

RAGA

Welcome to Roundhay Allotment and Gardens Association. We hope you enjoy your new plot and reap the many benefits of growing your own fruit and vegetables. These notes will serve as an introduction for new members. Further more detailed information is available on the website [\[REDACTED\]](#) and you are encouraged to visit this site, where you can find a copy of the Constitution.

[1] Communications

- There is a noticeboard on site, with further contact details and information about special events.
- Newsletters are published periodically, and made available via the website. Occasional one-off messages are sent via email.
- Committee members can be contacted by email at raga@raga-leeds.org.uk.

[2] Site security/Safety

- Please help to keep the site secure by ensuring that the gates are always kept locked.
- The padlocks on the gates and wheelbarrows have the same code. Some padlocks have a button on the bottom which needs to be pressed in to release.
- Thefts should be reported.
- Any accidents or near misses should be logged in the accident book kept in the shop. Alternatively, you can report any incident to ragasecretary@gmail.com.
- Tracks and internal pathways should be used in a way that doesn't inconvenience other ploholders.
- Fires- due consideration should be given to the general public and other ploholders when lighting fires. They should not be left unattended and always extinguished before

leaving the site.

- Incinerators for burning small amounts of garden waste are available to borrow.

[3] Volunteering. New volunteers are always welcome: they

- serve in the shop
- help with accepting deliveries
- carry out general site maintenance on Thursday mornings 9 am to noon.

[4] Plot Inspections/planting

- In accordance with our contract with the Council, there are two plot inspections per year (in May and September). These are aimed at identifying plots which appear not to be cultivated, in which case individual plotheholders are contacted and told what action is required.
- In addition to maintaining their own plot, members are requested to keep grass pathways around their plot in reasonable condition and clear of any obstruction (e.g. overhanging fruit bushes).
- Only fruit-bearing trees and bushes may be planted, and these should be grown on dwarf rootstock and kept to a manageable size.

[5] Rubbish/compost

- Skips are provided twice a year for general rubbish.
- The large compost bins on the site are for the exclusive use of the Thursday volunteers. Plotholders are responsible for composting or removing their own refuse. They should aim to compost or burn most organic matter. If this is not possible they are asked to move material to their domestic brown bin or Council waste recycling site.

[6] Supplies

- Sundry items- compost, fertilisers, canes, etc- may be purchased from the shop.
- It is open 11-12 on Sundays throughout the year and 2-3 pm on Saturdays in the summer when possible.
- There are occasional loads of farmyard manure delivered to the bunkers near the main entrance and the top left corner of the site. Payments should be made at the shop or via online banking (£1 per barrowload- refer to the signs posted).
- In addition, wood chippings are delivered for general use to construct paths etc at no charge.
- There is an annual collective vegetable and flower seed order submitted via the shop in November (pre-paid) for collection in January/February.
- There is also a collective order of potatoes and onions submitted in November via the shop or by email (to potoniorders@gmail.com). These are paid for on collection in February. The list of varieties available and their merits is posted on the noticeboard.
- Through their membership of RAGA, plotholders are members of the Leeds and District Allotment Gardeners Federation (www.ldagf.org). In addition to events, such as meetings and training days, they negotiate discounts (5%-15%) with a range of suppliers, such as the Arium. Membership cards can be collected from the shop.

[7] Equipment

- Wheelbarrows are available for members to borrow. Please make sure they are padlocked when you've finished using them.

- There is a battery-operated strimmer that can be borrowed from the shop. It must be returned fully charged.

HAPPY GARDENING