



BUTT FOR YOU!

Butts Piece Newsletter

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Allotment Committee

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2013 SEASON BEGINS



The 3rd Butts Piece Allotments AGM was held on 27th March at the Village Hall and the minutes for this were agreed at the first Committee meeting held on Thursday 2nd May. A new Committee was voted in for 2013/14 comprising Ken Lidgett, Jim Needle, Mick Stokes and Derek Button. A copy of the minutes will be published alongside this newsletter and will be forwarded as an e-mail attachment.

Gareth Thomas and Sue Wring stood down this year and we would like to thank them on behalf of all plot-holders for their valuable input over the last 3 years. Thanks also to everyone who took the time to attend – your support is always welcomed.

Ken Lidgett remains as Chairperson and Derek Button continues as Parish Liaison following the initial meeting for this year.

There are currently 19 whole plots and 20 part plots, all have been let – this is the first time since the Allotments were reintroduced that all plots have been taken. We now have 35 plot-holders plus the Pre School who are encouraging the next generation of “allotmenters”.

As agreed at the AGM, a proposal has been put forward to the Parish Council for an addition to the terms of lease for maintaining good standards of cultivation and weed control by plot-holders, to be administered by regular monthly inspections during the growing season. The wording has since been agreed with the Parish Council and will be added to the Current Constitution.

Should anyone wish to raise any issues or points of interest relating to the allotments, please contact one of the Committee who will ensure that these are raised at the monthly meetings.

LOCKS



It is usual practice for the Committee to change the combination of the lock following the renewal of the leases. Please consider this newsletter as notification of an imminent change to the combination and we will be e-mailing the new number separately once it has been changed. Please keep the new combination confidential in the interests of security and health and safety. This includes non-disclosure to plot-holders children as they may enter the allotments unsupervised without their parents' knowledge (as has happened in the past).

Mick and Mel Stokes (No 2A Lake Road – almost opposite the Harwood Road gate) have kindly agreed to hold the spare combination lock for such occasion that the lock fails or goes missing. They will also hold the key to the double gate for anyone wishing to have access for deliveries of larger items. Please remember that the committee are all volunteers and be considerate by e-mailing first whenever possible.

Please also remember when entering the allotments, to secure the lock to the gate and spin the combination so that the lock does not go missing and to check with other plot-holders which gate they will be leaving by before securing the lock on exiting. Please always lock the gate if you are the last person to leave.

PARKING



A gentle reminder to be considerate to the householders adjacent to the allotments by avoiding parking congestion outside their homes. There is space outside the Harwood Road Gate on the verge for parking now that the mound has been removed. Please park here if possible.

SHED SECURITY



It has been reported that one of the sheds on the allotment had been broken into. Nothing was missing but things had been disturbed inside. Please keep an eye out for any suspicious behavior and remember to secure all locks.

WEED CONTROL



In order to control the weeds around the perimeter fence it is necessary to occasionally spray with weed-killer. This was completed on a still day last week. Every care is taken to avoid drift onto the plots so this should not have any detrimental effect on crops.

RECIPE CORNER



POTATO CAKES WITH ASPARAGUS AND POACHED EGGS

Ingredients

300g leftover roast or cooked potatoes
3 essential Salad Onions, thinly sliced
25g essential Cheddar Cheese, grated
1 tbsp oil
2 essential Eggs
230g bunch asparagus, trimmed
1 tbsp garlic mayonnaise
1 tbsp essential Half Fat British Crème Fraîche

Method

1. Mash the potatoes with the onions, cheese and seasoning, and mould into 2 cakes. Heat the oil in a frying pan and fry the potato cakes for 3 minutes on each side until golden.
2. Meanwhile, poach the eggs according to taste. Cook the asparagus in boiling water for 4 minutes until just tender.
3. Mix the mayonnaise and crème fraîche together. Place the asparagus on top of the potato cakes, top with the eggs then spoon over the garlic mayonnaise and serve.

SCARECROW TRAIL



This year's Scarecrow trail is based on the theme of Alice in Wonderland (and Through the Looking glass). Entry forms can be sourced at the village shop and the dates for the competition are 22nd to 30th June. Let's see if Butts Piece can give a good show to the crows this year.

BEST KEPT PLOT



We are hoping to continue running the Best Kept Plot competition this year, but the intention is for this to be judged earlier in the season when more crops are in the ground. We are asking our judges to visit the allotments sometime in June or July so keep up the good work and you may be this year's winner.

YOUR CURRENT COMMITTEE:-

Derek Button (Plot 25) Email - d41148@aol.co.uk – PARISH LIAISON

Jim (COMMITTEE MEMBER) & Vicki Needle (ADMINISTRATOR)(Plot 3 & 4a) Email – big_jim_needle@yahoo.com

Ken (CHAIRPERSON) and Gill Lidgett (EDITOR NEWSLETTER) (Plot 7 & 8b) Email - gillianlidgett@hotmail.co.uk

Mick (COMMITTEE MEMBER) and Mel Stokes (Plot 12) melaniehill1@btinternet.com