

# grass CUTTINGS

APR:2019

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Hello again, it is the time of the year to give you my brief update, overall our SHAS is working well, I was asked not to mention lack of rain again as at our AGM, we had near floods just after!

We have had help from the Payback (probation) team to clear 2 of our bays on our centre path and at the end of our trading hut path of the rubbish dumped area! For clarity these bays are only for manure or wood chippings.

Two skips were provided on the centre path for rubbish that was not possible to be car transported to the Trafford tip. They proved very helpful and further skips will be available in the Autumn, the timings of which will be notified via email.

Most allotment plots are now being worked. Contact Louise if your plot is becoming too much to manage as we may have helpers who would be able to assist you. If you would prefer to give up your plot please also contact Louise as we do have twelve people on our waiting list.

After recent strong winds a fair amount of debris was

scattered onto adjacent plots, please make sure all your equipment and light buildings are secured to avoid accidents.

Elaine has successfully sown wild seeds on our unworkable boggy Plot 63, to encourage wildlife which will assist pollination on neighbouring plots. An excellent achievement by Elaine.

Sadly ITV haven't been in touch with us relating to any more filming at the allotment site.

Many thanks to Tony, David and Roger for their continued effort in keeping the main paths tidy and cut.

We are exploring buying additional soil particularly for our low lying areas, we will keep you posted.

I must not forget to thank all the committee members and helpers on your behalf for their continued time and effort, including Jim Howling for auditing our accounts.

Finally, let us all have an enjoyable, productive and healthy 2019!

**Regards, Don Jackson**

## AGM MARCH 2019 SUMMARY



**Don Jackson (Chair)** opened the meeting welcoming those in attendance to a new venue, the Salvation Army Citadel in Sale. 2018 had been a successful growing year and once again, the annual plant sale was a great success. SHAS continues to have a healthy waiting list with 14 people waiting for plots. As a member of Trafford Allotment Federation, Don reported that management of SHAS compared favourably to other sites in Trafford. On behalf of the Society, Don thanked all the hard working volunteers for their continued contributions which make SHAS successful.

**Jane Lucas (Secretary)** reported the success of community activities which included allotment visits made by a local children's nursery organised by Peter Jackson, and allotment tours which took place during the annual Ashton 'Picnic in the Park' event. A warm welcome was extended to new committee member Janet Cripps, who has already made valuable contributions to the organisation of the Society.

**Tony Turnbull (Membership Secretary)** presented a summary of membership activity reporting that at the end of 2018, total membership was 151, which included 101 active plot holders. The lease with Trafford ends next April and will be renegotiated which will include a rent review for the following year. To comply with new Data Protection laws, SHAS had produced a Privacy Policy which is published on the website. It was proposed and agreed to keep the Membership Fee at the same rates in 2020.

**Peter Baggaley (Treasurer)** presented the annual accounts for the year ending 2018 and thanked Jim Howling for auditing them.

**Louise Black (Plots Secretary)** reported on plot activity for the year noting that 5 plots had changed ownership. Regular plot inspections in April, June and September ensured that on the whole plots were being well maintained.

**Elaine Watson (Trading Hut Manager)** reported another successful year for the Trading Hut. Prices remained constant and sales were similar to previous years. Special thanks were extended to Tony, Don and David who had recently renovated the Trading Hut and installed new shelving.

# SHAS ANNUAL PLOT AWARDS

Congratulations to the following plot holders who were recognised at the AGM for their achievements during the 2018 growing season:

**Andrew Rowley (Plot 1)** for the quick turnaround of a very neglected plot.

**Caroline Jones (Plot 18b)** for transforming her new plot.

**Roger Snowden (Plot 19a)** for maintaining paths and other public areas on site. Roger's work was instrumental in SHAS securing the 'Best Site in Sale' award.

**Gary Stiles (Plot 41)** for maintaining an immaculate and productive plot.

Each plot holder received a voucher to spend at the Trading Hut.



## SLUG PELLETS

From June 2019 it will be illegal to sell slug pellets containing Metaldehyde in the UK. If you do want to use slug pellets, you will need to use Ferric phosphate pellets, which are more wildlife friendly. You can buy these at our Trading Hut.

## SITE SECURITY

Please remember to **always lock the gates** when entering or leaving the site, even if you think you'll only be there for a few minutes.

## NEW PLOT HOLDERS

Welcome to our new plot holders, we wish them a rewarding and productive allotment experience.

**Plot 60b** John and Joy Osborne

**Plot 62a** Kip Sumner



## SHAS ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Our supplier, Halmans of Peover, will be providing us with an even wider range of competitively priced, excellent quality, bedding plants, hanging baskets and planters this year. Order forms have been either emailed or posted to all members. You can pay for your plants by cheque, cash or bank transfer. Full details are on the order form. **The deadline for receipt of orders and payment is Sunday 5 May.**

Orders will be ready for collection from the Trading Hut on Saturday 18 May 2019 between 11am until 12.30pm. The Trading Hut will be open during the collection period. Please support the Society in this event.

## SOCIAL DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

This year's **'Family and Friends Picnic'** which will be held at the allotment on Sunday 30 June 2019 from 2pm. It's an informal affair; just bring your chairs and a picnic and pitch up with other allotmenters for an afternoon of socialising and a well-deserved rest from the labours of tending your plot!

**Everybody is welcome. Let's keep fingers crossed for good weather.**

## COMMITTEE CONTACTS

**Don Jackson** Chairman, Plot 50

T 973 5256

E [chairman@shas.org.uk](mailto:chairman@shas.org.uk)

**Jane Lucas** Secretary, Plot 39a

T 973 9704

E [secretary@shas.org.uk](mailto:secretary@shas.org.uk)

**Tony Turnbull** Membership, Plot 21

T 283 0783

E [memberships@shas.org.uk](mailto:memberships@shas.org.uk)

**Peter Baggaley** Treasurer, Plot 7

T 962 5642

E [treasurer@shas.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@shas.org.uk)

**Louise Black** Plots, Plot 36

T 283 7415

**Elaine Watson** Trading Hut, Plot 43a

T 962 9684

**David Taylor** Equipment, Plot 27

T 973 0867

**Jane Lucas** Newsletter, Plot 39a

T 973 9704

**SHAS Website** [www.shas.org.uk](http://www.shas.org.uk)

## COFFEE GROUNDS

We've been approached by the External Manager at the Intu Shopping Centre with regard to used coffee grounds which they collect from their coffee shops, and which can be added to soil to improve it.

If you are interested in using this medium please let **Louise** know and she'll contact the Manager, but please be aware that you will have to collect the coffee grounds from the shopping centre.

## FIRES AT THE ALLOTMENT

A reminder that fires are **not** allowed at the allotments from 1 April – 1 October 2019.

## BAMBOO CUTTINGS

One of our plot holders has some spare bamboo cuttings. The variety, not deep rooted, is good for canes when the plant dies down in winter. If you're interested please call into the Trading Hut.

