

Hempland Lane-Heworth Allotment Association



Newsletter
July to September 2011

Hot from the Hut!



The Committee is here to help

Name		Plot
Ellen Bradbury	Committee Member	9
David Brinklow	Site Secretary and Treasurer	14
Phil Copley	Secretary	89
Gayle Enion-Farrington	Chair and Publicity Officer	34,35
Ulrike Manara	Minutes Secretary	40
Lisa Tindale	Committee Member	59b
Lorraine Wood	Shop Manager	64
Dave Wood	Shop Manager	65
Trevor Day	Easy Access Plots Rep	68D+E, 67K
Nigel Collinson	Committee Member	65
Chris Lee	Committee Member	88A
Mark Farrington	Website Administrator (not part of the committee)	35

people who have parked in order to walk their dogs and the wildlife area.

Keys need to be purchased from the allotment shop on a Sunday 10am - 12noon or from the City of York council Allotment offices. Allotments administrator, 18 Back Swinegate, Swinegate Court, York YO1 8ZD Tel: (01904) 553433, email: allotments@york.gov.uk, Allotments officer Tel: (01904) 553399

Car Parking

Parking is at a premium on our allotment site so please park carefully and be considerate to others. DO NOT park any cars in front of the Chippings, Manure Bay and Skips.

Allotment Website

We have had over 2192 visits to our website. If you haven't had a look - please log on and enjoy surfing!

www.hempland-lane-allotments.co.uk

Greener Communication

Please let us have your e-mail address if you have one: this provides an easy and cost-effective way to contact members.

Security Arrangements

The site is now locked permanently and you will need a key to gain vehicle access. Please ensure that you close and lock the gate after you have entered the site and again when you leave.

Some people are leaving the gate open so others can use the car parks. However when it is time to leave they cannot lock up, as those that have parked in the car park do not have a key. On some occasions they have not even been allotment holders. Just

Hempland Primary School Partnership

Our latest event was their **National Festival Circus & Summer Fair - Saturday 25th June 2011**. It was a lovely sunny day and we manned a stall selling allotment produce, jams, marmalade, chutneys and scones & muffins.

We raised nearly £100! This money will go back into our allotment fund to help maintain the site. Thank you to everyone who donated items especially Gerry, Lisa, Trevor, Phil, Mark, Lorraine & Dave and David and to Gayle and Daphne who donated and manned the stall.

Please note there will be a car boot sale in the autumn and again donations will be greatly received.

Shop Update

Allotment shop is open every Sunday 10am - 12noon until autumn. Lorraine and Dave Wood do a great job, but there is the odd Sunday when personal commitments come first. If you can spare 2 hours on a Sunday, we are looking for volunteers to help man the shop. Please give your name and contact details to Lorraine and Dave at the shop, so they can create a list of volunteers.

Also, if you wish the shop to stock items that we currently do not stock (sensible suggestions only) please advise anyone on the committee or at the shop on a Sunday.

Next Summer Fete SATURDAY 16th July 2011, 12noon - 2pm with shop open from 10am



As always there will be a tombola, and sales of produce, jams and pickles, strawberries & cream, houseplants and new for this year, a book stall. All donations to committee members prior to the day. Please bring along something to drink and something to sizzle on the BBQ

Strimming Weekend of the Wildlife area will take place in September 2011. Date will be agreed at next committee meeting on 12th July 2011.



Along with our annual **GIANT VEGETABLE** competition.

Membership Cards

New membership cards are now available for £3. They can be purchased from the allotment shop every Sunday. You must be an associate member in order to buy items from the shop, collect Manure and chippings (with a donation) and get a 10% discount from all gardening purchases at Deans & Vertigrow (please show your card before you pay at the till).

Garden Journal

Now we expect to be enjoying the vibrant colours of Summer flowers and foliage, the results of our labours over the months. Unfortunately things haven't quite worked out that way and most of you will have lost mature plants / shrubs over the cold winter. No matter what colours your gardens are displaying however, certain tasks are generally on - going. Deadheading is a "must" along with watering, weeding, watching out for pests and diseases, and mowing the lawn. Here are some other jobs which may apply to you in July / August:-

Trees and Shurbs

- Prune philadelphus and wisteria. For the former trace flowering stems back to a sideshoot that does not have the remains of dead flowers at its tip and cut just above it. Do this for each flowered shoot. After pruning feed and water to encourage new growth. To prevent wisteria from going wild cut all long, whip-like tendrils back to 6 inches long. Also cut main stems back.
- Take cuttings of currants, forsythias, weigela and heathers.
- Clip conifers, yew, beech, privet and trim pyracantha (in August).
- Evergreens such as buddleias and berberis will root easily in August. Dip the ends of cuttings in hormone rooting powder.
- Feed camellias and rhododendrons, watering well (August).

Flowers

- Remove flowers from delphiniums, lupins and peonies as they fade, cutting out the flowered stems.
- Feed herbaceous perennials e.g. Michaelmass daisies, phlox and Japanese anemones, with a general purpose organic fertiliser.
- Plant Autumn - flowering bulbs e.g. Crocuses, colchicums. Apart from the latter they all need well - drained soil. Colchicums grow well in light, dappled shade.
- Plant Spring - flowering bulbs from, late August.

Vegetables

- As early crops are harvested e.g. shallots and garlic, clear the ground then sprinkle with organic fertiliser, before forking it over thus re - using the space. Hoe regularly between rows to keep down weeds.
- Sow vegetables such as main crop carrots, lettuce, Spring cabbage, turnips, endive, chicory, oriental leaves including Chinese cabbage, pak choi and white radishes. An early variety of peas can be sown in July as they will be ready late Summer / early Autumn.
- Keep all crops well watered. Erratic watering will make vegetables tough and tasteless and some will set seed prematurely.
- "Stop" outdoor tomatoes (end of July) by nipping out the very top of each plant. This diverts all the plants' energy into ripening the remaining fruit.

Fruit

- Clear strawberry beds by cutting all plants down to 2 inches (5cm) from the ground. Rake off all the rubbish and then sprinkle organic rose or tomato fertiliser over the area before watering thoroughly.
- Harvest raspberries, redcurrants, blackcurrants and gooseberries.
- Prune fruit trees and bushes.

Anti-social behaviour, vandalism and theft - Please report any incidents to the police on 0845 60 60 247 and get an incident number. This helps with police monitoring of events on site and could help if we need any action to be taken, such as extra patrols, meetings with police officers, etc.

