



Stan and Christine have had their plot for 6 weeks. They already have potatoes, onions, cabbages, sprouts, runner beans and salad stuff growing nicely.

Emergency contacts

Water

Polsted Rd supply: Mark Digweed
52 Armour Hill. 0791 9166700
Armour Hill supply: Rod Mills
5 Wendover Way 0778 9765652

Vandalism

RBC Antisocial Behaviour line:
0845 605 2222
POLICE for EVERY incident:
0845 8 505 505

Call 999 for trouble in progress

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

Diary Dates

AGM – Our AGM will be on Thursday 24th September 2009.

Rent day – Rent is due on Saturday 26th September; there will also be a H&S inspection on that day.

Tilehurst

Tilehurst Fete

Our major fund-raising event is on **Saturday 13th June**. The Friends of The Royal Berkshire Hospital will be running this popular all-day family event on the **Victoria Recreation Ground**.

We will have a stall and sell all kinds of plants and surplus produce. Please help exceed the target of £100.

Thank you everyone who has been planting and preparing for the Show. More plants that new or experienced gardeners would like are still welcome. We have sections for herbs, vegetable, and flower plants, as well as a children's section. We also sell cut flowers and rhubarb (always popular; bring us a few sticks) **Drop off donations at our stall any time from 10.00am.**

Come along to support our stall, encourage friends and family to buy plants.

We need Volunteers to help selling, setting up and clearing up. Tell Jenny if you can help for an hour or so. Many hands make light work.

BBQ

Saturday 11th July 2009.

Mark your diary for the second TAS Barbeque.

Burgers and sausages (including a vegetarian option) will be on sale. Bring you own drinks and a plate of food to share (salad, potato salad, pudding etc.). There will also be a raffle and possibly a competition. We require help on the day. For further information please contact Ross or Jennie Drea jenniedrea@gmail.com or Tel: 0118 9417462. Look out for posters nearer the time.



Bees swarm under the sink on the KOG plot!

Plot Holders Committee 2008/2009

Chair	John Butt	AA1a	9416944			
Secretary	Jenny Cottee	AA8	9425169			
Treasurer	Ken Phillips	AB14				
Committee	William Macphee	AA20	Kate Jones	AB9a	Ross Drea	AB22
	Richard Buckingham	AB11	David Griffiths	PB10	Wendy Levey	AB5a
			Colin Robinson	AA20	Mick Geater	CH

Tilehurst Horticultural Society

This years show is on **Saturday 1st August**. Entry forms will soon be available from the sheds in Gratwick Road and Oaktree Road. There are lots of sections including ones for children and 'novices'.

Site security

Please do your bit to prevent problems. Tidy up your plot. Ensure things that might be saleable or used to cause damage are put away. Keep the vehicle gates locked. **The police respond to problems they know about, so please make sure you report every incident.**

Report any problems with keys to Oliver or Jenny.

Weeds

Now is the time to hoe. Keep hoeing to keep your weeds under control. Weed seeds blowing from nearby plots can be very annoying in the second half of the year of year. You should do what you can to prevent seeds spreading. If you decide to use a contact weed killer you will need to be careful about the wind direction. Burning the weeds off needs care. Temporarily covering the area with cardboard or carpet can be helpful, but the best solution is to hoe!

Rubbish

All households have domestic rubbish collections. Please take your rubbish home. The rubbish bins in the car park are out of control. There is NO routine collection to the allotments; they are not a residence. Recently a volunteer took 10 bin-bags of stuff to the civic amenity site, emptied 4 bags of weeds/stones into the land-fill area (to right of car park as you face Armour Hill) and took lots of bottles back to the bottle bank (turning circle at Kentwood Hill). Please do not let this happen again. You should **take your rubbish home** and use the land-fill area for surplus weeds and stones yourself.



Committee Notes

Peter Andrews has taken on the grass-cutting job again this year.

Richard is leading our efforts to liaise with the police and keep them in the picture about site issues. They need to know of any untoward visitors. Please pass on information.

Please pass on your ideas and suggestions. The committee welcome thoughts from everyone; the next committee meeting is on Tuesday 9th June. Please say what you think.

Families on site

The number of families with young children who have plots is very pleasing. It is important that children grow up knowing how food is produced. However, we must all respect other plot holders efforts. The site is busier nowadays, we have lots of small plots, there are more tenants and a wide range of people with different mobility skills.

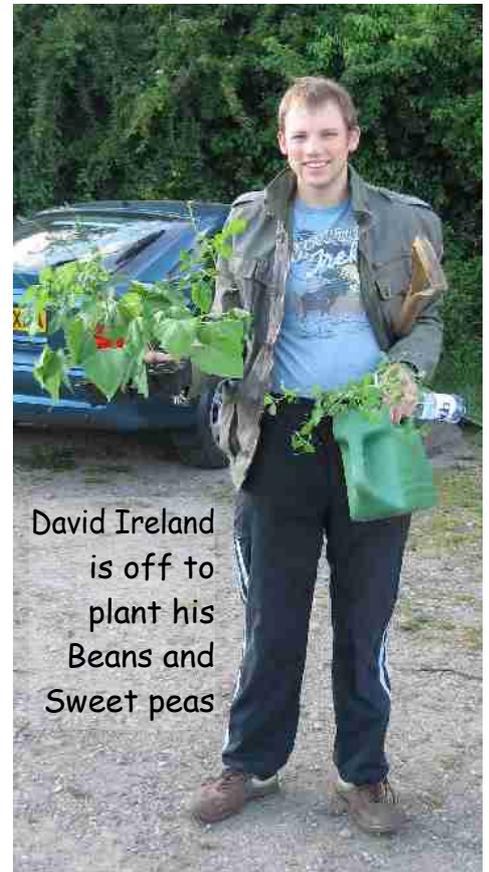
Parents, please ensure your children keep to your plot or walk on paths; the site is not suitable for running around.

Plot-holders please ensure there are no sticks or similar hazards protruding on your paths.



Waiting list

After a flurry of activity when several half plots were let there are now 42 families on the list. We expect most will have plots by the winter 2011. If you know anyone who wants a plot, tell them to contact Jenny to get their name down asap, the list does shift.



David Ireland is off to plant his Beans and Sweet peas

News from Oliver...

A report from a recent Trustees' Health and Safety Inspection of the Allotments has been discussed at a Trustees' Meeting.

Generally, Trustees felt that there was a **good improvement in the level of cultivation, tidiness, health and safety problems and care of paths between plots. Those involved should be congratulated.**

Concerns were expressed that:

i). There were still **plots which were underused**, and some potentially useful ground was covered by long grass and brambles. In view of the long waiting list, the Trustees hope that land will be fully used by existing tenants or made available for use by someone else.

ii). A number of **two metre high (Heras) fences** have been erected without permission (as required under the tenancy agreement). Those involved are asked to seek retrospective permission, with assurances that the fences are temporary structures.

The Trustees asked that tenants be reminded that **produce of allotment plots should not be used for personal financial gain.**