



Summer Newsletter 2017

Welcome to the Summer newsletter. If you have any comments about this issue of the newsletter or would like to contribute an item to the next issue please email the editor - raga@raga-leeds.org.uk.

Dear Members

I am delighted to welcome so many new members to Roundhay Allotments. Many of you have really impressed us by the work you have already done and I wish you every success with you plots. Can I encourage everyone to make our new members feel welcome and to offer any help that may be needed.



The summer BBQ Saturday 8 July 12 until 2pm is a great way to get to know your fellow allotmenters so please make a note of the date - it is open to you and family members. There will be a sign-up sheet in the sales hut so we know your preferences. Tickets are £2.50 per adult, children free. Please bring a savoury or sweet contribution. Hot and cold drinks will be available but you are welcome to bring your own alcoholic drinks if you wish. Following the fire we lost all our plastic chairs so please bring a chair or chairs if you want to sit down.

The spring plot inspection was on the 6 May and we were very pleased with the quality of cultivation and

general tidiness of plots unfortunately we still had a few weedy or poorly cultivated plots but hopefully those members will now get their plots sorted. Most people are doing a great job with their paths, well done. I know it's a chore for some people and might be just difficult for others. If you are finding it difficult or lack the equipment at the moment why not come to an arrangement with your neighbours and share the task or offer them something in return, for example produce or plants. Please do not use weed killer, that just destroys the path, don't cut away the edge because narrow paths become unsafe, harder to cut and impossible to mow. Please keep up the good work and encourage other to do the same.

Our planning application for the replacement sales hut, store and toilet has been submitted, big thank you to Sarah and Christian Sanders for that; I'll let you know the outcome as soon as we receive it.



Proposed replacement for the 'hut'.

If you're available on a Thursday morning but not necessarily every week (9am 'til 12) you would be most welcome to join the Volunteer Group. No special skills or expertise required just a willingness to help and learn. Bring a cup for the mid-morning coffee break.

The closing date for entries for the annual Leeds Allotment and Photographic Competition is 23 June, judging takes place on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 July. The Awards and Social Evening is on Friday 22 September

Finally look out for the Leeds and District Allotment Gardeners Federation '**Pop-up Allotment**' which will be popping up in various venues in Leeds City Centre during **Allotment Week, Monday 7 to Friday 11 August** to celebrate the Federation's centenary. You won't be surprised to know that Roundhay Allotment Association was a founder member.

Enjoy your gardening

Paul Lattimer (Chair)



The 2015 barbeque

Plot Lettings

We'd like to welcome the 12 new ploholders who have taken plots in the last couple of months. This means that there are now (June 1st) only two vacant $\frac{1}{4}$ plots on the site. The Thursday Volunteer Group have trimmed and covered them. There is currently no one on the waiting list, so please feel free to pass this information on to anyone who might be interested. There are also two vacant starter beds, which have been cleared ready for immediate use.

I can be contacted at ragalettings@gmail.com

Peter Howarth, RAGA Lettings Officer



Demonstration Bed

There are six starter beds on site for people who may wish to "dip their toe in" before committing to rent a normal sized plot.

Currently not all are let.

For this season bed number 4 is being used as a demonstration bed to show what can be grown in a small space.

The beds are located at the western end of the central roadway near to the overflow car park.

Bed 4 is planted at the moment with: Leeks, 3 bush tomatoes, [2 red 1 yellow], dwarf purple french beans, mangetout, beetroot, lettuce, kale red russian and climbing french and runner beans. There are also a few dwarf curly kale slotted in.

Steve Wilde.



Editor's Grumble. Please do not fasten the gate too tightly. For those of us with poor eyesight and deteriorating manual dexterity it is very difficult to open the padlock if you are on the wrong side of the gate.