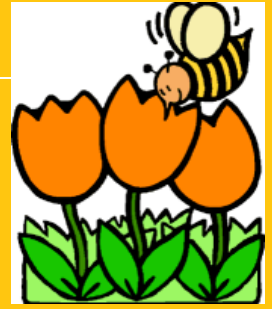




APRIL 2019 NEWSLETTER



NEWS FROM THE COMMITTEE

At our recent Committee meeting, it was decided that we would start issuing monthly newsletters to members so as to keep everyone more informed about what we are doing. Although lots of things are discussed, our aim here is to only bring you the more interesting news.

Firstly, we would like to welcome two new members onto the Committee. Jim Hardwick from Willow Crescent and Terry Dunlop from Pillings Road have both joined as Stewards. Unfortunately we are still looking for two members from Elm Close to take on the Steward's role (any takers?).

We would also like to welcome Richard Harris, Gary Cooper, June Bebbington and Clare Caro, all of whom have recently joined as new members at the Pillings Road site.

The recent AGM was obviously one of the topics of conversation, specifically in respect of voting rights, and it was agreed that, for the purposes of voting, the rule going forward would be "one membership fee paid/one vote", as written down in the Constitution.

We also discussed the improvement suggestions received so far. The majority relate to water: drinking water, hand washing and water troughs. There has been a request for partial fence improvements at Burley Road, and quite a few from Willow Crescent in respect of track and parking improvements and better drainage. If anyone has any further suggestions, please let me know before the end of the month.

The subject of bonfires was also raised, following a complaint from a member who suffers with asthma. Everyone is reminded that bonfires should only be lit when they will not cause a nuisance to others. They must be supervised at all times and doused with water before being left. Only garden waste materials generated on the allotment may be burned.

We also discussed beehives, again at a member's request. The decision was taken that, going forward, beehives can only be sited on allotments that border the external edges of the site, provided that people do not have to walk past them for access reasons.

You will shortly notice that an external letterbox will be appearing on the wall outside the Trading Hut. This is to provide a means for members of the Society who maybe don't have email, with a way to communicate with the Committee on a 7 day basis. The box will be checked on a daily basis (well almost)!

We are also looking into the costs of hiring a mini-digger to clear the dyke at Pillings Road and to hiring a skip to be placed on each site for a short period of time to enable the one time removal of unwanted rubbish.

We hope you find this information useful, but if you have other ideas, please feel free to let us know.

Penny Paton
OHGAS SECRETARY



OHGAS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman:	Martin Duncan
Vice Chairman:	Rob Bowley
Treasurer:	David Smith
Secretary:	Penny Paton
Trading Hut Manager:	Dick Gilbert

YOUR STEWARDS

Pillings Road:	Nathan Ticehurst Terry Dunlop
Burley Road:	Georgina Messenger Alan Cunningham
Elms Close:	Vacancies x 2
Willow Crescent:	Jim Hardwick Vacancy

FORTHCOMING COMPETITIONS

It's time to start planning your masterpiece for this Summer's Scarecrow Competition, which will be open to all ages, with judging taking place during the Summer. Entry forms will be available in July.



Also, another Best Allotment competition will be taking place, with details to follow.

GARDENING WORKSHOPS AT EXTON STARTING 10.00 AM

10th April - Barnsdale's Head Gardener, Jon Brocklebank, tackles plants in various pruning groups in a two hour easy to follow practical.

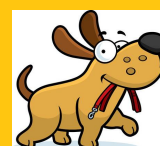


11th April - Nick Hamilton takes a look at what can and cannot be composted.



24th April - Join John Shone to learn all about willow and the techniques necessary to create different plant supports.

DOGS



Please remember to keep your dogs on a lead when they're not in the confines of your own allotment.