



# Gnosall Allotments & Garden Association Newsletter

Issue 33

August 2017

## ALLOTMENT UPDATE

We have had a busy season involved in several village activities

### Garden Talk with Macmillan Cancer Support

The illustrated talk by David Tideswell about "Garden Birds in Spring & Summer" proved to be most entertaining, including bird impressions and lots of useful tips for encouraging birds to visit your garden. With approximately 50 people attended the evening, we managed to raise over £300 for the Gnosall branch of Macmillan Cancer Support. Thanks go to their committee who provided us with refreshments and ran the raffle.

### Gnosall Carnival Saturday June 17th

Once again our committee ran the plant stall at the carnival and helped the carnival committee in raising valuable funds for the repairs to the fabric and building of St Lawrence Church. Thanks to all members who donated plants especially Ann Robotham.



### Gfest /Open Gardens day July 22<sup>nd</sup> /23<sup>rd</sup>

Our stall on the Grosvenor Centre green attracted a number of new members and helped us promote our activities.



Cont.....

There was a steady stream of visitors to the allotments on the Sunday as part of the Open Gardens programs. Visitors were challenged to identify a number of vegetables.

## DONATION FROM HOMESURE

GAGA has recently benefitted from a £250 donation from HomeServe. HomeServe are supporting local charities and societies by encouraging employees to volunteer in their community and in return will make a donation proportionate to the number of voluntary hours worked.



## EQUIPMENT FOR HIRE

With help from the Homesure grant, we have recently acquired a petrol driven rotavator and a strimmer and the necessary safety equipment for use by members. These will be available for "hire" by members to use on their allotment or in their garden. For more details contact Ray Finney or any other member of the committee.

## DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

*Gnosall Allotments and Gardens Association will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October at the Royal Oak, Gnosall starting at 7.30 pm in the upper room.*

Anyone who is currently an allotment holder or garden member is encouraged to attend and help contribute to the future of the society, and help make decisions on improvements for members.

Most members of the committee have served since September 2009. We need "new blood" to ensure that we can keep operating and to bring in new ideas. ....cont on pg 2

With enough committee members, we can continue to offer a full services to members without it being too much of a burden.

**If you are willing to serve on the committee or know someone who may help, please come along to the AGM and volunteer.**

## E-MAIL ADDRESSES

As a committee we try to communicate to members using emails. There are many advantages both for us in keeping down costs and for you. We can send you information and reminders faster without the need for expensive printing and the time and effort spent in delivery.

We understand that not all members have access to the internet and emails, but it would help us if all who have email addresses would allow us to use this method of communication.

If you are one of these who have not yet given us your email address, please send it to our secretary at [gnosallallotments@gmail.com](mailto:gnosallallotments@gmail.com)

## COMMITTEE

G.A.G.A. Committee members

Neil Fletcher..... 13 Chairman

Ray Finney..... A

Email [rayfinney@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rayfinney@hotmail.co.uk)

Simon Whittick .. 51 Secretary

Phone 01785 823466

Email [gnosallallotments@gmail.com](mailto:gnosallallotments@gmail.com)

Lynn Whittick....

Susan Howlett.... Treasurer

Email [s.howlett@outlook.com](mailto:s.howlett@outlook.com)

Phil Barnes..... 55

Bob Colman..... J

Phone 01785 823955

Email [bob.colman@btinternet.com](mailto:bob.colman@btinternet.com)

Ann Newman..... B/D

Ray Woodward.. 11

The committee is keen to help all members and keep you informed on what is happening. If you have any questions, please do contact us at the shed or by phone/e-mail.

## AUTUMN LAWN FEED

Now is the time to apply Autumn lawn feed. We have a good stock in the shed selling at £3 for 3kg bag (enough for 80 square metres.)

## SHED

We now stock Perlite and Vermiculate in the shed at prices much cheaper than in the shops. These products are effective in improving drainage and aeration in compost especially when taking cuttings or seed sowing.

We still have a few bags of this season's compost at only £4.80 for 75 litres. Most garden centres charge more than this for only 50 litre bags. Get your bags now before the winter season.

As we are coming to the end of the growing season, Our last regular opening of the shed was on Sunday August 20<sup>th</sup>. But members can still buy items from the shed during the autumn & winter months. You should contact a committee member and we will arrange to open the shed for you. Our list of products and prices is available on our website\_ <https://gnosallallotments.org.uk/prices/>

## MESSAGE TO ALLOTMENT HOLDERS

You are reminded that allotment holders must keep all there rubbish and waste on their plot or take it home to dispose in their bins.

Please help us keep the allotments tidy. It is in our best interest to look after the allotment site as the parish council will only roll the cost into future allotment charges if they have to do the work.

## OUR WEBSITE

Have you visited our website.

<https://gnosallallotments.org.uk>

It contains information on current events, shed opening times, prices and useful safety information about the chemical fertilizers and other products we sell.

We are always looking to make improvements, so let us know what you would like to see.

We are also looking to have a FACEBOOK page to keep members up to date with events and news.

## BEST KEPT VILLAGE

Congratulation to the Best Kept Village committee- Gnosall are winners in the Staffordshire County large village class again.