



SUNNYSIDE ALLOTMENT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

www.sunnysideallotments.org.uk
email: info@sunnysideallotments.org.uk

No: 3 July 2013

Like our chairman, I shall keep it short and merely celebrate the arrival of steamy Summer, hot on the heels of abysmal Spring.

Chris Locke

From our chairman:

Harvest successes, re-sow failures, try to beat the weeds.

Enjoy your plots!

We hope to see you all at the Open Day on August 11th.

p.s. : water when necessary.

John Eaton

Tenants on Sunnyside New

Rubbish has been left by tenants for extended periods by the bottom gate. Please do not leave rubbish here as it could encourage fly-tipping.

Lost key

A key has been found close to B Road, small, silver with the letters JMA - like a mini Yale - but without a key ring.

If you have lost a similar key please contact Angela at the Tea Hut.

Seeding weeds

Please remember to cut down seeding weeds such as thistles and grasses, so that they do not upset your allotment neighbours by seeding everywhere.

Seed order

If you are a paid-up member of the Sunnyside Allotment Society you will be receive the Kings seed catalogue in September. This will give you the opportunity to order seeds at a preferential price, as well as raise money for the society.

Comfrey

A lot of us use the comfrey growing freely on site to make a useful if smelly liquid feed, as a mulch and to help activate the compost heap. Its deep roots allow it to suck up nutrients which is stored in the leaves. When cut and laid as a mulch or in a bean trench, these break down fast and release the goodness back into the soil to be taken up by our crops. But a word of warning: one of our tenants had quite a bad allergic reaction when he rubbed his eyes with a hand which had comfrey sap on it. So to be on the safe side, use gloves when handling comfrey and try to avoid the sap getting onto your skin.

Interestingly comfrey is also used as a herbal medicine, and its country name "knitbone" reflects its traditional use in healing bone fractures.

A warning from Maria Andreoni

I think devastating leek moth (<http://apps.rhs.org.uk/advicesearch/Profile.aspx?pid=652>) has arrived on our plot. I identified the larvae and cocoons on two of my plants from last year. You might want to use fleece on your crops before it gets too bad.

Netting

It looks as though there is going to be a good fruit harvest this year, and many people are understandably protecting their crops with netting. But we have already had to rescue several birds which have got tangled up in the netting. So please make sure birds can't get under the netting (easier said than done!) and check your netting regularly.

SCARECROW COMPETITION

Open Day Sunday 11 August, 2013

We have decided to hold a scarecrow competition again this year, as both tenants and visitors alike enjoy seeing your creations. There is no specific theme this year so you can choose anything you like. There will be 2 classes ; adult & child 16 or under.

Competition Guidelines

There will be one prize for the **best adult scarecrow** and one prize for the **best by a child of 16 or under**, and there may be additional prizes.

The scarecrows should be in place on your plot by the evening of **Thursday 8th August**, ready for judging on the following day. The judges' decision is final.



The scarecrows will be judged on the following criteria:

- they should be homemade (and your child's own work as far as possible);
- they should be fit for purpose;
- they should show imaginative use of materials, especially evidence of recycling;
- the name of the scarecrow should be displayed.

SCARECROW COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

Name:.....

Phone No:

Address:

Plot No: Age (if child):

Closing date for entries: **4th August 2013**

Completed forms should be returned to Lin Phillips (114 George Street or the Tea Hut on B15).
Or email linphillips@btinternet.com Extra forms will be available on website & at Tea Hut.

Tenancy changes

Welcome to:

Helen Russell	A32A
Helen Pope	B35B, A1A

Goodbye to:

Katharine Green	A17B
Brandon Bellamy	A30A
Sonja Durrant	N1C
Cliff Canavan-King	N42
Jacqueline Williams	N44
Marion Howlett	N53

Please Note: To offset rising printing costs, an electronic version of future editions of the newsletter will be sent to all those people that supply an email address to Jenny Sippings – (jenny.sippings@ntlworld.com).



Sunnyside Allotment Society

OPEN DAY SUNDAY 11th AUGUST 2013

Our Open Day takes place on Sunday 11th August from 11.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m., to enable local residents to visit and enjoy the allotments, with sales of produce, preserves and refreshments. There will be a guided walk concentrating on SSNew at 12 noon, depending on the weather.

Please try to cut your paths so that they are tidy, bramble free and accessible to the public. The contractors will be cutting the main roadways during the week before Open Day; to enable them to do a full width cut, please ensure the end of your plot bordering the roadway is cut back as far as possible. We want to make the sites look attractive, and it would be nice if you could spend some time on your plot during that day to give visitors a warm welcome and talk about your garden. We are also looking for people to meet and greet on the day.

PRE-OPEN DAY JOBS

There are a number of tasks which need doing before the day: cleaning furniture, displaying signs, mowing and strimming of paths and general tidying up of communal areas & entrances. Any offers of help will be gratefully accepted.

VOLUNTEERS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

We will also need volunteers to man the produce and refreshment stalls and the raffle, & to price goods. Please return the completed form to Angela Wheeldon (10 Chapel St or B15) or email to:

angela@sunnysideallotments.org.uk.

We can then draw up a rota to share the tasks out. Could you also let us know if you are able to provide any contributions (see form below). Plants and preserves need to be delivered to B15 on **Friday or Saturday** and fresh veg/cakes **before 10.00 a.m. on Sunday**.

"-----"

Name: _____ Plot No: _____ Tel: _____

Email: _____ Mobile: _____

Pre Open Day help:

I can help with: _____ Please let us know when: _____

I can help at the following time(s) on Open Day (please tick the box):

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9.00-11.00 a.m. (setting up) | <input type="checkbox"/> 11.00-12 noon | <input type="checkbox"/> 12 noon - 1.00 p.m. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1.00- 2.00 p.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> 2.00-3.00 p.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> 3.00- 4.00 p.m. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4.00- 5.00 p.m. | <input type="checkbox"/> 5.00-6.00 p.m. (clearing up) | <input type="checkbox"/> anytime |

I will provide:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> cakes/biscuits for the refreshments | <input type="checkbox"/> produce/preserves to sell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> plants/flowers to sell | <input type="checkbox"/> other |

Please return this form by **Friday 2nd August** to Angela Wheeldon (10 Chapel St or B15) or email to: angela@sunnysideallotments.org.uk. Thank you.

Your current Committee Members

Chairman:	John Eaton	865307
Vice Chairman & Minutes Secretary:	Lin Phillips	862882
Secretary:	Jenny Sippings	865890
Treasurer:	John Powell	878640
Newsletter Editor:	Chris Locke	877326
Other members:	Wendy Calder	767289
	Andy James	865061
	Annick Mulcahy	862572
	Angela Wheeldon	874440



Pigeon scarer?

You can buy kites like this for £10 from: <http://www.flagseller.co.uk/shop/product-category/kites> and mount them on festival poles which are available from the same website. It is worth shopping around as these are available from other sites too.

