



Phillip

Emergency Contacts

The landlord's agent,
Stephanie Keighley,
can be contacted on 0789 979 8335
Email tplc@talktalk.net

Water and Trees: Inform Stephanie of any water issues and wind damage to trees on site.

Vandalism:
POLICE for EVERY incident: call 101
Call 999 for trouble in progress

Please give Deborah the URN number for any site crime you report.

Members meeting
7:30pm on Thursday 11th April
 Tilehurst Village Hall, Victoria Road
Gardening Quiz
Seed and Plant Swap.

It is Dis

Spring

Well-this Spring kicks off correctly for once, with the welcome comfort of brighter days completely on cue with the Equinox. Strolling around the plots today, all the platitudes come to mind-“new beginnings” “start afresh” “onwards and upwards”. It is just a beautiful and inspiring time of year.

The warmer days will always bring more of us out into the open, but I have been intrigued to see this year just how many of you have been working away over the Winter. There are already some green crops ready for eating, and plenty of early floral blooms. The botanists tell me that if your flowers come earlier than average in this way, they tend to be far more vibrant, apparently in a bid to entice the small number of early pollinators. Science or not, it is easy to imagine as true on seeing this many tulips so early. They really are bright this year!



Surveying the plots, it is always lovely to see so many out and digging, planting, sowing. Spring is also of course a good time to see what new things have been cast onto your plot either by wind, by bird or by other happenstance. On my plot, already a mysterious bunch of chives which I never expected in that place. What surprises are in store for you this year?

Shireen

Plot Holders Committee 2018/2019				
Chair	David Griffiths	PB10	0118 9421141	
Secretary	Deborah Dadd	AA17	0787 944 8736	
Treasurer	Phil Smith	AB8b		
Membership Secretary	Mary Bartlett	AB7a	Shireen Robson	PB6A
Committee	William Macphee	PC2	Colin Robinson	AA20
	David Elton	PC5b	Phil Smith	AB8b
	Jenny Cottee	AA9	Rita Brown	KoG
	Chandra Burathoki & Peter Beard			Gurka Assn.

Vandalism

This year has already seen a spate of vandalism towards the property of several plot holders. We owe it to ourselves to report every single incidence of vandalism, theft, harm or intrusion to the Police. The more they know about, the more they are likely to take notice. If you feel you have been a victim of any of the above, please report it on 101 as soon as possible. We are stronger as an allotment community if we take a stand in any small way we can against criminality.

Report every time.

Of course the usual security advice applies too; keep your tools secure, mark your tools so that you recognise them. Do not store expensive or special items on site. It is also worth stashing and removing burnable or paper rubbish as soon as you can. Because it is burnable.



Let's not allow vandalism to spoil our love of plot holding; we work hard, we reap what we sow, we benefit from the outdoors, from camaraderie, from skill and knowledge. All this...and best of all it's finally Spring!



Manure

Mandy Dawes still has well rotted horse manure for sale. Her driver, Andrew, delivers it to our allotment site for £60 per load. The November DigIt had a typo in the phone number. Contact Mandy on **07764 794429**

This news letter was prepared by the plot holders committee. Editor David Griffiths 9421141
Web site: www.tilehurstallotments.co.uk



Communication

It is very helpful if your plot number is easily visible. This makes it much easier to report damage. If TAS have your details we can pass on messages about plot issues. Both from neighbours and passers by.



Please check that your plot number is clearly visible

Do not rely on the landlord to pass on you details to TAS. It is far safer to do it yourself. We won't get cross if we get told twice.

We need clear pathways all round every plot. Please ensure there are no obstacles near you. It is surprising what accumulates in the winter months.

Many thanks to Martin who has converted another KoG plot to table height.



Our LandLord

What does the Tilehurst Poor's Lands Charity do with our rent? You can check out how this local Charity works and who benefits from its activities from their website tilehurstplc.org.uk If you look at the News section you will see the most recent report (2016-signed off in Feb 2018) gives examples of the grants given and requests made. These reports are not available in the Tilehurst Library.

Summer Fete

TAS will have a stall at the Summer Fete run by League of Friends of Royal Berkshire Hospital on the Victoria recreation ground on Saturday 8th June. This event is our main fund-raising opportunity and once again we aim to raise over £300.

Can you help? In the next month or two please consider growing extra vegetable plants to sell on the day. Think of us if you're dividing up plants at home. We sell anything gardening related so keep hold of any excess planters or tools you have, as these also sell well.

Nearer the time we'll also be keen to have any excess produce from you. We will need: Carrier bags and boxes for customers to carry their purchases away; Rhubarb (a great seller); Vegetable plants; Flower plants; any excess garden tools you may have; Any excess seed packs you may have.

We need volunteers to take a stint at manning the stall for an hour or two. Keep the date free and come along. Funds raised are used to produce Dig It, room hire and to allow us to do things like improving the KOG plots.



Members meeting

This is an Informal get together at 7:30pm on Thursday 11th April at the Tilehurst Village Hall on Victoria Rd.

We will have a gardening Quiz plus a seed and plant swap. Please come with spare plants and seeds if you have them. Feel free to bring any drinks you would like to consume other than the tea and coffee we'll be providing.

Members including those on the waiting list and their families are welcome.



All contributions and letters welcome
Email: TilehurstAllotments@hotmail.com

Facebook group: Tilehurst Allotments