Newsletter

Summer 2019

Our Long-Awaited Start to Summer



Well here we are in July; it was cold and raining at the start of June, then we had a heatwave and for the rest of the summer who knows what may happen? Can't remember what the weather was like in May? Summer was in February and no doubt we will have Autumn in December. Whatever happens, we all know that it never rains in California but it pours, well it seems to here; man it pours. Anyway we know it's Summer when Frank is out cutting the grass.

We have, in a cost cutting exercise, added some adverts and personal ads to this newsletter and we hope that it doesn't detract from your pleasure in

reading or indeed just looking at the pictures which we know most of you do. Yes we know our target audience, paint a target and we will hit it.

Annual Show

Most of this newsletter will centre on the Annual Show after all it is the showpiece of the year and we hope you will all turn up on the 1st of September another red letter day for your diary. It will be great to see you all there and if you can enter something in the show, so much the better. We look forward to seeing you and we are planning a number of exciting phenomena to bemuse, hoodwink and swindle you this year. We will of course have the usual con tricks to cheat and deceive you of all your hard earned cash. The only good thing in this scenario is that in the end we all gain by this insofar as all the profits from the day are ploughed back into the site. You never know we may be able to afford a plough one day? Seriously though if you can help with a raffle prize, the odd cake or maybe even a nice one, it will be more than welcome.

JODIE

Not sure how many characters I can fit into one advertisement, but here goes nothing. I wanted to ask you a VERY important and timely question. Will you ma

bamboozleUZ@Rplane.co.uk¶

bamboozleUZ@Rplane.co.UK¶
Hire·us·for·the·day¶
We·provide·a·complete·solution¶
Your·plot·cleared·of·all·weeds¶
A·real·no·dig·solution¶
We·aim·for·your·plot¶
Don't·guarantee·to·hit·it¶
Phone·us·401·2850696¶



If you can help on the day or the days before the show it is always appreciated. As most of you know we always need help setting up the marquee - given the weather we usually do this the week before the show. It is always fun to come and watch this. No matter how many years we have done this, it is still a complete and utter farce. Seeing grown men and women wrestling with marquees, tents, pavilions, gazebos can be so much fun even when they have the instructions. Well we hope you are able to help and if not help at least come and laugh at us. As you can imagine there is such a lot to do to prepare for the Show and on the day itself, so any help you can give is always welcome.

Wire Fence

₩ireFence

Here is an offer for all members. Wire Fence is not just a company that provides wire fencing, although it does and it does that

well, it also has a wide range of products that can be used on the allotment. The company also provides horticultural fleece and netting for fruit trees and cabbages, fleece for carrots, and many more items. You can find a link to their site on our website.

From the "Offers" page on the website, click on the Wire Fence website, from there at the top of the page select "All Categories" and choose from the drop down list what you require. We have organised a 10% discount for members of the Association, just use the discount code called 'burleyallot10'. It can be validated by adding it into the 'coupon' section on the left hand side of the checkout page.

JODIE (Continued)

ke dinner tonight or shall I? Because I kind of wanted to watch the last episode of Game of Thrones. Anyway let me know Love Alex XX

The coupon code can be used on any product purchased from the Wire Fence pages.

Dogs



I'm sure that we all love to see dogs on the site but please be aware that dogs (regardless of size or temperament) must be kept on a lead and not be allowed to run amok. Not only is this to comply with the rules of the site, but you must have some control of your animal, unless it's a cat dressed as a dog? Would that be a dog's dinner?

It is Rule number one of the Allotments and it is rule number one for a good reason.

Rule 1.1 All dogs must be under control at all times. That is, on a short lead on public paths when the plot holder is travelling to or from their plot; otherwise secured on the plot, not on the roadway. Dog owners or a person who is in charge of a dog must clear up any dog fouling and remove it from the site.

While we do not prohibit anyone bringing a doggie on site, we love having them; we do obviously expect owners to clean up if necessary. We all love to see animals on the site but please be responsible.



Contact Details

As ever can you please let us know if you have changed any of your contact details recently? We need to be able to contact you in case of an emergency, sometimes the site is subject to vandalism and we would like to be able to contact you quickly should the need arise. We also need to be able to get in touch with you for your annual invoice to ensure that you can pay and keep your plot, so that you can read the newsletters and get to know about things that are happening on the site. So please let us know if you have changed any of the following. Your home address, we require this so we can confirm your home address for the annual invoice we send you. Your email address, if you have changed this please let us know so we can send you newsletters and information about the site. Have you changed your phone number? Again please let us know so that we can contact you in an emergency. It would help if you can provide both a mobile and a landline number if you have one.

Committee Meetings and the Annual General Meeting

Looking for a single male or female to satisfy my needs as I hate being alone. Seeking a long term relationship.

No preference in body type. Doesn't matter to me as I just need companionship.

Single sized mattress now available at Bernie and Phil's Home of Furniture Tel 401 2850696

This year's A.G.M. will be held on the 27th October 2018, how many more times can we say another red letter day. Well there it is another red letter day for your diary. Last year's minutes are available to view on the website library pages. This is YOUR chance to have a say in how the allotment site is run. Although anyone and everyone are always welcome to attend the Committee Meetings as well. These are held on the second Monday of the month at 7.00 p.m. come along and see for yourself how much fun we have. If you are unable to attend but still want to keep up with things, the minutes of the monthly Committee Meetings are posted on the website. Please pop in and see how the site is managed on your behalf. As mentioned above, the A.G.M. is another forum where you can contribute to the running of the site. You can be nominated to be on the Committee (nomination forms are available in the hut or on the website) or if there are any ideas you have or changes you would like to see in how the site is run, then please let us know.

