



Mollie and Max are rescuing slow worms from dad's digging. They are putting them in the compost heap.

In this news letter

Tilehurst Village Show

Saturday 23rd June – Help wanted

Grow it, Show it...

...at Tilehurst Horticultural Society Show

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A Walk for Bob

Security

Please don't leave tools out, they can be used to cause damage.

Keep the main vehicle gates locked.

It's time to Dis...

Tilehurst Village Show

Saturday 23rd June. We have a stall and will sell plants and surplus produce at this fun community event. This is our main fund raising event. Last year we exceeded our target of £100. We want to do it again. We are more strapped for cash this year (the first full year with no Farmers Market sales and more calls on our cash).

Please help. You can drop off any donations at the stall on the Victoria Recreation Ground any time from 10.00 am. or give them to Jenny the week before. Anything will sell: especially plants for new gardeners like herbs, plants in flower etc. We can also sell some fresh fruit, veg and cut flowers.

Some of our regular helpers are not available on the day, so we need new helpers to do a shift of an hour or two any time during the day. People are needed at 9.00am to set up, during the day to man the stall, and from 4.30 pm to help clear up. Please phone Jenny (9425169) if you can help for an hour or so. Many hands make light work.

Tilehurst Horticultural Society

This years THA show is on **Saturday 4th August.** Help make it a successful community event by going along to see the variety of produce people grow. Have a go yourself, it's a fun event. Entry forms will soon be available from the sheds in Gratwicke Road and Oaktree Road.

Emergency contacts

Water

Polsted Rd supply: Mark Digweed
52 Armour Hill. 9416162

Armour Hill supply: Malcolm Kessel
56 Armour Hill. 9431416

or Jenny 9425169

Vandalism

RBC Antisocial Behaviour line:
0845 605 2222

POLICE for EVERY incident:
0845 8 505 505

Also tell Jenny Cottee 9425169, give her the police or ASB ref. no.

Call 999 for trouble in progress

The landlord's agent, Oliver Jenks, can be contacted on 9428186

Plot Holders Committee 2006/2007

Chair	David Griffiths	PB10	9421141			
Secretary	Jenny Cottee	AA8	9425169			
Treasurer	Ken Phillips	AB14				
Committee	William Macphee	AA20	John Kirton	PA3	Gill Mills	PC9
	Richard Buckingham	AB11	John Butt	AA1a	Wendy Levey	AB5a
			Colin Robinson	AA20	Mick Geater	CH

Keep On Gardening



Success story. One year ago the keep on gardening project was just a rough idea. Now we have paths and beds in use thanks to lots of hard work, Awards for All funding, and gifts from many including the bench from Waitrose. Well done everyone. What a team effort! We had the help of the young volunteers who started us off clearing the site. The builders have made a strong and long lasting construction. Many people have lent a hand. They collected top soil, moved manure, picked out stones and weeds, put up the shed (and moved it 10 inches!), painted the shed, donated pallets, built the sink unit, made decisions, planned and fetched and carried. There are still things to do but what progress in a year!



Laying the kerb

There has been lots to do and the budget was tight even with the £9,997 grant, it is a big job, but the major work has been done. We have reached the end of the beginning!

Now we need: Fittings for the shed, like hooks, racks, and cupboards. Water butts or barrels, stands and taps. See Jenny if you can help.



Smooth paths

The guttering is next on the list. Then as soon as we have funds for materials (grant application in) we will add some wood seating to the chair height beds, paint the walls (ideas about colour?), and most importantly install the ramp for the shed. Volunteers are welcome, keep watching the notices.

Various height beds and the shed



The paths and plots take shape in the foundations



Tenancy reminders

Paths: Every plot-holder is required to maintain an unobstructed path all round their plot. Please check your paths out and make sure *you* are doing what is required.

Weeds: Please try to prevent weeds from seeding and causing nuisance by blowing across to other plots. Our tenancy agreement says avoid nuisance to other plot-holders.

Health and **S**afety: You have responsibilities to keep the site safe from hazards. Please check your patch regularly, especially for the following reminders from the Trustees inspections:

- Cover all containers with standing water using wire mesh etc.
- Remove sharp protruding objects, and trip hazards
- To avoid Lymes Disease do not go bare-legged on the site

Traffic on site. Please drive really slowly (**max 5mph**) to prevent damage to tracks, plots or edges. Also, please be considerate of local residents, take great care in Polstead Road.

Waiting list

There are 21 families on the list. We expect most on the list to get plots by the winter 2007. If you know anyone who wants a plot, tell them to get their name down.

Spare Land? If you can't manage all your plot please tell Oliver or Jenny. We could rent out your other half. No one wants the weeds to get a hold. If the problem is short term Jenny knows of several people who want a bit more land even temporarily so a short term loan might be possible, otherwise you can cover the land to stop your hard work going to waste.

Accessible plots to rent. Beds on the accessible plot with raised beds and level paths cost £9.00 per year (reduction available). With the period until 1 Oct.2007 rent free. If you know of anyone who wants to keep on with their gardening hobby in spite of access difficulties (e.g. problems with bending) contact Jenny. We have three different heights so should be able to suit anyone.

Seasonal Reminders

Hoe, hoe, hoe: an hour spent hoeing now will save you days of weeding in July. Surface mulches like grass cuttings, cardboard and rhubarb leaves help with weed control. They also stop the topsoil drying out and add humus when they rot. For professional plastic mesh mulch (and netting to keep birds off) contact William Mcphee 9414873)

White Tower Nursery, Aldermaston have a wide variety of vegetable seedlings at £1.95 per tray of 12 plants. The list depends on the time of year, all grown to be ready at the right time. You can phone (9712123) to check what is in before visiting.

Late sowings: Crops like carrots and french beans can be sown into July, some salad crops can be sown until September and there are lots of late sown veg, like oriental greens.

Bob & Jack: A walk in their memory

Bob Marshall was our founding Chairman, steering us through some tricky times. It was a year ago that he sadly lost his fight against an asbestos-related disease. His family found the support of the Duchess of Kent House at Leibenrood Road & their family room very helpful. Now Louise will be walking Hadrian's Wall, all 84 miles of it (from Newcastle to Carlisle), in July to raise funds for this Charity, as Bob had wanted to. You can sponsor her knowing that all the donations will go to the Duchess of Kent House Trust. See more at her website:



www.justgiving.com/louiseandannwalkhadrianswall

Contact her at:

louisem.marshall@virgin.net

or ask Jenny for her address.