

Western Wards Allotment Association

Salisbury Site Managers

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WWAA - Salisbury Allotment Site – An Autumn Update

Dear Plot Holder,

Fareham in Bloom Competition – Gold Medal

Many of you will already know that, following judging for the Fareham in Bloom competition in July, the Salisbury Green Allotment site has been awarded a 'Gold Medal' certificate. This is the first occasion the site has achieved this level of award and I am sure you will all be as delighted as David and I both are with that result. Well done everyone!

Vacancies on the Site

As at the publication date of this newsletter, there was just one plot vacancy, 11a (2). This plot has a spacious chicken hut on it and would be suitable for anyone wanting to keep chickens without going to the trouble and expense of buying or erecting one. Interested persons should contact David Whitlock.

There are five persons listed on the Salisbury Allotment waiting list.

Welcome to New Members

This autumn season, we welcome the following seven new plot holders who have leased plots at Salisbury:-

Christina Amy - 24a (1)

Clementyne Cook - 37b (2)

Callie Faye - 10a (2)

Alex Usher - 24a

Maria Leslie - 29b (2),

Jennifer Stead - 29b (1)

Cheri Hodgson – 17a (2)

We say 'farewell' to David Eves, Plot 29B, who after some 30 years' allotment keeping at Salisbury, has decided to retire and give up his plot. I am sure this was a difficult decision for him, but we wish him well and thank him for his commitment and hard work over many years. We shall miss David.

Defibrillator training

I have been concerned for some time that the nearest heart defibrillator machine is located outside the Salisbury Community Centre. This is at least half a mile distant from the allotment site.

I am pleased to inform plot holders that the Salisbury Junior School has now acquired a defibrillator machine. This has been made available outside the school and is accessible to plot holders, if needed, 24/7.

For those who would like to attend, defibrillator training is being made available on Thursday 10th October between 2.00 to 3.00pm or 5.30 to 6.30pm by Louise Leon, the School Administrative Officer at the Junior School. Robin Green will attend and would welcome any other plot holder joining me at the school to learn how to use the equipment in an emergency. It could save a life.

Sarisbury Athletic and Cricket Club, Allotment Road

Most plot holders will know that Hazel and Andy Oliphant, Secretary and Head Groundsman of the Cricket Club are allotment plot holders at Sarisbury. Hazel has made a generous offer to Sarisbury Allotment Plot Holders that she will provide social membership of the club and bar for a minimal sum provided there is sufficient interest from a group of members. If you would like to join group social membership, please email Robin Green who will collate names for a joint application.

AGM – Thursday 21st November 2019

Just a reminder that the WWAA Annual General Meeting will be held at the St John's Church Centre, Main Hall SO31 6LW on Thursday 21st November 2019 starting at 7.30pm. During the meeting, committee members will 'stand' for re-election. There is also an opportunity for any member to ask questions of the Chair or raise any other business.

The WWAA Secretary, Pamela Beecroft, has decided to give up the secretarial post for personal reasons. If you would like to be considered for this interesting post as a volunteer and possess secretarial skills, please contact Bob Hughes the WWAA Chairman - bob.hughes.uk@gmail.com

Projects

Allotment Building

Many thanks for the professional advice given by Ian Power, a Chartered Surveyor, Plot 13B, in respect of our planned building project. Sarisbury Allotment site will be able to proceed with an application to Fareham Borough Council for planning permission to erect a building with toilet facilities. We now seek WWAA committee approval and professional fund raising to meet the costs. Plot 31A has been kept vacant for this purpose.

Barnes Lane Corner Area

The development of the 'corner plot' adjacent to Barnes Lane continues following clearance of scrap metal, plastics and other rubbish during the Spring season. The site has been levelled during the summer by Mr. Ben Spraggon, a volunteer Digger Driver and has now been subject to 'weed control' processes. When those have been fully completed, it is planned to sow grasses and wild flowers and plant some additional fruit trees and hedging to become an orchard for your enjoyment.

Marketing Allotment Keeping and Displays

Sarisbury managers undertook a marketing display to Sarisbury Junior School parents on Monday 15th July when an 'Allotment Open Afternoon' was held. This was a 'limited opening' of just four hours but very successful with over 100 people visiting the site.

The Sarisbury Horticultural Show at the Community Centre on 10th August was not a success with very limited entries – indeed, had the Junior School not entered so many items for judging, there would have been no show. Allotment managers are consulting with the Society to inject new ideas to promote the event.

Thanks from Martin Barnett, Lead for WWAA Marketing Committee, to those who supported the Marketing Display at Locks Heath Centre on Saturday 25th August.

A 'Seed Swap' was organised and held on Sunday 15th September on the common area opposite the school and it has been decided to re-organise the event in the Spring of 2020.

Local Horticultural Show successes

Many congratulations to the Sarisbury Junior School Plot 32A, managed by Ben and Maria Kimble, who have won numerous prizes for their vegetable and flower exhibits at local horticultural shows at Curdridge, Sarisbury and Alresford during the summer. Very well done!

Plot holders are encouraged by allotment managers to submit entries to Horticultural Shows locally during 2020 and your managers will advertise venues and dates. It's a bit of fun, a chance to win a prize and promotes allotment keeping to the community.

Tenancy Reminders

Thank you to all plot holders for observing the new rule that an allotment bonfire shall not be lit during the months of June, July and August.

Bonfires lit on the allotment site between the months of September to May are permitted but should not be lit during the day:-

- more than two hours before sunset, and,
- 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.

Best wishes and happy allotment keeping,

Robin Green and David Whitlock
Joint Allotment Site Managers