

Salisbury Site Managers

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WWAA - Salisbury Allotment Site – An Autumn Update

Dear Plot Holder,

Facebook – ‘Allotment Road’

David and I are delighted to support Abigail Harrison of Plot 31B who is managing our new Salisbury ‘Facebook’ account designed to improve communication which you will find by searching ‘Allotment Road’. Plot holders are invited to support it and contribute.

Farm Manure

A number of plot holders have taken advantage of sharing a delivery of well rotted farm manure by Steve, a local cattle farmer at Curdridge. If anyone would also like a trailer load at a cost of £50, Steve can be contacted on 01489 787791. If four tons is too much for one plot holder, why not share a delivery with allotment neighbours?

WWAA Annual General Meeting

The AGM this year was held on 22nd November at St. Mary’s Church Rooms, Warsash. When published by the Secretary, minutes may be found on the WWAA website - <https://www.wwaa.org.uk/new/>.

BBC One Home Cook programme

Growing produce is closely aligned to ‘cooking’. An invitation has been received by the WWAA Marketing Manager from BBC Producers for anyone who would like to apply to be considered for inclusion in the new TV programme ‘Home Cook’. Further details are available from www.britainsbesthomecook.co.uk or call free on 0800 0836 188.

Vacant Plots

As expected a few plot holders retired from allotment keeping during this autumn season. In particular, we wish George Martin, former plot holder of 36B, a happy retirement after 40 years’ allotment keeping at Salisbury. Those who knew George well will miss him. He was devoted to allotment keeping and growing vegetables. I hope he keeps sufficiently well enough to make the journey to see us all from time to time.

New Plot Holders

We continue to enjoy a surge in allotment keeping interest in the area. Indeed during a six month period in 2018, there were a total of 21 persons added to the Salisbury Allotment Site waiting list – whilst that may seem a lot, David and I have been able to accommodate all those applicants who have been keen to lease a plot. At the time of writing, there were just 2 X 5 rod plots available.

We welcome the Salisbury Allotment Site 16 new plot holders who have joined us since the publication of my last summer newsletter:-

John Kyle Plot 1A (1)
Paul Waterhouse Plot 1A (2)
Matthew Leigh and Sal Wright Plot 1D
Reece Cooper Plot 8A (1)
Sue Wheeler Plot 9A (1) and 10A (1)
Chris Barnes Plot 14B (1)
Frances Hill Plot 17A (1)
Terry Walford Plot 22B (1)
Colin Simpson Plot 22B (2)
Sophia Cooper Plot 24A
Dale Fewings Plot 26B
Julie Roberts Plot 27A (2)
Mandy White Plot 29A
Kelli - Marie and Liam Bickerton 33A (1) and 34A (2)
Robert Squire Plot 34A (1)
Peter Hutchison Plot 37A

On behalf of the Western Wards Allotment Association, you are all very welcome to the membership of Sarisbury Allotment Site and I am sure you will receive support if you need it from your allotment neighbours.

WWAA Marketing Campaign

The WWAA continues to market 'allotment keeping' locally. Your Sarisbury managers play a leading part in marketing initiatives. During the summer, WWAA marketing displays have taken place at Locks Heath Shopping Centre on two occasions, Abshot Family Day, Sarisbury Fete, Sarisbury Horticultural Annual Show and Warsash Village Garden Show.

As well as the marketing displays, promotional leaflets have been placed on public and commercial notice boards to attract potential plot holders to allotment keeping.

The WWAA has embarked on giving presentations to community groups on allotment keeping. On Friday 18th October, the first well-supported presentation was delivered to the University of the Third Age members, Locks Heath at St. John's Church by Martin Barnett, HPR and Robin Green Sarisbury. An enjoyable afternoon!

Success at Sarisbury

The Sarisbury Allotment Plot Holders have entered a number of horticultural competitions during the summer period.

I am sure you would join me in congratulating the Sarisbury Junior School Plot 32A, managed by Ben and Maria Kimble (Plot 30B) who have been awarded three silver 'Fareham in Bloom' awards for their allotment and gardening initiatives by the Mayor Susan Bayford and many 1st prizes for vegetables at Curdridge, Sarisbury and Warsash. We are pleased that a number of local companies and organisations have supported the school's allotment keeping venture.

As well as the school's success, Abigail Harrison (Plot 31B) won the Cup for Best in Show at Warsash in September with her magnificent Dahlias grown on the allotment, Lucy Swanbrow (Plot 6B) won the cup for best garden at Sarisbury Horticultural Show and there have been a number of 1st prizes awarded to John and Pam Barber for vegetables at Sarisbury and Warsash and to others. Well done all!

Skip for Sarisbury

A skip will be made available soon. This has been authorized by the WWAA committee but we are having some problems getting one supplied locally which is large enough and at a reasonable cost. This year, it will be deposited on the common area inside the double gates in the middle of the site.

The hire of the skip is designed to dispose of plastics, metals and any other material which cannot be composted or burned. Please ensure that bricks or stones are not placed in the skip.

New Tenancy Agreement

David and I thank you for your co-operation in signing the new Tenancy Agreement. May we remind you please that:-

1. All plots and sheds adopted by plot holders should have a notice clearly indicating their plot number;
2. Grass edges to pathways should be adequately maintained;
3. Allotments should be clean, free of pernicious weeds and in a good condition, with at least 80% of the overall plot in cultivation.
4. Where plots have an adjacent hedge, this should be kept trimmed;
5. Plots should not be used to deposit any refuse or unwanted waste.

Grass Cutting equipment

Where mechanical equipment is needed to cut or 'strim' grass, it will be made available through one of the key-holders who are listed on the door to the container. Otherwise, please contact either of us by e-mail and we will arrange access and issue.

New Equipment - Honda Rotavator

A rotavator with a Honda engine has been purchased by the Sarisbury managers to add to our equipment. This has been stored in the container and plot holders are welcome to make use of it. Where a request is made to use it, we ask for a voluntary contribution of a suggested £5 to pay for the petrol fuel.

Numbering Sheds

It is not at all easy for the ownership of sheds to be identified. It would be helpful if a shed which you own is marked with your plot number.

Site security

Please continue to maintain security of the site by locking the gate after you leave when there is no one else apparently working there. Security of the site is important.

Thank you

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

For our part, we will 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,

Best wishes,

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