



+ NEWSLETTER +

Summer 2015

Welcome to the Burley Model Allotments Newsletter

Annual Show

This is the summer edition of the Burley Model Allotments Newsletter and we are happy to let you know (if you don't already) that this year's Annual show will be held on Sunday the 6th September 2015. So remember to add this date to your diary. There will be more news of the show later.

Coffee Mornings

The coffee mornings on the 2nd of May, 6th June and the 4th of July were all great successes. Thanks to everyone who attended and helped out with all of these wonderful events, we are pleased to report that all who attended (of those who expressed a preference) said they had a delightful time.

Trading Hut

As we all know the hut is staffed by volunteers and we are looking for some additional help with this. We require additional folk to help in the shop on Saturday mornings, full training will be given. The aim is that Eileen and Tony will be able to have some well-deserved rest from the shop duties during the rest of the year. Remember that the Hut is stocked full of goodies so come in and use it. The Trading hut is currently open between 10.00AM and 11.00AM every Saturday.

Items to Buy at the Hut

Things you can get at the hut are many and varied but don't worry we do have a First Aid kit as well ☺
The list includes

- Grow bags
- Multi-purpose compost
- Canes 6ft and 8ft
- Poultry manure
- Fish Blood & Bone
- Growmore
- Plant labels
- Lime

Repairs to the Lockers

As most of you with an ear to the ground know (you really should wash behind them if you're going to do this kind of thing), the repairs to the lockers are an ongoing project and any help you can give with this, perhaps a couple of hours of your time, would be more than welcomed. Please get in touch with us, go on you know how..... Just email us or call into the Hut one Saturday morning.

PLANT IT GROW IT ENJOY IT



Burley Model Allotments

Burley Model Allotments Association The Cardigan Centre 145-149 Cardigan Road Leeds LS6 1LJ
Email: bmaasecretary@gmail.com www.burleymodelallotments.org

Annual Show 2015

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The Annual Show is for all plot holders and we'd like as many as of you as possible to attend and contribute this year. We hope that the weather will be kind to us all in the time leading up to the Show and that your growing season has started well.

By now you should be familiar with the schedule, it is more or less the same as in previous years and copies will be available at the Trading Hut from late July.

There will also be information and advice available for those who are novices at showing. Please check out the Notice Board and the Website Library for tips on how to show.

Staging

Entries should be staged by 10.00 A.M. so as to give the judges time prior to the opening of the show which will be at 1.15P.M.

Help if you Need It

If you're not sure how to display anything, we do have a number of guidance sheets, available on the Website and on the Notice Boards outside the hut, but don't be afraid to ask, we want to help you, and we are always there lend a hand



Help With the show

The whole event is run and staffed by volunteers who appeal (although to be fair, not to very many,) for any help on the day or in the lead up to the Show. Nearer the time we will be looking for volunteers to help with the show, including advance preparation, putting up the marquees and sorting prizes. On the day we need helpers putting out tables/chairs, volunteers for the café, selling raffle tickets etc. then of course with clearing away afterwards...



The set up and take down of the show is a really good way of getting to meet people on the site get to know your neighbours and other plot holders in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

Daft as it may seem there is a lot of camaraderie and team spirit achieved and a lot of fun is had both preparing for, and taking down after the show. On the day of the Show there are always little last minute jobs to do.

We always have an enjoyable time setting up and dismantling the show area and the kettle is always on, so feel free to pop along and lend a hand.

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Help With the show

If you'd like to be more involved we'd like you to come and join in, just contact our Show Secretary, Eileen, email her at the above address with your contact details and we will get back to you. Otherwise simply come along when you can, on any day over the weekend of the Show.

There are jobs for everyone, from heavy manual work, moving furniture etc. to lighter-weight jobs, making tea, labelling prizes, putting tablecloths on.

All of these little jobs contribute to the success of the Show, and even if you can only spend a short time helping it is appreciated. So if you really would like to help, simply come along when you can on any day over the weekend of the Show from Friday to Monday.

Barbeque

Remember there is a barbeque after the Show, at around about 4.00p.m. and that you need to bring along your own food, and that you, and you alone, are responsible for burning this yourself. We will provide all of the tools necessary to help you in this endeavour, however we cannot guarantee that it will look as good as this.

