



# Burley Model Allotments

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

## + NEWSLETTER +

Spring 2016

### *Welcome to the Burley Model Allotments Newsletter*

#### Greetings

Hello and welcome to the Spring (well nearly) edition of the newsletter. Although it's still officially Winter it makes things seem just too gloomy to call it that. There is a lot going on this year and plenty to organise so we will try not to bombard you with too many things all at once.

#### Dates for your Diary



#### Plot Inspections

Plot inspection will begin this year in April and will continue monthly throughout the growing season.

#### Coffee Mornings with Plant Sale and Seed Swaps

Following on from the success of last year we will be holding a number of coffee mornings again this year, these will be on the first Saturdays of April, May and June. So that's the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April, the 7<sup>th</sup> of May and the 4<sup>th</sup> of June. Should you have any surplus plants you wish to donate please contact us in the hut one Saturday Morning.

#### Annual Show Meetings

This year's Annual show will be held on Sunday the 4th September 2016. The show opens to the public at 2.00 p.m.

To help organise for this and to be able to involve more of you at an earlier stage there will be planning meetings held after the Coffee Mornings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April, 7<sup>th</sup> May and the 4<sup>th</sup> of June.



#### Skip

A skip will be available on around the 8<sup>th</sup> of April check out the notice board for an exact date. As usual it will be on site until it's full.

#### Water

The water supply will be turned on after the 10<sup>th</sup> of April as long as there is no further chance of frost.

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## Traffic Restrictions



Well that's double yellow lines to the likes of you and me. Overnight, well it may as well have been, double yellow lines seem to have sprung up on St. Michael's Lane and Beechwood Crescent. As ever there has been no consultation regarding this and although it seems it will stop a traffic



problem, this is one that only occurs on a dozen or so days per year. As usual the council have used the proverbial sledgehammer (or in this case a damn big steam hammer) to crack a nut.

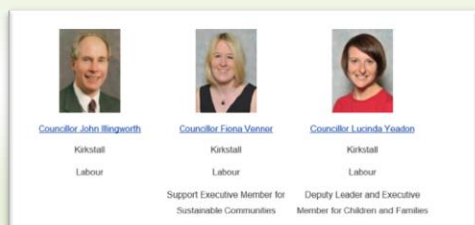


Parking is only ever a problem on match days for the Rugby and more seriously when a test match or T20 game is staged at the Cricket Ground. It would have been much easier and simpler to just place restrictions on parking on those particular days (and enforce this), rather than the permanent ban on parking that seems to have been imposed. Well that's the rant over, well nearly..... It seems as ever

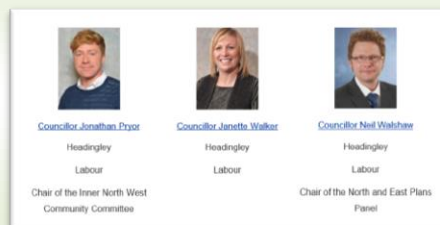
that the stadium is given priority over the local residents and members of the allotment site some who travel quite a distance and bring tools and have to carry produce to and from the plot. O.K. that is it, the rant really has finished.

Below are the local politicians who represent both wards that cover the Allotment site and who you can contact (should you choose to) regarding this issue.

## Kirkstall Ward



## Headingley Ward



## Local Surgery Details

Burley Greenhow Community Room,  
Haddon Road,  
LS4 2HN  
Third Tuesday of each month 7.00pm

## Local Surgery Details

Headingley Library,  
North Lane,  
LS6 3HG  
1st Saturday of each month 10am - 11am

The Office Address for all the local labour Councillors is as follows:-

Labour Group Office  
4th Floor East  
Civic Hall  
LEEDS  
LS1 1UR

Telephone: 0113 3952242

You can also try to complain (again should you wish to), using the Leeds City Council website where there is a "Contact Us" page, go to

<http://www.leeds.gov.uk>

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## Coffee Mornings



We will be holding coffee Mornings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April, the 7<sup>th</sup> of May and the 4<sup>th</sup> of June in the Trading Hut. Please come along and join us. This will give plot holders, both old and new, a chance to meet each other and swap stories about how and what they grow and perhaps gain an insight into why we do it. In any case it is a chance to socialise with each other and gives you time get to know your neighbours in a relaxed and informal setting. Not only can you get to know one another perhaps you have some tips to share.

There will be a chance to arrange to swap seeds and buy plants (if you have any surplus that you wish to donate please drop them off at the hut one Saturday morning). Should you feel the urge to bring along the odd cake or two that would be fantastic (even a cake that's not odd would be welcome) and will be gratefully accepted. Anyway, we hope to see you all there.

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## Annual Show Meetings

After the Coffee Mornings we will be having some planning meetings for the Annual Show, as you know already; this year's show will be held on Sunday the 4th September 2016 with the show opening to the public at 2.00 p.m.



Although this sounds a little grand it will give you; as members of the Association, a chance to have your say regarding the running of the show as well as perhaps volunteering to do the odd little job or two. As you can imagine there are 1001 jobs to do to make the show successful and if one or two of these tasks could be shared then the day will run a whole lot smoother.



## Water for the Site

The water for the site will be turned on again around the 10<sup>th</sup> of April as long as there is no further chance of frost.

Always remember when taking water from the butts, to make sure you fill them up again when you have finished. Help us and your neighbours by not washing vegetables or equipment in the butts as this can lead to the spread of disease.



