

Woburn Sands Allotments Newsletter

March 2010

Committee News

The Committee has been busy taking advice in preparation for the AGM in April. As mentioned in the last newsletter, it is important that all members attend this meeting. There is a proposal to make some changes to the Constitution and Bylaws so that tenants become shareholders after a probationary period. Bonfires will be a particular item for discussion at the AGM.

Please make a note in your diaries for Thursday 22nd April in the Memorial Hall.

The papers for the AGM will be sent out in mid- March, together with your pole charges. If you have any items for the agenda these need to be with the secretary by 1st April at the latest.

At the AGM, the Committee for 2010/11 will be elected. Some members of the Committee have indicated their intention to stand down this year. This means that there will be at least three vacancies at the AGM. Please consider standing for the Committee. If you want any details of what is involved, speak to any member of the Committee.

Hedge Laying

Many members have commented about the hedge on the Bow Brickhill Road. At the end of January, Andy Malleson carried out the work aided by a few other volunteers. We are very grateful to Andy for carrying out this work on a voluntary basis. There is general agreement that the hedge looks wonderful.

Many thanks, Andy. (Photos on web site)

Compost/Shredding

The area in front of this hedge now has a large compost bin and piles of branches to be shredded. The branches and other suitable materials will be shred on Saturday 17th April. If you are able to offer an hour or two on that day to help out with this it can soon be sorted.

The shred material will be put in the new compost bins. Instead of just dumping compostable material on the piles which we intend to shred, would you **PLEASE PUT COMPOSTABLE MATERIAL IN THE COMPOST BINS.**

It will take a little time to fully arrange this area but we hope to have it done in the next month or two.

Paving Slabs

We have been offered some used paving slabs. These will be stacked near the pallets at the Bow Brickhill Road end of the field. Please help yourself.

Local School – can you help?

The Allotment Society has been asked to help Fulbrook Middle School set up a vegetable plot on the school site. On Wednesday 17th March, the pupils will be having a special day off their usual timetable to dig and then plant a plot which is about 6 poles in size.

Can you help out in either of the following ways?

- ◆ We need gardening tools; forks, spades and rakes. Do you have any tools that you can either lend or even donate?
- ◆ We need people to help on the day. The area will be cleared and rotavated before the 17th. The children will dig over the area and then plant potatoes, onions and any other crops suitable for that time. You will not be expected to dig but to advise how this should be done.

If you are able to help, please contact Marie at secretary@wsallotmentsociety.co.uk or on 585284.

Day Outing Saturday 26th June

We have been invited by our seed suppliers, E. W. King to their warehouse at Kelvedon, Essex. There will be a conducted tour of sweet pea trials and we shall see how seeds are cleaned, weighed, stored, tested, packed and picked. This afternoon visit to King's will last about two and half hours.

In the morning there will be a three hour visit to the 360 acre RHS gardens and estate at Hyde Hall, Rettendon www.rhs.org.uk/hydehall. Refreshments are available from the Barn restaurant and Field Cafe (or take your own).

We shall leave from the bus stop outside Woburn Zens at 9.00 am and return at about 7.30 pm.

Cost: The coach has kindly been provided by E. W. King, however, group entry to Hyde Hall is £6 each (free to RHS members). Allotment association members may take one guest.

To book a place(s) please contact Paul Hamer at treasurer@wsallotmentsociety.co.uk or 587649 a.s.a.p. as places are limited (give RHS membership number, if appropriate).

Entry fees will be collected on the day.

Acrylic Sheets – free to a good home

The sheets have been used but would be ideal as a roofing material, cut up for greenhouse panels or cloches (Acrylic cuts easily on a band saw). There are 3 sheets 3m x 1m (approx 4mm thick) plus 3 to 4m x 1m of various lengths. Contact Graham on 587605.