

Western Wards Allotment Association

Salisbury Green Site Managers

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Salisbury Allotment Site – Summer Update 2019

Dear Members,

How quickly the gardening months 'fly by'. It's summer already (although it doesn't feel like it as I write this) and a constant battle to keep the weeds trimmed following the recent rains. However, it's good that the site is looking a great deal tidier and there are some impressive vegetables being grown on plots.

David and I are circulating this summer newsletter to keep you updated with events at the allotment site and related matters.

Vacancies

At the time of writing, there were no plot vacancies on the site.

There are 3 persons on our waiting list wanting a vacant plot.

New Members

We welcome:-

- Ian Bell, Plot 16B(2),
- Kirstie Wood, 22B(1), and,
- Marianne Pope 14B(2)

to allotment keeping at the Salisbury Green site. I am sure that your allotment neighbours will make you feel welcome.

Bonfires

Can we remind you that it is a condition of the new tenancy agreement that there should be no bonfires during the three months of June, July and August. Your co-operation in this regard will be appreciated.

Marketing Initiatives

The Marketing Group exhibited the WWAA display stand at the Warsash Plant Sale at Victory Hall on 11th May. A lot of interest was shown in allotment keeping by attendees.

On 8th June, the marketing group would have held our Open Day on the same day as the Salisbury Community Centre 'Show on the Green'. However, torrential rain flooded the Show ground. The Show has been postponed to a date still to be announced and we shall have an Allotment Open Day when that happens. The 'Open Day' will allow interested members of the public supervised access through the double gates opposite the Junior School to highlight what we do and managers will be there to answer questions.

For those who like a challenge, vegetables grown on the allotment site can be exhibited for judging:-

- On 20th July, Bishops Waltham Gardening Club Annual Show will be held at Little Shoe Lane, BW SO32 1ED – admission £1 – forms for entry may be obtained locally from Martin Barnett, Hunts Pond Road;
- On Sunday 11th August, Salisbury Green Annual Horticultural Show will be held at the Community Centre. Forms for entry are available at the centre.

It's a bit of competitive fun and a chance to support worthwhile community activities.

Slug Pellets - 'Metaldehyde'

From 1st July 2019, I have been advised that there will be a prohibition on the retail sale of blue slug pellets containing Metaldehyde. All stocks held by the WWAA shop must be used up within the 12 month period ending 30 June 2020.

There are, of course, other approaches to slug and snail control available on the market such as those containing Ferric Phosphate and Nematodes, for example Nemaslug. There are other barrier techniques such as copper tape.

Allotment Corner Area - Barnes Lane/ St. Paul's Road

Following clearance of undergrowth by CPBS operatives in March this year, work has taken place to burn the rubbish generated. A mini digger has been used at no cost to level the ground and remove bramble and other roots. A ton of scrap metal and a huge amount of waste plastics and glass recovered from the area has now been disposed of by Waste Merchants.

When the ground levelling process has been completed, we shall now undertake weed control and create a seed bed for grass and wild flowers this autumn, planting additional fruit trees and improving the surrounding hedging.

When completed, the area should provide an 'allotment community' orchard space for plot holder's peaceful enjoyment rather than the jungle it had become.

Building on Plot 31A

Work has been undertaken to clear and tidy up Plot 31A. The space has been rotavated to create a tidy blank canvas, and subject to planning permission, for the development of an appropriate building with toilet facilities.

Best wishes to all,

Robin Green (Plot 32B) and David Whitlock (Plot 9B)

Joint Site Managers