



# Gnosall Allotments and Gardens Association Newsletter



Issue 54

August 2024

## NEWS UPDATE

At the end of what has been a strange wet season, we are all hoping for a warm Autumn. It is now time to gather crops and assess how well our gardens and plots have grown. Similarly it is the end of GAGA financial year and we are preparing to report on the year at our AGM in October and to plan for next year. We are once again offering a range of bulbs at very attractive prices to our members and in October will also be taking orders for seeds at half retail price. Because of the limited interest in purchasing potatoes over the last few seasons, we will not be offering purchase of potatoes this season, instead we suggest you can use your discount and purchase from Swan pit Nursery, who always have a good selection and have them available from early in the New Year.

## SPRING BULB SALES

Full details of the Allium, Tulip, Miniature Daffodil and other bulbs we are offering to members with order form, pictures and details of how to order can be found on our website

<https://gnosallallotments.wordpress.com/spring-bulbs-to-order/>

## VISIT TO RHS GARDENS BRIDGEWATER

The trip to the RHS Garden Bridgewater, near Salford took place as planned on Friday July 12<sup>th</sup> with 19 of us enjoying the grounds and amenities.

If you want to visit any of the RHS gardens we can provide an RHS discount card for two members (Bridgewater, Hyde Hall, Wisley, Harlow Carr or Rosemoor) for half price—contact Bob Colman for more details or to borrow the card.

Other benefits include reduced admission charges to RHS shows (Malvern, Tatton Park etc)

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of GAGA will take place at the Royal Oak pub at 7.30 pm on **Wednesday October 9th**. This is the opportunity for all GAGA members to hear reports on what the association has done in the last year and its plans for the future. It is also a chance for you to raise issues and questions for the committee to answer (any questions or points you want raised should be submitted in advance to our secretary email—use our new email address: [GnosallGAGA1@outlook.com](mailto:GnosallGAGA1@outlook.com))

We are always looking for new ideas and would like to see new members join the committee.

## SHED OPENING

We have had a record year for sales in the shed, particularly for composts and fertilizers.

This year we have, however, sold less canes and netting. Please remember that our 5ft, 6ft and 8 ft canes are very sturdy and are inexpensive. We have a range of netting and protective fleece to offer protection from all the pests and problems we have in our gardens and allotment plots

As we get to the end of the growing season, sales have reduced and we will not be routinely opening the shed until next season.

## GAGA at GNOSALL CARNIVAL

Thanks to the committee members who manned a games stall at the Carnival on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The day was a great success with the weather being kind to us. The stall raised xxx towards repair and restoration work for St Lawrence Church

## RUBBISH COLLECTION DATES

We have been advised by the Parish Council that there will be refuse collections at the Allotments from 9am to 10am on:

• Saturday 14th December

## DISCUSSIONS WITH PARISH COUNCIL

We are in discussions with Parish Council members about the state of some derelict or unkept allotment plots and the state of the access road.

## SOME JOBS DO IN AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

Keep harvesting crops and dig up potatoes  
Sow late seeds of winter salad leaves, spring onions and radishes  
Cut back summer raspberries  
Deadhead flowers such as dahlias to keep them flowering  
Take softwood cuttings of pelargoniums  
Plant daffodils and spring bedding plants  
Plant forced hyacinth bulbs for Christmas flowering  
Clean cold frames and greenhouses ready for winter  
Pick early fruiting apples and pears

*And finally--- remember to sit down and appreciate your garden*

## EQUIPMENT FOR HIRE

We have a range of equipment for home gardeners and allotment holders to borrow free of charge (you just have to pay for fuel where applicable)

Recently we have had donated to us a Heavy Duty Petrol Lawn Scarifier This is considerably more powerful than the electric lawn rake we have and will tackle the biggest lawn restoration jobs.

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

Other equipment available:

Electric lawn scarifying rake

Lawn feed spreader

Petrol Rotavator

Long-arm hedge clipping attachment

Lawn mower

## REQUEST TO ALLOTMENT MEMBERS

If you are bringing your car or van into the allotments, please drive carefully and slowly.

The roadway at the entrance to the Allotments has been raised to try to alleviate the flooding problems: to assist in this it has been necessary put a raised kerb at the entrance.

## NEW EMAIL

We now have a new email address for contacting the committee:

[GnosallGAGA1@outlook.com](mailto:GnosallGAGA1@outlook.com)

Please update your contacts list and use this email if you want to message the committee or request information. Our old email address no longer works, so please delete it.

## MEMBERSHIP

If you are not a member and wish to join and receive the benefits of GAGA membership you can do so at any time This year the cost of membership is just £3 (including two £1 vouchers which can be redeemed towards shed purchases, but only on two different days). Just contacting Liz Gardner or Jane Smith email- ...[fjs@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:fjs@hotmail.co.uk)

## COMMITTEEMEMBERS

Chairperson	Jane Smith
Secretary	Liz Gardner
Treasurer	Chris Middleton....51A
Vice Chair	Bob Colman..... J
Phone	01785 823955
Email	bob.colman@btinternet.com
Shed stock control	Bob Colman
Shed rota	Carol Roberts
Other committee members	
Ian Smith .....	Q
Phil Barnes.....	55
Craig Atkins .....	G
Tony Pickford.....	N
Ann Kelly	
Kayleigh Newman	

## LAWN CARE

September is a good time to improve your lawn by raking out moss and the dead grass "Thatch" either with a lawn rake or mechanical scarifier (Much easier). Then you can top dress with a sandy soil mix and re-seed bare patches. After that it will be time to apply an Autumn Lawn Feed.