

Grass Cuttings

The Newsletter of Sale Horticultural & Allotment Society – January 2006

Chairman's Report

Hello again, hope you and your family had enjoyable Christmas and New year celebrations, no doubt you could now be thinking and hopefully planning your horticultural activities for 2006. Last year was a good year for most crops in your garden or allotments, it being reasonably dry and warm.

In this area of the North West we've had a mild winter so far compared to other parts, this could be good or bad we'll have to wait and see how our crops perform this year.

Activity on our allotments has hardly stopped this winter, manure has been delivered to our two storage bays and to the top path. Most has been consumed by our plot holders and either spread over their plots or dug in. A local stables in Carrington, Mr Kevin Groos tel 969 5853, is making horse manure available "on a help yourself basis" if interested please contact Kevin to make your arrangements.

Most allotments are now being cultivated, Sylvia has been busy introducing new members and letting plots which have been neglected or given up, even so our waiting list continues to grow. Ken has also been busy sending out membership renewal notices.

To assist Trafford M B C allotment judges, could each allotment plotholder create a board showing their plot number and display it!

We now have an allotment tenant who is a nurse and she has asked us to remind you that anyone who touches soil etc should have a valid tetanus inoculation!!

Most of our allotment compost bins have now been taken. SHAS is therefore doing its bit to recycle waste. We have learnt that the contents from your home Green wheelie bins is processed at Trafford's Sharston plant then goes to local farms for their use, we are checking whether this can be purchased by Trafford rate payers, we will keep you informed. We, your committee, are also considering making reclaimed compost available at the Trading hut from another source near the New Smithfield Market M11 details will be provided later.

In December our Glebelands Road gates were rammed damaging the gates and Lionel's plot number 48. This damage has been reported to the Trafford Police Allotment Watch section, no one has yet been traced for the damage. We have placed details of the Trafford Allotment Watch on each of the SHAS notice boards should a plot holder experience any vandalism.

Sylvia has started our 2006 social activity list which includes our AGM in March, Trading Hut openings (we still need trading hut helpers) our Plant sale, Talk dates and a new innovation, coffee morning in the amenity building. We plan to add to this list so please note the dates and watch our notice boards.

We have ordered five varieties of seed potatoes, onion and shallot sets, varieties can be seen per our list in this newsletter. Please post your orders to make sure you're

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not disappointed. We have ordered less this year to avoid wastage. Also we have checked 2005 sales value levels on all items in our trading hut to see which should be retained/ increased or discontinued. Ken has also done a price comparison with Wilkinson's and other shops. SHAS prices are below in all but one item and the price of this item has now been lowered. See the listed examples in this newsletter.

I cannot let this opportunity go without making my regular request for help on our committee, we meet around five or six times a year and the meetings are normally in the evenings and last for about an hour depending on the items for discussion, please contact any committee member to ask any questions you may have prior to volunteering. Our finances as Jonathan has stated have improved considerably, primarily due to strict controls and your committee only claiming minimal expenses for monies spent. I continually thank your committee on your behalf for their support and help to SHAS.

Could I close by wishing you all a productive and enjoyable 2006 be it in your garden or on your allotment. I look forward to seeing you at our social activities and our AGM.

Best regards
Don Jackson
Chairman

Sylvia writes:

The harvest supper was again enjoyed by many and the committee finally think we are getting the balance of the evening just about right!

Dates for your diary

Wed. 15th March AGM

Sat. 6th May Plant Sale

Sun. 7th May coffee, cakes & cuttings at the clubhouse
10.30 – 12.00

Sun. 4th June as above

Wed. 12th July 7.30pm St Mary's Church hall: 'Beyond the Garden Hedge' talk by Margaret McCormack

GOLDEN WEDDING



Congratulations to our Chairman Don Jackson and his wife Norma on their Golden Wedding anniversary. We wish them many more years of happiness together.

TRADING HUT OPEN FOR BUSINESS

**Sunday February 5th and every following
Sunday until July.**

We will stock
POTATOES,

Arran Pilot, first early
Charlotte, second early

**Cara, Golden Wonder & Desiree main crop
SHALLOTS**

Golden Gourmet

ONIONS

Sturon
Supplies will be limited this year.
Buy yours early!

The Membership Secretary writes:

I take this opportunity to welcome all our new members who have joined our Society during 2005. You should have received your new membership cards and welcome packs, I apologise for the delay in getting these to you. If any new members have not received either their membership cards or their welcome packs please let me know. Membership fees have been kept at the same level as last year, that is £4.50 for Full members and £4.00 for Concession members. A notice for payment of subscriptions for 2006 should be attached to this Newsletter. Membership fees are due on 1st January 2006. All plot holders will have paid their membership fees with their plot rental invoice. Any that have not paid, please do so as soon as possible. I wish all members a good growing New Year. Please compare our Trading Hut prices and local establishments which shows we are very competitive on price for most things we sell. Please tell all your friends about the benefits of membership. If you buy two bags of Weed Feed and Moss killer and you have more than covered the cost of your membership.

Ken Bostock

Treasurer's Report

Hello and a Happy New Year to you all!! – well the few months since our last newsletter have definitely have flown by. Once again I can give you all good news financially. We have again recorded a slight cash surplus in our annual accounts. Highlights of the year included hire of plant machinery as featured in our last newsletter to recover previously derelict plots- a very successful year long scheme to remove rubbish from the allotment sites and an excellent Gala Supper evening. The ability to invest in these things was due to the continuation of tight financial controls, plus all the committee waiving reimbursement of almost all out of pocket expenses. The administration costs of running the society were very little for the second year running. This enabled us to release funds for all of the improvement work we have undertaken last year and will continue with this year. We do need suggestions/ideas for what else you would like us to do on your behalf. What improvements to the site would **you** like to see?

Remember, memberships and plot rentals have already fallen due on 1st January this year. For those that haven't paid, please do so as soon as possible. Remember, you need to be a fully paid up member of the society in order to be a plot holder.

Trading Hut – news, views and questions regarding the trading hut continues on the back page

Best regards, Jonathan.

Committee Notices

The position of **Allotment Secretary** is
vacant

**Nominations are invited for the
AGM.**

Wednesday 15th March St Mary's Church
Hall
7.30pm

Motions for the meeting to be received by 22nd
February

**We desperately need a member or
members with an interest in the social
side of the society to come on to the
committee to help organise a few social
events such as talks, barbecues, table
top sales, plant swaps etc. At the
moment too many jobs are being
attempted by too few people. Please
offer your time to serve on the
committee in any capacity if you are
able.**

Contact Sylvia Tel: 282 8664



Sale Horticultural and Allotment Society

Application for Society Membership

(Fee: £4.50, Over 60's £4.00)

New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ I am over 60 ☐ Plot Holder ☐

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Other) _____ **Initials** _____ **Surname** _____

Card No. (if known) _____ **Plot No(s).** _____ (Where applicable)

Address _____

Postcode _____ **Tel. No.** _____

Signed _____

Please return to Mr K. Bostock, 206, Dane Road, Sale M33 2LG with stamped addressed

For Official Use Only

Concession Member ☐ Database Updated ☐

Card No. Issued _____ Date Paid _____

Amount Paid £ _____ Fee received By (Initials) _____

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