

# grass CUTTINGS

OCT:2015

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Could I bring you up to date with SHAS happenings, 2015 has been quite an up and down year so far. ITV/Coronation Street selected our site to be used in their story line, I had not realised how many people and vehicles were needed to film our part of the story! The television program planners hinted in May that they would be unlikely to return, but a final decision would be made at the end of September. However, we did benefit with a payment from ITV, and your committee have decided to use some of this money to help our plot holders who suffer with flooding by buying top soil to help raise the land and providing additional manure for all plot holders. We have also agreed to upgrade the Hoe-Down floor.

Our growing season has been a bit stop and start, with unseasonable weather, our crops have however been quite good plus our weeds are thriving!

As we would expect some of our plot holders have aged a 'little' and have had to give up their plots, this has certainly helped Louise reallocating to new plot holders, our waiting list is now down to 14. We are pleased to report most of our allotment plots are being well maintained and productive.

We anticipate water consumption will continue to be discussed hence we ask plot holders to strive to collect rainwater from their greenhouse and/or huts, I am trying to obtain additional damaged wheelie bins for rainwater collection.

Jane 'No2' has arranged a talk by David Metcalf, who is a leading figure in the **British Vegetable Society** on 7 December, see details below.

As always I must on your behalf thank your hard working committee and our helpers, without them we would not continue. May I wish you all a pleasant Autumn and I hope our Winter is not as severe as some forecasters are predicting.

**Regards, Don Jackson**



## SAVE THE DATE...

On Monday 7 December SHAS are delighted to welcome David Metcalfe, an experienced horticulturalist from the Ribble Valley, who will be giving a talk on growing vegetables the 'No Dig' way, growing through straw mulch, growing vegetables for exhibition and container growing. The event will start at 7.30pm and the venue for the evening is:

## THE SIP CLUB, 164A BARTON ROAD, STRETFORD

The Sip Club is very close to Stretford Mall, the exact location can be found on their website [www.thesipclub.co.uk](http://www.thesipclub.co.uk). This award-winning venue supports community initiatives, and provides an outlet for locally sourced produce and craft beers. The venue will accommodate approximately 30 people. Car parking is available at Stretford Mall. For those members who are interested in attending but have transport problems we suggest a car-share scheme.

Contact either Jane Leicester on 0161 969 1985 or Jane Lucas on 0161 973 9704.



## ATTENTION ALL GREENHOUSE OWNERS!

Earlier in the year when we experienced some severe winds, several greenhouses lost panes of glazing. Broken glass left lying around is dangerous and can damage machinery. We ask that replacement green panes be polycarbonate rather than glass and any new greenhouses on the site are also polycarbonate glazed.

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## TRAFFORD AWARDS SHAS PLOTS

Once again several of our plot holders received awards following the annual judging of Trafford Allotments. Congratulations go to the following:

Plot 2	G. Wilkinson
Plot 11	Z. Colman
Plot 19a	R. Snowden
Plot 27	D. Taylor
Plot 29	L. Enstone
Plot 41	G. Stiles



## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS YOUR SOCIETY NEEDS YOU!

Several of our regular volunteers are no longer able to help in the Trading Hut on a Sunday morning, some no longer drive, while others can't help due to poor health. The Trading Hut is a great service for plot holders but sadly it can't operate by itself! We are desperate for volunteers to help out on a rota basis – usually once every 5 or 6 weeks for an hour and a half on a Sunday morning.

Please contact Elaine on 962 9684 if you can help in any way.

THE SOCIETY HELD A SUMMER FAMILY AND FRIENDS PICNIC ON 20 JULY. THE WEATHER WAS KIND TO US AND IT WAS LOVELY TO SEE SOME NEW PLOT HOLDERS TAKING TIME OUT TO JOIN SOME OF THE MORE FAMILIAR FACES.



## TRADING HUT

Stocks of over-winter Japanese Onions (Senshyu) are available from the Trading Hut. These are competitively priced at 85p/250 grammes; we're often asked how many sets are in a bag – it's approximately 77!

The Trading Hut will only be open on the following dates: Sunday 27 September, Saturday 3 October and Sunday 11 October, it will then close for the winter and re-open in February – the date will be confirmed.

Copies of Kings Seed Catalogues are available from the Trading Hut and an extra 7.5% discount is available for orders received before 15 November. Kings Seeds are extremely good quality and catalogue prices are much cheaper than retail prices. Please send your completed orders (with payment) to Peter Baggeley on 0161 962 5642.

## COMMITTEE CONTACTS

**Don Jackson** Chairman, Plot 50  
T 973 5256  
E chairman@shas.org.uk

**Jane Lucas** Secretary, Plot 39a  
T 973 9704  
E secretary@shas.org.uk

**Tony Turnbull** Membership, Plot 21  
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E memberships@shas.org.uk

**Peter Baggeley** Treasurer, Plot 7  
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E treasurer@shas.org.uk

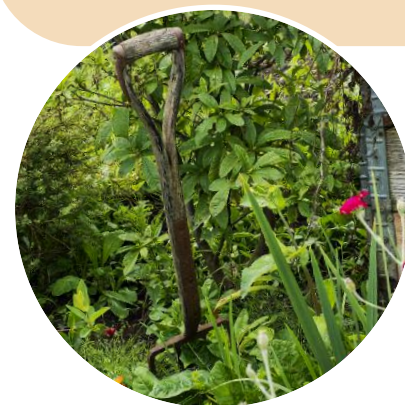
**Louise Black** Plots, Plot 36  
T 283 7415

**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)



SHAS would like to welcome the following new plot holders and wish to many successful and productive growing years!

Chris Lewis Todd	Plot 56a
Stuart Lilley	Plot 1
Nigel Pickles	Plot 57a
Nancy Scheerhaut	Plot 57b
Harry Walker	Plot 25a