



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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Notices	1
Important Housekeeping Points	1
February - Some To Do's	1
Items of Interest	2
Our Contact Details	2

### 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

**Sow and harvest chart**      SOW      HARVEST

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
Kale													Direct
Kohl Rabi													Direct
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
Radiochio													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)													Greenhouse/Direct
Squash													Greenhouse/Direct
Strawberry													Greenhouse
Swede													Direct
Sweetcorn													Greenhouse/Direct
Swiss Chard													Direct
Tomato													Greenhouse
Turnip													Direct

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:*

[readingrdallotments@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:readingrdallotments@hotmail.co.uk)



