



# Spring Newsletter 2018

Welcome to the spring 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](mailto:raga@raga-leeds.org.uk).

Dear Members



Spring has arrived although as I write this, we are being warned that cold weather and snow showers are on the way, hopefully the weather will have improved by the time you read this, and we can turn our attention to seed sowing and getting our plots ready for the growing

season ahead. The next **Plot Inspection is on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May.**

The **AGM is on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm at the Gledhow Sports and Social Club** please try to be there. We are very keen to have anyone who is willing to join the committee. Women are under represented on the committee although approximately 45% of our members are women there are only three on the committee, only 27% and none are officers or trustees. As well as the committee there are other ways to volunteer on a regular basis, the allotment shop and the Thursday Volunteers. We also need younger people with fresh ideas and enthusiasm. If you want to know more, please call me (0113 2160606) or speak to another committee members.

We are making progress with our planning application and I will provide an update at the AGM.

If you don't already use the allotment shop why not come along on Saturday afternoon 2 'til 3 or Sunday morning 11 'til 12 and see what's on offer. In the next few weeks we will be getting another container for the shop, so we can provide a greater range of products. Remember it's not only a service to you, having bulky items like compost and other gardening products on site it also helps allotment funds which help maintain the site. If you already use the shop don't forget to encourage friends and family to become garden members for only £2 and take advantage of what's on offer

Paul Lattimer  
Chair

## Skip

A skip will be available on site for the weekend of 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> April to allow members to dispose of non-compostable waste from their plots.

## Thursday Volunteer Group

We have had another busy few months with some interruptions due to bad weather. Hedge cutting has continued with some recent heavier work done on the Old Park Road boundary, more light will get in now and hopefully that hedge will thicken up from the base. If you have a plot



near any boundary, please let us know if anything gives cause for concern. Lots of planting of seedling trees has been done in the past but many of them have been damaged by plot holders climbing over the

fence, please don't do this it just encourages others and undoes our hard work. Eventually there will be a pedestrian entrance, but in the meantime please use the gates.

The shady beds have been cleared, weeded and covered with fabric and chippings and re planted, hopefully the weeds won't be as bad in future. We hope to extend the 'stumpery,' do have a look it's very nice at present.

Soil in the bay near the sales container must be used up as quickly as possible. It's good topsoil and can be used to heighten the depth of your plot, shore up any parts near sunken paths or reinstate the channels in the middle of paths. We need the space so that another container can be hired to store more shop stock.

Welcome to Anita, Sharon and Mike our three newest recruits. New volunteers are always needed either on a regular or occasional basis.

Margaret Lattimer

**RAGA AGM**  
**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm**  
**Gledhow Sports and Social Club**

## Allotment Shop

Saturday opening has started, so the shop is open Saturday 2-3 and Sunday 11-12 every weekend.

We weigh up 3kg bags of organic and chemical fertilisers some of which are cheaper than the cheapest retail stores.

Blood, Fish & Bone 3kg.	Half price.
Bonemeal 3kg	80p cheaper.
Compost maker 1.5kg	£2 cheaper.

Strultch is cheaper than garden centres and in bigger bags!!!

We are not just suppliers of compost and manure; we do have a selection of sundries: canes, plant labels, twine, ground cover, ground cover pegs, organic and ordinary slug pellets. If plot holders would like more items, let us know.

We have had to cut down because of a lack of space, but soon will have more space for storage.

To buy from the hut means less transport, you are right on the plot!!!

We take cheques, if this makes it easier.

I have had one offer to help in the hut, but if anyone else could volunteer that would be great, we have lost some volunteers.

Barbara Greenwood

Do new plot holders know that unwanted gardening items and plants can be left at the side of the shop for other allotmenters to take?



Have you visited the Arium yet? Did you know that you can get 10% off purchases with your LDGF membership card? Pick up your card from the shop.

