



SUNNYSIDE ALLOTMENT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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

No: 4 October 2013

The usual ups and downs. Congratulations to two couples who have taken over rather overgrown plots and turned them in a few days (but what days!) into beautifully weed-free areas. Well done Vicky and Edward on B33A and Gavin and Tina on A15.

On the down side Annick on SSN fell and broke her wrist; more bizarrely Lin Phillips on SSO broke a finger pulling out a particularly resistant weed! Both are now recovered.

I was 'volunteered' to be interviewed for a piece in Berkhamsted Living. To those who read the piece, I take responsibility for my prejudice against cabbages but certainly not for the warning against the dreaded 'leaf mould'!

Chris Locke

Chairman's notes:

After a much better growing season than was first feared, we can carry on with the harvest, make use of the 'golden autumn' and think about clearing up for winter.

The Society AGM is on Saturday 30th November and it would be good if some new candidates would stand for membership of the committee.

For many years there has been an SAS calendar but the preparation work has fallen heavily on a very few people, mainly Jenny & Angela. This year there will be no calendar unless there is a volunteer out there. We hope to collect and maintain photos on the web site but no paper version this year. Many thanks to Jenny & Angela for producing the calendar for the past 10 years.

About three times a year myself and another committee member walk round the allotments to see whether they are being cultivated in accordance with the tenancy agreement. If not, the Council will send a warning letter. The procedure is that two warning letters can be sent, followed by a third letter which is a tenancy termination. The Council and the Allotment Society hope that everyone who takes on an allotment will be able to look after it. If, for some reason, a tenant cannot do so, they should notify the Council and/or the Committee.

John Eaton



A15



B33A

Annual General Meeting

To make sure you know what you need to know about Sunnyside matters and have your say, come to the AGM, date and Agenda on the back of this newsletter.

Many of the committee members are willing to stand for election again, but there are vacancies on the committee so please feel free to nominate tenants (with their permission) or self nominate if you prefer.

Also Sunnyside subs (£3) for 2014 can be paid at the AGM.

Allotment Rent

Please remember that allotment rent payments are now due; you should have received an invoice from Berkhamsted Town Council. Rents can be paid at the Civic Centre, by post or by bank transfer.

If you have moved please inform Berkhamsted Town Council and Sunnyside Allotment Society so we can keep our records up to date.

Cause for Celebration

Congratulations to Sarah Marshall, Sunnyside New 6 World Blind Bowls Championship 2013 Silver Medallist

This summer in Worthing Sarah Marshall was the Silver Medallist in Ladies Class B1 at the World Blind Bowling Championship. Sarah's other titles include the English National B1 Ladies Champion and the Silver Medallist in the UK B1 Outdoor Championship.

Sarah has been playing bowls for the last 8 years and she currently plays for Chesham Pioneers Blind Bowlers and Aylesbury Bowlers, blind and partially sighted team.

Her challenge for 2014 is to win the UK Outdoor Singles National Championship and qualify for the World Disability Championship which will take place in New Zealand in February 2015. She is also hoping to participate in the 2016 World Blind Bowls Championship in South Africa.

Unfortunately Sarah's category B1 is not included in next year's Commonwealth Games.

Congratulations Sarah on your achievements to date and best of luck in 2014.

A warning:

Sometime over a weekend in September there were some break-ins and attempted break-ins to allotment sheds on B Road on Sunnyside Old.

If you discover you have had a problem, please phone the police and make sure you get a crime number, even if nothing has been stolen.

Please keep us informed too.

Working Parties

The first working party of the season on October 6th was very successful. We had at least 14 helpers and achieved a number of tasks:

- new notice board installed on A Road;
- path to toilet on A15 levelled;
- started to clear nettles & brambles in Jubilee Coppice on New;
- chopping down of non-fruit trees on vacant plots;
- re-instatement of path along the top of A24.

Many thanks to Neil & Trish Kennedy who are now co-ordinating the working parties. Also thank you to Angela for providing lunch.

Our next working parties will take place on:

Sunday 3rd November 2013

Sunday 12th January 2014

Sunday 2nd February 2014

Sunday 2nd March 2014

More details will follow in due course.



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).

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

A Message from John Powell:

Open Day produced the following results which are very good with only the produce being understandably down -last year's figure is in brackets.

Refreshments	£309	(£176)
Produce	£221	(£289)
Raffle	£166	(£117)

A rewarding performance. It was nice to see some new faces.

