



PARADISE ALLOTMENTS SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Email: paradiseallotgroup@yahoo.com

No.1 May 2020

Aren't we the luckiest of all in this difficult Covid 19 period? Despite the lockdown, we can legitimately carry on tending our plots, enjoying the sunshine and exercise, and even chatting with other tenants, while still observing the social distancing which is so vital at this time.

At last we can plant out tender vegetables; beans, squash, courgettes, pumpkins and marrows!

A big thank you to everyone who has helped or cleared their plots of rubbish. The allotments are now much tidier than they have been for many years.

Well, here we are in tricky times that are rather more serious than we are used to. The challenge is to stay healthy, follow the government guidelines, and to do what we can to look after our plots. Please have a look at the advice from the National Society of Allotment Gardeners which the Parish Council have now joined for us – particularly about not lighting bonfires, barbecues and precautions for not passing the virus on. There is lots of other useful information on their web site. Growing advice is included on what you can do on your allotment on a monthly basis; plant profiles which give some background notes on the different types of fruit and vegetables available to grow and a section on different gardening methods. The website will hopefully provide you with many tips for your plot. <https://www.nsalg.org.uk>

Keep smiling, and good gardening!

A few points for newcomers and reminders for old hands

No Commercial waste of any kind is allowed onto the allotments.

Because of developing the central area no more dumping will be possible in this space. Bonfires can only happen on a small scale on your own plot or as a small group together. The best time for bonfires will be between November and February. All composting must be on your plot or removed from the allotment. There is now nowhere on the site for depositing rubbish. Each plot-holder should dispose of their own by, e.g. composting green waste and removing problem items (old containers, plastic, carpets, rubble, old doors etc.) to your grey bin at home or taken to the recycling centre.

Only tenant holders and their named helpers are allowed onto the allotments.

If you have any issues on the allotment, please try talking to the group first rather than the Parish Council. We might be able to solve it!

Did you know?

An allotment is an area of land, leased either from a private or local authority landlord, for the use of growing fruit and vegetables. In some cases, this land was also used for the growing of ornamental plants, and the keeping of hens, rabbits and bees. An allotment is traditionally measured in rods (perches or poles), an old measurement dating back to Anglo-Saxon times. 10 poles is the accepted size of an allotment, the equivalent of 250 square metres or about the size of a doubles tennis court!

The central area

The central zone is going to be tidied up and a few smaller plots will be added to this space. There will also be a communal social area which we will all be able to use once Covid restrictions are relaxed. We are also looking into getting a community polytunnel. Soon a flower bed will be added to the side of the garage to tidy up this area as well.

Water saving tips

Remember to use water wisely; water in the morning and evening, to avoid most of it evaporating, as it will do in the middle of the day. Run-off from sheds and greenhouse roofs is a valuable source of water and contains lots of trace elements loved by plants. If you have a shed on your plot, you can put up guttering to collect rainwater, and you can link a series of butts with hosepipes/pipes to increase your storage capacity.

New tenants

We would like to welcome the many new plot-holders who have joined over the past few months. We are now nearly full!

Plots 13A and 13B Phil Button

Plots 13C and 14C Deborah Edis

Plot 20A Dawn Pearce

Plot 24A Peter Davis

Jack Walker has moved from Plot 20A to Plot 24B

Plot 24C and Plot 24D Lisa Harris

Plot 25B Tim White

Plot 25C Lydia Bishop

Ideas for our next newsletter

If you would like to contribute or share tips, short stories about your allotment, photographs or good news please email or contact one of the group. Thanks in advance

Your privacy is important to us and we would like to stay in touch with allotment holders in a way which has your consent, and which is in line with UK law on data protection. As a result of a change in UK law, we need your consent to how we contact you. Please fill in the contact details you would like us to use to communicate with you and give the completed form below to one of the group or put into the black suggestion boxes on either gate entrance:

Name _____

Plot Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

By signing this form, you are confirming that you are consenting to the Paradise Allotments Working Group holding and processing your personal data for the following purposes (please tick the boxes where you grant consent): -

I consent to the group contacting me by phone or email.

To keep me informed about news, events and activities at Paradise Allotments by the working group

Signed: _____ Dated: _____

Where you do not grant consent, we will not be able to use your personal data (so for example we may not be able to let you know about forthcoming activities and events).

You can withdraw or change your consent at any time by contacting the Working Group. Please note that all processing of your personal data will cease once you have withdrawn consent.

Working parties

The past winter was the worst we can remember for rain. We eventually started clearing vacant plots in late February!

We are working on an annual programme of maintenance tasks mainly during the winter months, to keep the allotments in good order, and projects will be added to list as they are needed. Some future tasks include clearing plots, central area work, tree and branch removal, path repairs and bindweed attack! So, thanks to all those volunteers and group members who helped with plot clearing and central rubbish removal in February, March and April this year and to those who provided the tea, coffee, biscuits and cakes for the workers. Community help mornings will start again soon, and we are working on how to do this with social distancing!!! If you would like to volunteer for this, please contact one of the group.

Spare fruit and veg?

Please help. If you have excess veg/fruit, we can donate it to the NG11 food bank. Your gift of fruit and veg can make a real difference. Carol plots 37b and 21c is arranging collections and will be delivered to NG11 several times a week during the harvesting season.



Paradise Allotment Working Group

Leave a message on 07891 093319

Email: paradiseallotgroup@yahoo.com