible for your enjoyment during this time of worldwide concern.

Understandably, many plot holders are worried about potential isolation restrictions and how this will affect them, but please continue to tend your plots.

Site managers, trustees and the committee will be keeping in touch to support one another and welcome suggestions on anything we can do to help vulnerable members of our community.'

Bob Hughes  
WWAA Chairman

#### **Vacant Plots**

There are currently three **vacant plots** available on the site (Plots 1a (1), 14a and 17a (2)). There are two persons on the 'Salisbury Allotment waiting list' who have specific requirements – and David and I would be pleased to receive any enquiries from interested persons.

#### **New Plot Holders**

We welcome to the Salisbury Allotment Site **9 new plot holders** who have recently joined us during the autumn and winter months:

- Tom Garman (1b),
- Claire Tavender (2a(1),
- Luke Ferrand (2b),
- Mei Wong (3a(1),
- Julia Smyth (3a(2),
- Elle Sambrook (3a(3),
- Ros Cooper (11a(2),
- Julie Prescott 35a(2),
- Steve and Becky Buxton (38a).

You are all very welcome to Salisbury Allotment site and I am sure your allotment neighbours will provide any support you may need.

## **WWAA Annual General Meeting**

Those who attended the AGM in November 2019 will know that the WWAA Chairman, Bob Hughes, advised the meeting that he did not intend to stand as Chair at the next AGM in 2020. He will stand down during the year when another Chair has been nominated and appointed.

The appointment of a WWAA Chair does not have to be a member of the management committee. It is sufficient that the applicant is a plot holder at one of the five WWAA sites. If any member at Sarisbury site wishes to consider serving as the Chair of the WWAA to replace Bob, they are very welcome to put their name forward to the Secretary Mike Roberts at email [mike.roberts51@outlook.com](mailto:mike.roberts51@outlook.com).

## **WWAA Marketing Initiatives**

David, Abigail Harrison (Plot 31B) the WWAA graphic designer and I are pleased to support the WWAA Marketing Sub Committee. The sub committee includes Martin Barnett (Hunts Pond Road) who leads on marketing, the WWAA Chairman Bob Hughes and Rona Neilson and Keith Taylor who maintain and develop the [WWAA website](#). This year, plans for marketing and exhibits include venues at:-

- Sarisbury 'Show on the Green' on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June;
- Sarisbury Horticultural Show, Community Centre on Saturday 8th August, and,
- Warsash Village Garden Show on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

If you would like to take part and support the display or exhibit your own vegetables or flowers in the competition, you are very welcome. Details will be available on the respective [websites](#).

## **'Allotment Road' – Facebook Social Media Group**

The membership of 'Allotment Road' on Facebook continues to grow. If you are unsure how to access our Facebook account but would like to be part of the social media group, please email Abigail for advice on [abigail.attic@gmail.com](mailto:abigail.attic@gmail.com).

## **Improvements to the Site - Building and other Projects**

In December 2019, David and I commissioned the Community Payback Scheme Operatives to clear the perimeter corner area closest to the rear of 26, St Paul's Road and Rose Bank Close.

The work consisted of clearing two disused sheds one of which was constructed with a low level corrugated asbestos roof and a mountain of other non combustible rubbish. The asbestos was removed for safe disposal by experts nominated by Fareham Borough Council. The other rubbish was cleared using a skip.

## **WWAA News**

In November 2019, the AGM members voted in favour of the WWAA applying to the Charity Commission to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. CIO Trustees have been appointed for this purpose and a written application will be submitted to the Charity Commission this year by the Chairman Bob Hughes.

A draft written constitution has been prepared to accompany the application and is published on the Western Wards Allotment Association website for the information of members at:-

[www.wwaa.org.uk/new/news/latest-news/120-charity-status-application](http://www.wwaa.org.uk/new/news/latest-news/120-charity-status-application)

## **Review of the Site**

David and I have again carried out a seasonal review of the entire site. It is that time of the growing year again when I need to draw the attention of all plot holders to a number of key issues in the tenancy agreement.

1. All plots **AND sheds** should have a notice clearly indicating their plot number.
2. Grass edges to pathways should be adequately maintained. Where plots have an adjacent hedge, this should be kept trimmed. We are particularly concerned where grass edges have not been trimmed and maintained. Long grass often conceals holes or obstacles to trip the unwary. This could result in serious injury through trips and falls and I am anxious that persons who walk along grass pathways are kept safe.
3. Allotment plots should be clean, free of pernicious weeds and in a good condition, with at least 80% of the overall plot in cultivation.
4. Plots should not be used to deposit any refuse or unwanted waste.

### **Thank you**

Finally, David and I in our site management roles would like to thank all of you who have provided practical support to us. It is much appreciated.

For our part, we will continue to do whatever we can to ensure Sarisbury Allotment site is a safe, secure, well maintained and a productive site for current and future plot holders.

Happy allotment keeping and best wishes,

**Robin GREEN (Plot 32B) and David WHITLOCK (Plot 9B)**