

BURLEY MODEL ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

The Cardigan Centre, 145-149 Cardigan Road, Leeds LS6 1LJ Phone 0752 786 3609

NEWSLETTER March 2010

There will be an

Annual General Meeting

of

Burley Model Allotments Association

At 12 noon on **Sunday 25th April 2010 in the Hut.**

All Association members are warmly invited to attend. Refreshments will be available.

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of Annual General Meeting held 26 April 2009
3. Matters arising from the minutes
4. Secretary's Report
5. Treasurer's Report 2008-2009
6. Election of Officials
7. Election of Committee
8. Honoraria
9. Any Other Business

AGM & SPRING SALE

Please consider if you would like to join the Committee. A nomination form is included with this newsletter, and additional copies will be available from the hut and on the BMAA website. This is also your opportunity to propose rule changes, and propose any other motions to the Association. All nominations, proposed rule changes and other motions must reach the Association either via the Cardigan Centre or via the Hut by 19th April 2010.

The same weekend on Saturday and Sunday 26th/27th April we will be having a sale of surplus plants etc. If you have any surplus plants please save them for this event, or if you have time please consider growing on a few more for those who don't have the time or facilities and also help raise funds for the Association. Any unwanted tools and gardening gear will also be most welcome. There will be more details on posters nearer the time.

Another gardening year!

Welcome to the new gardening year, after a winter which feels like it's lasted forever. Let's hope spring will come soon! If you missed ordering seeds at the end of last year, you could still obtain discounted seeds from Kings, by ordering them direct yourselves using the form available from the Hut.

Vegetableseeds.net has contacted us to offer a 10% discount on all seeds ordered by members of BMAA from their website www.vegetableseeds.net. Please

quote code AD821. A link is available from the BMAA website along with further information. All their seeds are 95p per packet except organics at £1.25. If you order any seeds from this company, please let us have some feedback. Did you get what you ordered? How quickly did it reach you? How well did they come up?

Diary Of Events

Our calendar of events is displayed on the main notice board, but please note these events in your diary so you don't miss them. More details about some of these events below.

March (date to be announced)	"Wheatfields' Potato" fundraising launch
11th April	Visit to Barnsdale Gardens
24/25th April	Spring Sale
25th April	AGM
w/c 24th May	First plot judging
w/c 2nd August	Second plot judging
August (date to be announced)	"Wheatfields' Potato" weigh-in
7th September	Annual Show
7th November	Autumn Show

Events after April will be subject to confirmation after the AGM, but more details about some below. We may add more as they are planned, and we're always happy to receive new suggestions and ideas.

Potatoes, Onions And Shallots

At the time of writing, we still have a supply of seed potatoes, onions sets and shallots available in the hut although some popular varieties are getting low. If you can't get to the hut between 10.30 and 11.30 on a Saturday, but would still like some, please put a note of what you'd like under the hut door, together with a phone number and we'll ring you to make arrangements for you to collect them. All potatoes are sold at £1 per kilo, but we're quite happy for you to buy a specific number of tubers if you prefer.

Sturon Onions Sets are priced at £1.20 for 500gm (approx 60) and Yellow Moon Shallots at £1.50 per 500gm. (approx 25), again, just buy what you need.

Hut And Shop

Please remember we stock Multipurpose Compost (including peat free), Grow bags, Poultry manure, Canes etc, as well as numerous other gardening items. Most of these are sold at well below Garden Centre and other shop prices and apart from the convenience of not having to collect them from off site yourself, by buying here you are contributing to the running of the Association.

The shop is open every Saturday morning between 10.30 and 11.30, but if you can't come then, and would like to buy from us, please let Tony Handby (plot 118) know as he is around most days.

Trip to Barnsdale Gardens - Sunday 11th April

This will leave from and return to the Allotments at a cost of £15 per person including executive coach travel and admission to the gardens.

All BMAA Members and their families welcome. Please let us know as soon as possible if you would like to come, as seats are limited. Please pay when booking if possible, but we need payment by 27th March at latest, as we need to confirm numbers.

Some of these 37 small gardens were created by Geoff Hamilton, during his time on Gardeners World, including formal gardens, courtyard gardens, vegetable gardens, orchard and allotment. His son Nick Hamilton and daughter-in-law Sue have since added to them and they are well worth a visit, either to just look or to get new ideas.

There is a coffee shop as well as a gift shop and plant nursery.

Grow Potatoes and Help Wheatfields

Last year Joe Maiden held a fundraising event for Wheatfields hospice. Tony Handby collected over £80 for Wheatfields through this event, mainly from ploholders, so we have decided to hold a similar event ourselves this year.

The idea is that for a contribution of a minimum of £2 you are provided with a potato which you then grow in

a bucket. In August, at a date to be announced, these buckets of potatoes can be brought to the hut to reveal how many potatoes have grown. The person who has produced the most weight of potatoes at the 'weigh in' will then be awarded a small prize.

All the money collected will be donated to Wheatfields. The Association is providing the potatoes and we're hoping to source free buckets (supermarket flower buckets) but if you do have one of your own it will be helpful.

REMATERIALISE - Craft workshops

We are considering the possibility of running craft workshops in the Community hut, using mainly recycled materials for quilts such as those raffled at the last two shows and rug making. If you are interested in taking part in these or want more information, please let Eileen Handby know, or put a note under the hut door with your contact details and she will get in touch.

Welcome to new members!

Please welcome to BMAA Simon Sherriff (plot 54a1), Amy Chant and Daniel DeBalsi (21b), Sheila and Peter Starr (24a), Lucy Parkin (92b), Michael Jarratt and Rebecca Cromley (93a) and Robin Glendinning (93b).

Obituaries

Geoff Pywell, formerly of plot 62, ex committee member, passed away in February aged 75 after a long fight against ill health. Sadly his wife Marlene died a week later. All who knew him remember his love of flowers, his kindness and generosity and his gentle poker-faced leg-pulls. BMAA has made a donation to Marie Curie Cancer Care in his memory. Our condolences to his family and friends.

We are also sorry to report the decease of Michael Kilroy. It seems hardly any time at all since Michael took over plot 91a, and he only enjoyed his plot for a short while. We welcome his family who have taken over the plot, but we wish it was under happier circumstances.

Rules and Regulations

What do you feel about the revised rules issued with the previous newsletter? The rules can also be found on the BMAA website and a copy is posted on the hut notice board. Please contact the Secretary if you would like a printed copy of the rules and / or constitution. The opportunity to change the rules is the Annual General Meeting, when everyone gets a chance to vote. If you feel there is something that needs to change, propose the change in writing, with the name of the proposer and a seconder. Please note that by our constitution only BMAA members who are ploholders have the automatic right to vote at Association meetings.