



Gnosall Allotments & Garden Association Newsletter

Issue 48

May 2023

NEWS UPDATE

The Open Day in March was a great success, attracting a large number of members, so we have decided to run another special Open Day and Plant Sale/Swap on May 28th.

The committee are still looking for ideas to give members more benefits. Watch out for news that we will be offering you the chance to buy spring bulbs (tulips Alliums and others) at discount prices.

We are also applying to become an RHS Affiliated Society which will enable us to offer various benefits including a free group visit to one of the RHS gardens- more details next time.

It has been good to see so many of you visiting the shed on Sunday mornings. We will continue to open every Sunday morning until the end of June, and we still have plenty of stock at really good prices.

COMMITTEE

As we have several new committee members we continue to feature their profiles over the next few newsletters. This month let me introduce our secretary Liz Gardner:

I have lived in Gnosall for almost 18 years with my son and have developed my interest in gardening and growing my veg as an enthusiastic amateur. Before lockdown I helped out with an allotment but sadly with full-time employment and also the flooding of the plot put paid to achieving anything spectacular. It was while helping on the allotment that I became a GAGA committee member, which then lead to taking up the role of secretary in January this year.

We have another

**Open Day &
Plant Swap/Sale
at the shed**

on Sunday May 28th

If you have spare good quality plants bring them to swap or just come along to buy some. There will be special offers, prizes and our hire equipment will be on show. While you are there you can share a coffee or tea with us.

WHAT TO DO IN MAY

In the vegetable garden/Allotment:

Earth up potatoes

Keep hoeing to reduce weeds

Continue planting salad crops for succession

Thin out carrots and other seedlings

Harden off indoor grown veg. seedlings

Plant out brassicas, beans, squash and courgettes once danger of frost is past.

In the flower garden

Prepare hanging baskets and pots for summer displays

Cut the lawn regularly

Lift and store/divide daffodil bulbs once leaves have died back

Start to plant out summer bedding at the end of the month

Ventilate the greenhouse if sunny and start to apply shading if too bright.

If starting to clip hedges, look out for nesting birds

Cover sensitive plants if there is a risk of frost

GAGA ONLINE

Have you visited our FACEBOOK site or our website where you can find our latest news and information?

<https://www.facebook.com/gnosallallotmentsandgardens>

<http://gnosallallotments.org.uk>

They contain information on current events, shed opening times, prices and useful safety information.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson Jane Smith
Secretary Liz Gardner
Treasurer Ian Smith Q
Vice Chair Bob Colman..... J
Phone 01785 823955
Email bob.colman@btinternet.com
Shed stock control Chris Broadbent & Bob Colman
Shed rota Carol Roberts
Other committee members
Lynn Whittick.... Phone 01785 823466
Email lynnwhittick@live.co.uk
Phil Barnes.....55
Craig Atkins 54A
Tony Pickford.....N

Letter or numbers in Bold after a name indicate Allotment number.

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 by phone/e-mail.

MEMBERS' BENEFITS

Members can obtain a 10% discount at Swan Pit Nursery for all purchases over £10. Just show your membership card at the till.

A wide range of garden compost, fertilizers, canes and other garden sundries can be purchased at low prices from the shed. During the growing season the shed is opened on Sunday mornings.

We arrange purchase of seeds and seed potatoes and onion sets once a year in the autumn at significant discount. (This year the seed discount was 50%- and no charge for post & packing). Next Order- October for 2024.

Members get vouchers with their membership cards. These vouchers entitle members to money off when they make purchases at the shed. Once again this year members will receive 2 £1 vouchers.

Members can hire our equipment free of charge for use at home or on their allotment. (See details below)

EQUIPMENT FOR HIRE

As well as items listed below we now have a Long-arm Hedge clipper to borrow

Petrol rotavator - for cultivating/"digging" ground.

Petrol strimmer- for cutting back long grass and overgrown areas.

Electric rake/scarifier - for removing thatch, moss and weeds from lawns.

Lawn Feed spreader.

If you need more information about how and why you would use any of this equipment, talk to any committee member.

MEMBERS' OUTING

We are considering organising a visit for members to a garden in the area.

Would you be interested in joining us, maybe sharing the driving or looking for a lift in another member's car.

Please let us know if you are interested and perhaps give us suggestion of a garden that you would like to visit and which is within driving distance.

NEW MEMBERS

We have several new garden members signed up this year but we always want more. Do you know anyone in the area who would like to join and enjoy the various benefits we offer?

If so- let us know and we will contact them to explain what you get for your membership.

APPEAL TO MEMBERS

We are looking for more members to help in the shed.

Can you help on a Sunday morning from 10 till 12?

If so, please contact Carole