



Derrick Huckin - well on top of his winter digging

### Emergency Contacts

#### Water

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

#### Vandalism

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

### Reminders

All gates (pedestrian and vehicle) will be locked from sundown on Christmas Eve, until sundown on Christmas Day.

Water will be turned off on 1<sup>st</sup> December. Both water supplies on the main site will be turned off until 1<sup>st</sup> March. Please do not turn it on again, even for a short time.

# It's Dis

### AGM

Our Annual General Meeting on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September took the usual pattern with one addition. Sharon Fitton, one of the organisers of the Reading Town Meal was present. She explained how they planned to feed 1000 people the following Saturday. This was the first Town Meal, which was cooked from vegetables donated by gardeners all over Reading; a celebration of our local produce. We were all relieved that the weather was amazingly kind for this event.

The routine matters were less remarkable, and the business was conducted smoothly. All last years officers were re-elected unopposed, however, if you missed the opportunity to volunteer to help, it is not too late, please step forward. All welcome.



### Plot Holders Committee 2011/2012

Chair	John Butt	AA1a	9416944			
Secretary	Jenny Cottee	AA8	9425169			
Treasurer	Ken Phillips	AB14				
Committee	William Macphee	PC2	Kate Jones	AB9a		
	Richard Buckingham	PD13	David Griffiths	PB10	Karen Fidler	PB12
			Colin Robinson	AA20	Mick Geater	CH

## TAS Funding

Does another Financial crisis lie ahead? Your society has a good nest egg built up by very hard work from April 2000 until December 2005 selling surplus vegetables at Reading Farmers Market. This generated a good flow of cash into our account, but the flow stopped when the work became too burdensome. Since then the income of the Society has largely come from having stalls at summer shows, and interest on investments.

Our expenditure has balanced our income. However it seems that in 2012 there will be only one show on the Victoria Recreation Ground (the Hospital show on 9<sup>th</sup> June) so our potential earnings are considerably reduced, and just one show will make us very vulnerable to poor weather. We need to find ways to raise cash to cover a potential shortfall of say £150. Have you any ideas?

An alternative to raising more money is to spend less. Printing DigIt is a big outgoing. We have decided to email DigIt to all people on the waiting list and 'big wigs' This means that they get it in colour. If you prefer green rather than grey Brussels Sprouts, please drop us an email.



## Chips

Have you seen fresh chippings in the car park? It is no co-incidence that the diseased Horse Chestnut at the Triangle was recently felled. Help yourself to these chippings for mulching and paths.

As in recent years RBC will collect Christmas trees from our car park and return the chippings to us for use on paths on our site. Notices in the press (and on the car park gate) will give details about collection dates.

## Kate's Filler



Many gardeners swear by the benefits of beer as a plant fertilizer. It is thought to be good for root growth. Use bitter not lager. *(Does it still work if I drink it first? Ed)*

Martin and Sarah



## The Reserved Land

After lots of consultation over many years important documents will be finalised soon, say by mid summer 2012. The final versions of papers spelling out the use of land in Reading until 2026 will be decided by the appointed planning inspector. The documents cover many topics including where new homes and employment will be located.

The inspector is hearing the final evidence from people who have contributed at earlier stages and is asking searching questions so he can weigh up the issues.

Colin and Jenny will present evidence on behalf of the committee about matters that directly affect our Society. Locally we hope that the outcome will be strong planning protection for all the Tilehurst Poor's Land.

## Manure

Farmyard manure improves both heavy and fast-draining soil. Plot-holders have used two regular suppliers: Mrs Drayton (9572379) and Tim Metcalfe (9428001) who both supply well rotted manure. Check the price when you phone.



George Edwards

## Rubbish

Everyone recycles and re-uses as much as they can, but inevitably there is stuff to get rid of, especially if you have taken over a new plot. We no longer have skips to take heavy rubbish in the Spring, so please don't save up rubbish, get rid of it! Remember:

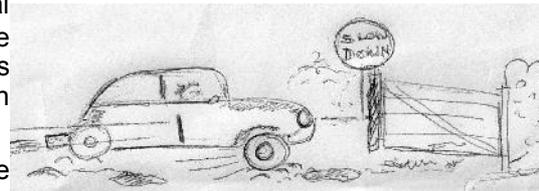
Your rubbish is your problem and you must get rid of it yourself. This is unfortunately true even if it was left on your plot by a previous tenant.

There is NO dumping area on site and there are NO rubbish collections from the site.

Compost as much as you can. All green and woody plant material will rot.

Use stones and hard-core to fill holes and make paths, but not the main paths, stones play havoc with a mower!

Take the rest of your rubbish home, or to the tip yourself.



## Waiting list

Meeting potential tenants and arranging for new lettings has taken quite a time this year. The situation is still not entirely clear, however we know that now only half plots are let the waiting list is much smaller, it is approaching single figures. We have one vacant accessible plot. So please

pass on the good news. It is worth applying for a plot; the waiting time is about a year. We may even resume advertising to spread the good news and encourage people to take up a rewarding and healthy hobby.

## New Tenants

Welcome. We all hope you will enjoy the great hobby of growing what you want on your own patch of soil in nice friendly surroundings. No doubt you are drowning in advice. Ours is, don't try to do too much, a little and often produces the crop.