



## Newsletter May 2017

### Barbecues at Hanging Hill

Our first barbecue of the Summer will be held at Hanging Hill on Saturday 27 May, followed by another on 24 June. Tenants and friends from both sites are very welcome. We will have a Shared Produce Table again as this has proved popular; everyone is welcome to bring along food or drink that they have produced to share with others. The purpose-built barbecue will be available for all to use, although tenants are welcome to bring along their own. We request a small donation of £1 for tenants who attend, to go towards covering the cost of the insurance policy we are obliged to have.

### MAA stall in Higginson Park

On Sunday 11 June MAA will have a stall in Higginson Park to promote the allotments and the benefits of allotment gardening. This is the busy Regatta weekend when large numbers of Marlow residents will be in the park, giving us an ideal opportunity to reach out to those who are not aware of our allotment sites. If anyone would like to offer to help man our stall for a short session of an hour or less please contact Sylvia on 473946.

### Open Day Tours at Foxes Piece

On Saturday 17 June from 2-4pm the Association is running a trial Open Day at Foxes Piece Allotments. The purpose is to encourage people to think about taking on an allotment, but more importantly to have a better understanding of the work involved. The intention is for people to be taken around the site in small supervised groups of no more than 4-6 people – the tours will start by the gate next to the Horticultural Society hut at the top of Dedmere Rise. The gates of the allotment site will not be open to the public more generally. If you are interested in being a tour guide and telling people about your experience of working an allotment plot please get in touch with Denise on 483192.

### Chicken Manure Pellets & Rabbit Manure

20kg bags of chicken manure pellets are available to members for £9.00. Rabbit manure is free but donations to the Association are appreciated. Contact Sylvia on 473946.

### Discount

Hunts in Station Road continue to give discount on gardening items to Association members. Seed potatoes continue to be available for late planting. **Please ensure that your membership is up to date, as it is essential that you present your membership card if you wish to claim the discount.** We have also negotiated 5% discount with Toad Hall Garden Centre (this side of Henley) on week days only. Remember to present your card before the purchase is rung up.

### Membership/Vacant Plots

There is no immediate threat to either site but as you no doubt know the pressure to provide housing sites is relentless. We must therefore keep the plots fully occupied and well maintained to reduce the risk of losing the sites in the future. We no longer have the long waiting lists which have been a feature of recent years, although over recent months we have experienced a revival in interest for plots at Foxes Piece.

It is also very important that we maintain a high level of membership to protect the allotment sites and to show our commitment to their future. Those of you who have not joined or renewed yet this year will receive a membership application form along with this newsletter.

### Change of Address

If you change your address or contact details please remember to let us know.

## Woodchips

Woodchips delivered to Hanging Hill are available free of charge for all tenants of both sites. Foxes Piece tenants are requested to contact a committee member if they wish to collect woodchips from Hanging Hill.

## Newsletters by e-mail

More than 180 tenants now have their Newsletters delivered electronically, which still leaves around 60 delivered by hand. Thanks to the volunteers who do this. If you do not yet receive the Newsletter by email and would like to do so please contact Peter England.

## Home Made Wine

Members who might be interested in learning how to get started can contact Sylvia, who would be able to give help & advice on this subject. If sufficient numbers are interested a Wine Talk could be arranged for later this year.

## Website Forum

Follow the link below to exchange news and information with other Marlow allotment holders.

[www.marlowallotments.proboards.com](http://www.marlowallotments.proboards.com)

## Town Council's Best Kept Allotment Competition

All plots will be judged, except for those tenants who have chosen to opt out. We expect the first judging to be towards the end of June. As well as the Master Gardener prize for the best allotment across both sites there are 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> prizes for each site. All new tenants should be aware that prizes for the best newcomer are awarded for both sites. A number of highly commended certificates will be awarded, opening up the competition to more tenants as this proved popular last year.

**If you would prefer not to participate in the competition please contact either the Town Council or a member of the Association committee.**

## Hops

Our local brewery (Rebellion) are happy to leave their spent hops in neat white bags just near the shop area for all local gardeners to help themselves to. These are good activators for the compost bin, just empty a bag every now & then into your compost, mix it up a bit & it will help with the magic of turning garden waste into compost.

## Your 2017 Committee

Committee Members can have several roles but perhaps most importantly in keeping an eye open for matters of concern at both sites and ensuring that the Council is informed. Committee Members attend five meetings a year to discuss on-going issues and ideas for projects and events.

**Chair** – Denise Bagge – (plot 66 Foxes Piece). 35 Claremont Road. tel: 483192.

**Secretary** – Peter England – (plot 65 Hanging Hill). 53 Station Road. tel: 473300.  
[hscape@talktalk.net](mailto:hscape@talktalk.net)

**Treasurer** – Maren Talbot – (plot 24 Hanging Hill). 4 Hazel Close, Marlow Bottom. tel: 486640. [mtalbot@talktalk.net](mailto:mtalbot@talktalk.net)

**Member** – Fred Tillier – (plot 53 Foxes Piece). tel: 07910904407

**Member** – Sylvia Miller – (plot 87 Hanging Hill). 3 The Chase. tel: 473946.  
[sylvia@sbmiller.plus.com](mailto:sylvia@sbmiller.plus.com)

**Member** – Bill Kilner-Smith – (plot 72 Hanging Hill). 38 Barnards Hill. tel: 471284.

**Member** – Scott Pickard – (plot 21 Foxes Piece). 48 Glade Road. Tel: 476545  
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