

# WOODLEY ALLOTMENTS TENANTS ASSOCIATION

## at Reading Road

### Gardening In Harmony with Nature

Newsletter - MAY 2022  
Issue 98

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. Scott Golding
2. May To-Do's
3. Pop-Up Shop, Launchpad, AGM - Update
4. Waiting List, COVID Update, Site Security, Bonfires



**“Security at the Front Gate”**  
Please ensure that you close and lock the gate when you enter or leave the site.

Editor – Mike McNamara – E14

Our Website can be found [here](#)

## MAY Newsletter

### Scott Golding

We announced on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April that our chairman 'Scott Golding' lost his life after a short illness, which has absolutely devastated the committee and has left a huge hole in our hearts.

Scott our chairman and dear friend has been involved with the allotments at Reading Road for over 50 years, with Scott's dad (Ernst) originally having an allotment and it was inevitable that his son Scott would soon follow his footsteps with his own plots for 40+ years.

Scott became more involved with the allotments and eventually took on the role as chairman, running the committee for over 10+ years. Scott was an inspiration to many tenants and committee members with many achievements over his time as Chairman, one of those achievements was starting the Launchpad project at the site which has now grown in strength and enjoys corporates coming onto the site and the produce going to Readifood Bank.

Scott was always on hand to support and advise the new and older tenants with questions, hints and tips or just stopping for a catch up and seeing how everyone was, having that cheeky way to make you feel guilty if you couldn't help with allotment events.

Scott always had a knack of getting things done e.g., the roads around the site and last year Scott managed to get the biggest turnout ever and the job was completed in record time.

The committee as I am sure a lot of the Tenants who knew him will sadly miss Scott but sending all our love and thoughts to his family.

Scott's funeral will be held at Easthampton Park Crematorium (RG40 3DW), Braccan Chapel on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 14:30pm.

This will be followed by a gathering at The Three Tuns Pubs (RG6 1LT) from 16:00 onwards.

Scott was cared for by the exceptional team at Sue Ryder in his final days and the family would love donations to go to their wonderful team.

Please donate at [scottgolding.muchloved.com](https://scottgolding.muchloved.com)



## May – Some To Do's

May is generally a busy month with the soil nicely warmed up (we hope) and plants beginning to grow well. However, watch out for any late frosts which can damage tender plants. With this in mind, here are some jobs that you can tackle this month.

- Earth up potatoes to protect tender shoots from frost damage and encourage more tubers to grow
- Cut asparagus regularly to maintain the supply
- Vegetables to sow direct outdoors include: turnips, kale, Florence fennel, peas, mangetout, swiss chard, spinach beet, spring broccoli, swedes, carrots, radish, rocket, beetroot, chicory, lettuces and salad leaves, oriental leaves, spring onions
- Brassica's can be planted out mid-month; these include Brussel sprouts, red and white cabbages, cauliflowers, kohlrabi, sprouting broccoli, calabrese and kale.
- Sow more Carrots, thin out the ones already sown in a raised bed, don't forget to protect them from the dreaded carrot root fly
- The warmer weather encourages the growth of weeds, so it's time to start hoeing to keep on top of them!
- Many more tips at [Allotments & Gardens](#), [Gardeners World](#) & the [NSALG](#).

**“What's to grow next season? Now is the time to start planning your next sowings – use our guide on page three”**



# Allotment Updates

## Pop-Up Shop Success

We held a very successful first Pop-Up Shop in association with the H&P Allotment Association raising over £160.00 in sales. We hope that similar events will be a regular occurrence.



## Launchpad

We continue to host corporate volunteers as we bring the Launchpad Charity allotments back into full production. The next volunteers visit is scheduled for the 10<sup>th</sup> May between 10 am – 1pm.

If you’re interested to see what Launchpad is all about, why not come along during the next activity date, there’s even a free cup of tea and maybe even a biscuit!



## AGM

The Committee would like to thank all those that came to our AGM in April.

A new Committee was elected and they would like to say a big thank you to retiring Committee member Brian Hughes for all his work while on the Committee. We are particularly thankful for his excellent & dedicated work in seeing through the changes to the Association’s Constitution culminating in running a very successful EGM to ratify all the changes. Thank you once again Brian.