How you choose to poison your family and friends is entirely up to you. You just have to know that the area is not managed and that you are responsible for your own safety and the food you cook. Who you choose to give these lethal burnt offerings to is up to you, oh, and as ever please be aware that you are responsible for the safety of others during this time. Good luck with this.....



Best Plot Competition

This year as ever, a number of "competitions" will be run in conjunction with the Show these include Best Border as well as the overall Best Plot and Best Half Plot competitions.



These competitions will be judged prior to the show and this year there will be only one judging for the Best Plot competitions. There has, as you all know, only ever been the one judging for the Best Border competition.

The criteria for the Plot Judging will be based upon the usual format and will include points for the following:-

- Condition of the Plot,
- Main Path
- Internal Paths
- Plot Number Sign
- Health and Vigour of Plants
- Broad Range of Plants
- Visual Aspect of the Plot



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Fundraising

The Show is a good opportunity for us to raise money to go back into the allotment. If you, or if you know of anyone, who would like to sponsor a category or donate items that could be used as prizes, then please get in touch. Or if you would like to, or you know someone who would want to set up a stall then please let us know. If you have any ideas for raising funds or can help in any way with items for the raffle, or if you are able to provide baked goods for sale on the day, then please contact the Show Secretary bmaashowsec@gmail.com



Where the Money Goes.....

The Annual Show is a great occasion for us and gives us a good chance to raise money so that we can help with the management of the allotment site, as such this benefits us all.

With the money raised from previous shows we have been able to improve the site considerably.

Along with grants from a number of organisations, we have implemented the following improvements. These include:-

- **RENEWAL OF THE HUT ROOF**
- **NEW DOUBLE GATES (6 HAVE BEEN REPLACED)**
- **NEW HOT WATER HEATERS**
- **REPAIRS TO THE LOCKERS**
- **NEW LOCKS FOR THE GATES**

Nearly all of the grant money we have obtained had to be match funded (this means that we had to provide the same amount of money that we asked for) by Burley Model Allotments.

As a result of this, the majority, if not all, of the funding we have received over the last few years have been match funded from the profits from the Annual Show.

Without this much needed extra finance we would not be able to make improvement to the site and benefit the community who use it (that is you by the way).

If you have any thoughts of future improvements please let us know what you want. You must know how to get in touch with us by now.....

And so to paraphrase the King.....

*It's not for one's money, but two for the Show
So come on help us to get ready,
and bring your cat and go.
or something like that,
(Really, don't bring the cat)*

A Sad Farewell

We recently lost another longstanding plot holder, Joe Rouse, another true gentleman who will be missed by all who knew him.

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And now for other items that are not really Show related but are important nonetheless...

Taps



Could we please, please, not leaving the taps running. Twice recently taps have been left on when there was nobody else onsite. On one of these occasions they had been running overnight!! This happens despite notices on the standpipes. We and by "we", I mean all of us, (as we all pay "Water Charges" within our Rent) paid over one Thousand Pounds last year YES that was OVER £1,000.00 to Yorkshire Water and it makes me shed a tear to think that some of this money could be saved

and not wasted. To add insult to injury to this particular heinous crime, it has been reported that the water heater in the gents has been left on overnight and with enough water flowing to warm it, a double whammy, wasting water and electricity. To end this subject, please try to leave the water butts full, and remember to turn them off. Oh and don't wash veg in the water butts as this only helps to spread disease on the site.



Fires

It just goes on... Once again we have received a number of complaints regarding fires on the site. Could everyone please be aware of our neighbours when you are having a fire on your plot. Please be sensible about when and where you have them, taking into account wind direction, time of day etc. and ensure that both you and they are safe.

Rubbish

Oh no it's not.....

Please do not put your allotment waste in the hut bin; it's not nice for those of us who have to empty it. By the way the scrap collection raised £92, should any donated items of scrap be of use to plot holders please remember to give a donation to the Association in the Hut.

Purloined Produce

It has been brought to our attention that produce is being taken from plots. Please be aware that this may be a problem and please report any occurrences that you know of.

And Finally

To keep in touch with what is happening on the site please check the website and the Noticeboards

And really finally, a note to end on.....

We hope to see you all soon, maybe in the Hut one Saturday, or perhaps helping out with the locker repairs, or even helping with the Show.

Failing any of the above we hope to see you at the

ANNUAL SHOW

1.15 P.M. SUNDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER

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