## Skip

There will be a skip on the site in April. Notices will be posted advising of this. Please note that this should only be used for the disposal of non-compostable and non-hazardous materials, from the site. There are a number of restrictions on what may added to the skip these include :- Asbestos materials, televisions, fridges/freezers pesticides, cleaning chemicals (empty containers are permitted), fluorescent tubes / low energy light bulbs, oils, gloss or industrial paints, hobby chemicals (model fuel/photo-chemicals), car batteries or power tool batteries. These restrictions are due to the regulations relating to the operation of landfill sites and the waste management industry.



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## Plot Inspections

Plot inspections will start in April and then every four to five weeks or so throughout the growing season.

Inspections are undertaken to ascertain the state of the site as well as individual plots. Health and safety issues will also be noted and plot holders may be contacted to address any concerns identified. All plots are inspected, there is no opt out.

The criteria used is as follows:-

- Condition of the hedge (where applicable)
- Condition of the path
- Plot Number Sign
- Weeds and uncultivated areas
- Accumulation of rubbish on the plot
- Percentage of cultivated areas

Plots will be judged using the following criteria:-

- E = Excellent,
- G = Good,
- P = Poor
- U = Unacceptable

All plots that have areas that are found to be unacceptable or poor will be notified by the Secretary.

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## Plot Judging

Plot judging will start in the next few weeks. This is ONLY to be used to decide the winners of this year's best plot holders competition at the Annual Show. This is separate from plot inspections, and each plot is judged twice, usually in May and again in late July/early August, and each plot is scored, with points awarded for the path, general condition of the plot and condition of crops. The plot judging is used for the Annual Show and there is a trophy awarded each year for the Best Plot and Best Half Plot. The first round of judging will focus on paths, borders and the general condition of the plot. The Second round of judging considers the crops grown and visual aspects of the plot itself. Details of the criteria for judging are set out below and are also on the Notice Board.

However, a small number of plot holders have expressed a wish that their plots are not judged. If you do not want your plot to be judged, in this way, please let us know. There will be a notice on the board outside the hut, to which you can add your name.

First Round Judging		Second Round Judging	
Criteria	Maximum Points	Criteria	Maximum Points
Condition of Plot	34	Main Path	4
Path	5	Internal Paths	10
Plot Number Sign	1	Health and Vigour of Plants	15
Total Points	40	Broad Range of Plants	25
		Visual Aspect of the Plot	5
		Plot Number Sign	1
		Total Points	60

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## Potatoes, Onions and Shallots

This year we have the following potatoes available; you can buy potatoes by the number of tubers e.g. by number 6 Rocket, 4 Kestrel, 6 Cara or by weight e.g. 1kilo. All potatoes are priced at £1 per kg. Please call into the hut on a Saturday morning between 10.00 -11.00 a.m. and pick up some of the following varieties we have on offer.

Not all the varieties below may still be available as we are selling out fast. Remember the Trading Hut is run as a non-profit organisation so these are about the best prices you can get so be sure to get yours before they run out.

### First Earlies

- ❖ Home Guard
- ❖ Rocket
- ❖ Pentland Javelin
- ❖ Swift.



### Second Earlies

- ❖ Charlotte
- ❖ Kestrel.



### Main Crop

- ❖ Cara
- ❖ Desiree
- ❖ King Edward
- ❖ Maris Piper
- ❖ Picasso
- ❖ Sarpo Mira.



We also have the following onion sets and shallots available

**Onion Sets** - Sturon are priced at £1.20 per 500g for approx. 140

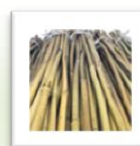
**Shallots** - Yellow Moon are priced at £1.20 per 250g for approx. 10

## Trading Hut

Don't forget all the other goodies available from the Trading Hut. Things you can catch 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
- Peat Free Compost
- Canes 6ft and 8ft
- Poultry manure
- Fish Blood & Bone
- Growmore
- Plant labels
- Maxi Crop – General and Tomato
- Jeyes Fluid



For a full list and prices visit the Hut.

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## Your Contact Details



If you have changed any of your contact details this year please let us know. Remember that it is your responsibility to provide us with any changes to your contact details. That way we can send your bill to the correct address and ensure that you keep your plot. You can let us know in the usual ways; write to or email the Secretary at the address above, or pop into the hut one Saturday morning and drop your new details off with us. Alternatively you can email the Membership Secretary directly using the email address below.

[bmaamembership@gmail.com](mailto:bmaamembership@gmail.com)

## Volunteers and Help Needed



We are always hoping against hope for people to come along and lend a hand, (and any other spare parts you may have), to help support us in looking after the allotment site. So if you hanker after spending an hour or so one evening a month in our company at the Committee Meetings please feel free to come along. They are held on the second Monday of the month at 7.00 p.m. Should you wish to join the committee or just help out in any other way, then please let us know by calling into the hut one Saturday morning or just come along to a meeting one evening and join us.

## Notice Boards and Website

Please do not forget to check the Notice Boards and the Website for further information about what is going on. To help provide more up to date information we are looking to set up new Twitter and Facebook accounts. If anyone knows about these new-fangled things or just wants to help in any way with any of the tech stuff please contact us.



## And Finally

It is so good to see everyone out on their plots tackling the weeds and seeing the plots coming to life with fruits and vegetables for the season. If however you are having problems with your plot or would like some help and advice, please come and talk to us at the hut; there is usually someone around who can help. The Hut is open every Saturday between 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. We can look at a number of options to help out that may include offering you some useful tips to help you, or even see if we can get you a helper from the waiting list or possibly look at downsizing. We're all really keen to ensure you get the best out of your plots and to help you enjoy the fruits of your labour.



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