



Editor: Mike McNamara - E14

Notices

Allotment Plot Waiting List

Plot inspections are currently under way again & it is expected that a number will become available to meet a growing waiting list which is currently at 9.

The Action Groups continue to move forward; the first 'Bug Hotel' is nearing creation, with more to follow.

Don't forget the Bee Roadzz meeting/presentation at the Oakwood Centre on Monday June 3rd 2019 at 7.30pm. See the [Poster on page three](#). Also, click [Bee Roadzz Project](#) (via a safe external link) for more background information about the project

Speeding is razing its head again!!! There have been a number of reports of some repeat offenders who seem to be deliberately driving far too fast for the safety of the allotment site and despite being warned, Woodley Town Council will now be taking action against these offenders.

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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.

June – Some To Do's

June can be busy time on the allotment. The nights should now be frost-free, and with the long days now it gives plenty of time to get on with all the jobs that need doing including watering during hot spells and of course, harvesting early crops. In the meantime, here are some jobs to be thinking about for June.

- Plant out young plants of runner beans, French beans, courgettes, pumpkins, squashes and sweetcorn, outdoor tomatoes and cucumbers
- You can also plant out Brussels sprouts, cabbages, cauliflowers and celeriac
- Continue to sow spring onions, peas, French beans and turnips in rows in the open ground
- Sow small batches of rocket and other easy salad leaves
- Keep sowing beetroot, radishes and lettuce every week or so, for crops in a few weeks' time
- Sow carrots but be sure to protect sowings from carrot fly, using insect-proof mesh
- Sow fast-growing crops, such as radishes, to make the most of any temporary gaps
- Sow flowering companions in the veg plot, such as pot marigolds and borage
- Early Peas should be ready now, as should gooseberries and strawberries plus salads, beetroot and radishes, stop harvesting asparagus this month
- Keep on top of weeds hoe between rows and let annual weed seedlings dry out on top of the soil.

Items of interest

Launchpad Charity



Many thanks to all that have been assisting with this project. More dates in the diary for June 13th/14th/20th.

The Launchpad plots are beginning to fill up with beans, onions, tomatoes, cucumbers and more and as we don't get corporate volunteers every week, we are looking for volunteers to join a rota to water the plots between their visits to site.

If you can come along for a few hours, please let us know via the usual email address at the end of this Newsletter.

Poly Tunnels

A suggestion has been made to establish a communal Poly Tunnel on site for use by plot holders that don't have one or have room for one on their own plot.

The idea would be for plot holders to 'rent' space for a small fee to raise seedlings ready for planting out on their own plots.

One question though; would it be better to have one large Poly Tunnel, or a number of smaller poly-tunnels dotted around the site?

The committee is interested to hear feedback on this suggestion, so please let us know via the normal email address.

Plot Volunteers

Do you have some spare time to help other plot holders? We are compiling a list of 'helpers' that

can assist other plot holders when they are struggling with their plots due to ill-health etc. Let us know if you can help via the normal email address.

Watering and the Allotment

As we move towards the summer and begin planting out in earnest, our tasks will begin to include more watering. The onsite tanks are now turned on and although they will automatically refill, we should still be mindful of water usage/wastage.

Here are some suggestions to ensure that we all have fair access to this essential resource for all our allotment plots.

- Please don't wash anything (plants, plot covers, tools) in the water tanks, it will contaminate the water. Some tanks now have buckets attached to them for this purpose. More buckets will be appearing during the year.
- Please try and stagger your visits to the site for watering.
- Try and make sure you only need to water when you need to. Many plants can manage with much less water than we all think.
- With that last point in mind, here is some additional information from the Gardeners World with its [Garden Guide to Summer Watering](#).

... 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:

readingrdallotments@hotmail.co.uk

To find out more about the
Bee roadzz project

Please come to the
OAKWOOD CENTRE, RG5 4JZ

On 3rd June at 7:30pm

The aim is to utilise available space to plant
pollinator friendly trees, bushes and flowers



