WOODLEY ALLOTMENT NEWSLETTER

GARDENING IN HARMONY WITH NATURE

Editor: Mike McNamara - E14

Notices

Allotment Plot Waiting List

There have been a number of new tenants in January; the waiting list is currently at 25.

Allotment Site – Annual General Meeting (AGM) Don't forget that the AGM will be held on Monday March 23rd 2020 at the Oakwood Centre at 7.30pm.

The committee is looking to all Tenants for their input to help improve the site. Send suggestions, to the normal email address on page two. We will issue a Special Bulletin about the AGM in February.

New Locks/Keys for the Allotment Site

You may have seen the recent article in the Woodley & Earley Chronical about the proposed changes to the Gate Locks and Keys. We have included a large reprint of that on the next page. We will also be issuing a Special Bulletin about this important security update to the site in February with more details. In the meantime please shut/lock the gate.

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February 2020

Important Housekeeping Points

The Main Gate – The Allotment committee would like to remind all allotment holders that you must always close and lock the main gate after entering or leaving the site.

Speed Limit – The speed limit of 5MPH seems to have been ignored by a number of Tenants recently. All Plot holders will have received a copy of a letter sent out by the council a copy of which has also now been attached to the Front Gate entrance.

February - Some To Do's

February is traditionally the last of the winter months, but often there is a serious cold snap that sometimes makes it the coldest month of year. However, we may be lucky and find the soil warming up towards then end.

So with that in mind, here are some jobs that you could be getting on with during February.

- If your Seed potatoes have arrived, it's too early to plant out, so set about chitting them
- If the weather allows, you can direct sow your broad beans in February along with early peas such for a May/June harvest
- If you have a greenhouse, you can get an early crop of lettuce, rocket and radish started.
 Using cloches outdoors will be more dependent on the weather
- If you have not done any, prune your fruit while they are dormant
- Rhubarb can be forced for an early crop of the sweetest stalks

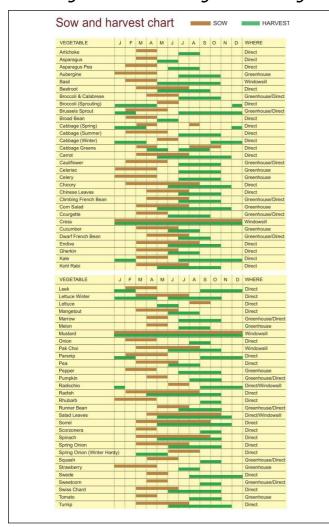
- February is a good month to plant out garlic and shallots if not already in
- Parsnips and leeks can still be left in the ground to be lifted as needed
- If the ground is not frozen or too water– logged, there is still some digging that can be done, incorporating compost/organic matter as you go along
- Get some trenches dug and filled with kitchen peelings for next year's runner beans
- Review all your seed stock for this year and make a plan of what to sow and when.

Items of interest

A reprint of the Article about Site Security



A Planting Chart from the Kings Seed Catalogue



Huntley & Palmers Shed Opening times Saturday and Sunday 10.00am to 12.30pm

Project Updates

We will do a major update of all the active projects in next month's newsletter. If you have a suggestion for a project, then please do let the committee know via the email below.

Bee Hives Area Fencing

We are looking for some handy volunteers to help erect the Bee Hives area fencing, if you can help, please let the committee know via the email below.

... and Finally

There are no gardening mistakes, only experiments. - Janet Kilburn Phillips

Our Contact Details

If you have any suggestions for items that you would like to see covered in further editions of this newsletter, please do contact us at:

<u>readingrdallotments@hotmail.co.uk</u>

Woodley Allotment Newsletter