Sow and harvest chart

VEGETABLE	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	WHERE
Artichoke													Direct
Asparagus													Direct
Asparagus Pea													Direct
Aubergine													Greenhouse
Basil													Windowsill
Beetroot													Direct
Broccoli & Calabrese													Greenhouse/Direct
Broccoli (Sprouting)													Direct
Brussels Sprout													Greenhouse/Direct
Broad Bean													Direct
Cabbage (Spring)													Direct
Cabbage (Summer)													Direct
Cabbage (Winter)													Direct
Cabbage Greens													Direct
Carrot													Direct
Cauliflower													Greenhouse/Direct
Celeriac													Greenhouse
Celery													Greenhouse
Chicory													Direct
Chinese Leaves													Direct
Climbing French Bean													Greenhouse/Direct
Corn Salad													Greenhouse
Courgette													Greenhouse/Direct
Cress													Windowsill
Cucumber													Greenhouse
Dwarf French Bean													Greenhouse/Direct
Endive													Direct
Gherkin													Direct
Kohlrabi													Direct

A handy guide for Sowing & Harvesting

VEGETABLE	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	WHERE
Leek													Direct
Lettuce Winter													Direct
Lettuce													Direct
Mangetout													Direct
Marrow													Greenhouse/Direct
Melon													Greenhouse
Mustard													Windowsill
Onion													Direct
Pak Choi													Windowsill
Parsnip													Direct
Pea													Direct
Pepper													Greenhouse
Pumpkin													Greenhouse/Direct
Radicchio													Direct/Windowsill
Radish													Direct
Rhubarb													Direct
Runner Bean													Greenhouse/Direct
Salad Leaves													Direct/Windowsill
Sorrel													Direct
Scorzonera													Direct
Spinach													Direct
Spring Onion													Direct
Spring Onion (Winter Hardy)													Direct
Squash													Greenhouse/Direct
Strawberry													Greenhouse
Swede													Direct
Sweetcorn													Greenhouse/Direct
Swiss Chard													Direct
Tomato													Greenhouse
Turnip													Direct

Click on these for larger version

“Site Security is important for all of us. Please lock the gate when you enter or leave the site.

Also don’t leave high-value items in your plot shed”



## Other Items

**Allotment Waiting List** – The waiting list is continuing to reduce and is currently at **73**, with **25** vacant plots waiting to be allocated. More viewings are scheduled for May.

### Looking to downsize your Plot?

If you are struggling to work/maintain your plot due to its size, or it's proving too much for you for whatever reason then do please contact the Committee.

We can then discuss a number of ways in which we can support you.

Also, please let us know if you intend to be away from your plot for an extended time for any other circumstances including illness, extended holidays etc.

### Plot Inspections

These will be recommencing in the next few weeks.

## Covid-19 – Update

Covid continues to affect our lives in one way or another despite the recent removal of many of the government restrictions. The Committee would ask all plot holders to continue to act responsibly when on the allotment site.

We still advise all plot holders to protect their hands when touching the gate/padlock when entering/ leaving the site – please use the bin by the gate to dispose of any used gloves/masks and not general rubbish.

Plot holders must NOT wash their hands (or any of their tools) in the water tanks around the site.

Please use your own container/bucket for this.

The latest updated (13th April 2022) advice can be found at...

- [UK.GOV – Coronavirus update latest details](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)
- [National Allotment Society - Covid 19 Precautions](https://www.allotment.org.uk/covid-19-precautions)

### Security Update

The Committee is looking into reports of Tenants 'lending' their keys to third-parties for deliveries of wood chip, pallets. This practice is not allowed and offenders will be reported to Woodley Town Council.

### CCTV

The Committee continues to relocate our CCTV cameras around the site as we try to deal with an on-going spate of Fly-Tipping. Please dispose of your own rubbish responsibly.

### Committee Contacts

If you have any questions about any issues on our allotment site, please feel free to contact any of the Committee on their plots or use the email address at the end of this newsletter.

Vice-Chair - Sarah Lane (H28)

Treasurer - Kerri Evans (C29a)

Secretary - Gill Germain (C23)

John Anderson (H27)

Teresa Buley - (E18)

Tony Carter - (D21)

Barry Jackson - (G28)

Mike McNamara (E14)



### Bonfires

Please remember that you cannot now have any further Bonfires on your allotment until the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

This is a Woodley Town Council regulation and part of the 2022 Tenancy Agreement that we have all signed.

### *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:*

[readingroadplots@woodley-allotments.org.uk](mailto:readingroadplots@woodley-allotments.org.uk)