Grapes

Some of the grapes on my allotment at Sunnyside (New 28) have ripened, mostly the ones in the front row. Depending on the weather it is quite likely that many will ripen. They are black grapes, have a couple of seeds and are really wine grapes, but are edible and make good grape juice. I cannot use all these grapes – very few in fact and would like to see them taken before the birds get them- so please take a few bunches if you like- first test them for ripeness. Thanks

Joyce Taylor-Papadimitriou (wife of Spyros)

Tenancy Changes

Welcome to:

Victoria Palmer	A8A
Tina & Gavin Stark	A15
Angela Walsh	B32A
Victoria & Edward Coates	B33A
Michael von Geldern	C3
Irene Rambota	N28
Angus McInnes	N34

Goodbye to:

Natalie Beecroft	A1B
Helen Brown	A15
Steve & Milly Burt	A24A
Amanda & Paul Johnson	B30A
Krasimir Hristov	C3
Natalie Bear	C35B
Amy & Zelda Carding	N13
Hayley Hobley	N27A
Joyce Taylor	N28
Garry Rooke	N34
James Southern & Maria Horn	N41
Ben Morton	N67

SUNNYSIDE ALLOTMENT SOCIETY

All tenants are invited to

Christmas Drinks (mulled wine, mince pies etc)

on

Sunday 22nd December

12.00—3.00 ish

at the Tea Hut B15

Please bring a contribution.

A complaint has been received that some people are still washing their harvested vegetables in communal water tanks. Please do not do this as it introduces soil into the tanks - which must then be emptied and cleaned out- and quite possibly spreads diseases by leaving infected material in the water.

Hopefully all have read the recent **Notice from the BTC Clerk** on the allotments' noticeboards about paths:

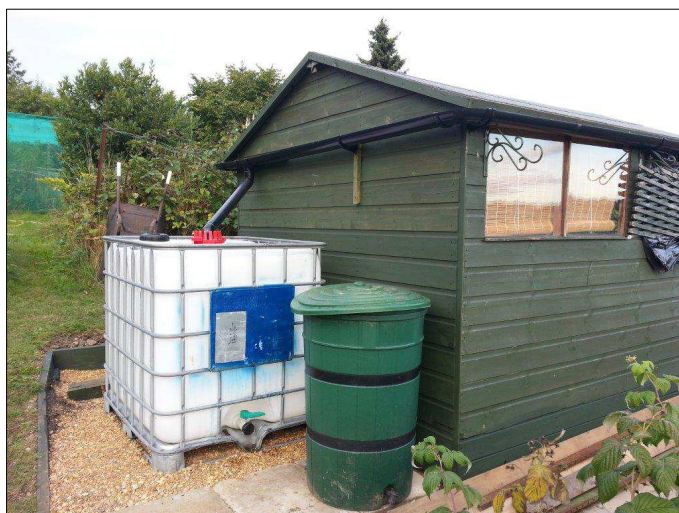
- so please remove any debris & items stored on paths;
- do not build structures *directly* against the edges of paths, this disrupts the path and makes cutting difficult. Please leave at least 6" before putting that post in or shed up;
- now is a good time for a final mow, 3 or 4 cuts a year are recommended to improve your paths;
- winter is a good time to straighten paths, using a line is best to avoid inadvertently cutting into your shared path.

Winter Water

The Council requires everyone to have guttering on their shed (s), which should be used to feed a useful capacity containers. This is also to your advantage because your plants will..

Survive with Tapwater - BUT - Thrive with Rainwater

Recently 3 more enterprising tenants have installed 1000 litre (IBC) containers next to their sheds. This seems a good idea if used to collect the rainwater over winter and then again from those (hoped for) April showers!





Open Day 2013

**AGENDA FOR THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON
SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER, 2013 AT THE
SUNNYSIDE RURAL TRUST, IVY HOUSE
LANE, BERKHAMSTED AT 10.30 A.M.**

1. Apologies for absence
2. To approve the minutes of the last AGM
3. Chairman's report
4. To consider and approve the Society's accounts
5. To receive any nominations for officers/
committee members
6. Election of officers and committee:
 - Chairman
 - Vice Chairman
 - Treasurer
 - Secretary
 - Committee members
7. Election of Allotments' representative on Town
Council's Allotments Management Team
8. Future developments
9. Any other business



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Please send in any nominations for officers, the committee and allotments site rep to Jenny Sippings, 82 George Street, Berkhamsted, HP4 2EQ or email to jenny.sippings@ntlworld.com. Please make sure your nominee is willing to stand.