Apple Press Afternoon

Given the success of Last Year's event and thanks to our friends at Leeds Urban Harvest, we will also be having two apple press afternoons this year. So, bring along your apples and produce your own apple juice. With a little advice and know how this can be turned into cider don't you know. These will be held on the 14th September and after the A.G.M. on the 27th October. We look forward to seeing you.

New Zealand Flatworm



These have again been spotted on the site, for those of you who have yet to see one of these critters, NZ flatworms are flattened and coated in a sticky mucus. The main colour is dark purplebrown, with a speckled buff/pale yellow margin and lower surface. They spend a lot of their time curled into a spiral, but when fully extended they can be up to 20cm (8in) long.

They first turned up in the UK in 1963, in a couple of gardens in Belfast, but very quickly spread to Scotland. They are still much more common in the north of the UK, which fits with their distribution in New Zealand, where they are confined to the cooler and damper parts of the South Island.

New Zealand flatworms might have remained just an interesting curiosity if they hadn't turned out to feed exclusively on earthworms. Their slightly macabre strategy is to wrap themselves around their prey, and then kill them by secreting a mucus containing digestive enzymes that immobilises and digests them, before slurping up the resulting liquid.

The good news is that early fears of an earthworm Armageddon seem not to have been confirmed by events, with some evidence that flatworms and their prey have settled down into an uneasy equilibrium. However they are still a pest and should be dealt with as such.

My sister told me she invented the echo – I said have you heard yourself.

Glyphosate

Scarecrow Wanted

A volunteer is wanted to work as a Scarecrow. No previous experience is needed as full training will be given. Must be able to stand for hours and have no fear of birds

> No time wasters please Tel 401 2850696

We understand that we are banging on about this and realise that a ban on its use would be unenforceable. We would ask though, that those of you who have a need to resort to using weed killer such as Roundup that you do not do this just because you have had a letter regarding the state of your plot. Spraying chemicals to remedy lack of effort is not really what is required. We all realise that an allotment is a lot of hard work and although you may feel the need to use weed killer or other chemicals on your land, why would you when you then grow things in the same soil for you and your family? Anyway, if you do feel the need to use weed killer, please do this in a responsible manner. Read the instructions on the label and do not use on a windy day when it can spill onto and contaminate your neighbour's land. Ensure the packaging and

empty contents of the container are disposed of in a responsible manner. In short, please use a grain of common sense when dealing with dangerous substances.

Burley St Matthias Primary School

As most of you know we have a close relationship with the local primary school, indeed they were here on site in February and again last month. We love to see them and help as much as we can as we know that they are the fuchsia of gardening. We have asked the children to provide some drawings which we hope to use as posters for the Annual Show. In exchange for this, we help with a number of projects they have including a potato growing competition where we will provide all the necessary implements and expertise. We help with judging for this and the competition took place last month, every one of the children got prizes. They and the teachers and headmaster all love their days out with us as do we and we hope to be able to let you know when they are next due up here. The children love to see the plots being worked and are very keen to learn all they can. Thank you to all who have taken time to engage with the children while they have been here with us. We will let you know in advance next time they are going to turn up so you can meet them in person.



Kirkstall Valley Primary School

We are looking to expand our relationships with the local community and have been contacted by Kirkstall Valley Primary. We have recently visited the school and have committed ourselves to helping them and providing the same help and advice we provide to Burley St Mathias.

Coffee Mornings and Plant Sales

Thank you to all who attended this year's Coffee Mornings and Plant Sales - these events are becoming more and more popular. This is mainly due to those who kindly provided cakes, buns and biscuits on the day along with all you generous folk who provided spare plants for sale on the day. It is days like these where we see the community (for that's what we are like it or not) all pull together and get together to talk about the plants we want, what we have grown or more likely what we have tried (and failed) to grow. It's good to see everyone all having such a good time regardless of the weather and to see so many people being so generous with their time and as mentioned proving baked goods on the day or spare plants that others can utilise. It is days like these that seem to make life seem somewhat worthwhile. Once again, a big thank you to all for making the days such a big success.

Looking for a
One night stand?
Then you're looking
in the right place.
I'm attractive short,
And full of personality.
Take me home and bring
me up to your bedroom.
You won't be disappointed
I promise you

Night stands now available at Bernie and Phil's Home of Furniture Tel 401 2850696

Organic Planting Schemes

As we mentioned in the last newsletter, we would encourage all of you to try and find a spare corner of the plot for some wild flowers or some bee and insect friendly ones. We are adding a category for this in the annual show schedule as well. By planting nectar rich and high pollen flowers, this will help both bees and insects over the summer months if and when summer actually arrives. Pretty sure this is a mythical thing like a unicorn but you never know it may turn up.

Choose nectar rich and pollen rich plants like wildflowers and old-fashioned varieties of flowers. Place all plants in full sun and don't be stingy with your planting - a block of three or more plants is better for bees and other insects than spacing them out singly.

Late summer is a critical time for bees and insects when food is often short. Fortunately, there are masses of colourful late-summer plants they'll happily feed on that can provide plenty of nectar and pollen for them.



And Finally

Please call into the hut for your supplies as well as all the usual bits and pieces that you would want and expect. You can just call in and see us and have a chat and a cuppa. Please remember to try and support us by attending the Annual Show the Annual General Meeting and the two Apple Press Afternoons we will be having this year. We look forward to seeing you at one two or all of these events this year failing that pop into the hut and see us one Saturday morning.

WANTED

Evil Genius seeks minions to sacrifice their lives in a futile attempt at world domination. Must be prepared to work 24/7 for a psychotic maniac. No pay but so much fun with laser death rays and acid baths. A messy and inevitable end is guaranteed.

Call 1-800 800 69696

PLANTIT GROWIT ENVOYIT