

The Bushy Times

Newsletter of the Bushy Park Allotment Association

Issue 25

OCTOBER 2011

***AGM 30TH OCTOBER 2011
11:00 AM***

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM at the end of the month.
(Don't forget the clocks go back over night on Saturday so you gain an hour)

The Chairman's Report and our Accounts will be distributed before the meeting, posted on the notice boards and hard copy will be made available at the meeting.

Come and give the Committee your feedback and suggestions.

Finally have you considered standing for the Committee? More representation from the south end of the site around the main entrance would be beneficial and we would welcome new members who can contribute their time and effort.

Cleve West's new book OUR PLOT will be on sale so if you missed a chance to buy it at the barbeque then now is your chance.

AGM AGENDA

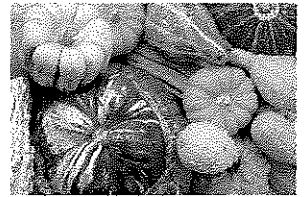
1. Welcome
2. Acceptance of last year's Minutes
3. Apologies for absence
4. Chairman's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Election of Committee Members]
7. Any Other Business

SEED SWOP

If you are a seed saver we will be running a Seed Swop table after the AGM. Bring along a few of your own saved seeds and swop them for some other seeds. It is fun to experiment. At the last AGM I gave 10 broad bean seeds bought in a Middle East supermarket in 2004 to another plot holder. At the plant sale I was

informed that these had been sown and half had germinated! It doesn't take a lot of effort or space to experiment.

WINTER SQUASHES



Many of you will either have harvested or be about to harvest squashes and pumpkins you have grown. You may be pleased with the results or perhaps not as happy as you should be and looking for a different variety or varieties to grow next year. Here are some of the squashes that have the RHS award of Garden Merit. This means they have been trialled at Wisley and the results published. If you are an RHS member you can get copies of the trial results.

<u>Name</u>		<u>Information</u>
Sunshine	C.maxima	Excellent flesh quality; semi bush; good mildew resistance
Celebration	C.pepo	Sweet flavour; semi bush habit; high yield
Honey Bear	C,pepo	Sweet; Good mildew resistance; bushy; fair yield; outstanding storage
Crown		
Prince	C.Maxima	Large fruits; excellent storage; delicious flavour
Harlequin	C.pepo	Good texture and flavour; semi-bush; high yield and good storage
Sunspot	C.maxima	Sweet with smooth texture; deep orange flesh

Winter squashes take four to five months from sowing to produce mature fruit though this depends to a great extent on the cultivar. If properly harvested, cured and stored some winter squashes can last through to the spring. Others won't last as long and may not make it through to the New Year.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

For those of you who have just discovered that courgette that escaped to grow into a marrow or perhaps have grown a marrow and don't know what to do with it, here is a recipe for Marrow and Ginger jam. Quite delicious!

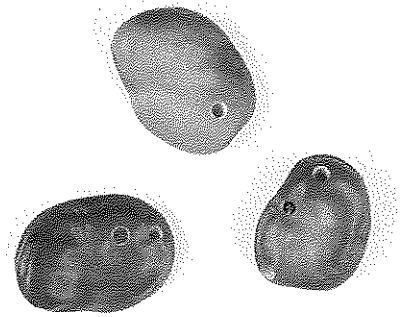
MARROW & GINGER JAM

Ingredients	
Cubed marrow flesh	1500 gms
Crystallised Ginger	500 gms
Sugar	1500 gms



Peel and cube the marrow flesh and steam for about 20 minutes in batches to cook it. Slice the ginger thinly and add to marrow and sugar in the preserving pan and leave overnight. No water is needed. Next day bring to the boil and boil gently for 20 to 30 minutes until you achieve a good thick consistency to pot up. This has a good 'ginger' flavour and consistency and has become our version of commercial Ginger Preserve. Holland Barrett sell half kilo packs of preserved ginger.

PESTS – BRUCHID BEETLE



I grew a selection of broad beans this year to compare varieties. We had a plentiful supply of fresh beans and I decided to save seed for next year rather than have to buy more seed. Pods were left to dry on the plants and the shelled beans were kept in a warm spot at home to complete the drying process. At this stage neat circular holes starting appearing in some of the beans and small dark brown insects were hiding in amongst the seeds. An internet search has identified these as Bruchid beetles (*Bruchus ruffimanus*) which originated around the Mediterranean and are yet another unwelcome pest. Fortunately not all the seed were affected and I have enough sound seed for next year. The seeds might germinate but would be susceptible to fungal attack as the seed coat is damaged.

The beetles only reproduce at temperature above 20°C, conditions that we had from early April this year. The eggs are laid on the flowers and developing pods and the insect's life cycle proceeds in the pod. By drying them in a warm environment I encourage the beetles to emerge early.

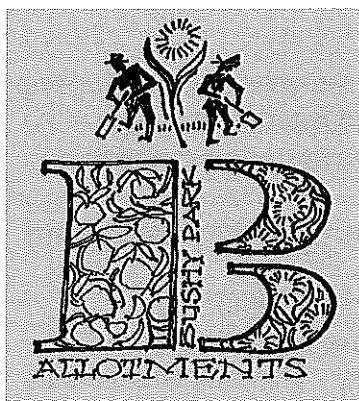
Next year when I save seed I will put it in the freezer for 2-3 days once the seeds are dry. This will kill the developing insect and hopefully preserve the seed from damage. Has anyone else had this problem?

Phil Iddison

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

If you know of anyone who is not on the Newsletter mailing list and has an email address and would like to receive the Newsletter by email please notify Patsy Iddison at patsy.iddison@gmail.com.

We will continue to put hard copy newsletters in the mail boxes at the allotment.



BUSHY PARK ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2011

1) INTRODUCTION

- a) The BPAA Committee has been working to the Constitution that was adopted at the Bushy Park AGM held on 6th November 2010.
- b) The Committee has held five Meetings since the last AGM. The Minutes have been posted on the two main Notice Boards for members to read.
- c) The Treasurer has issued the Accounts for the year and these have been posted on the main Notice Boards.

2) SHOP

- a) The Shop has operated throughout the year and we appreciate the considerable voluntary efforts of those that have made this possible.
- b) The Shop Accounts have been displayed on the main notice boards.
- c) Some of the Shop profits funded the recent Barbeque Event and it is also planned to improve the Shop facilities during the winter.

3) COMMUNICATIONS

- a) Formal communications have been posted on the main Notice Boards and on the notice boards fixed to the two gates.
- b) Four Newsletters have been issued in hard copy in the boxes and also by email to those who have provided an email address. Patsy Iddison (Plot 309) has taken over as Editor of the Newsletter. We are aiming to collect email addresses to improve our communications.
- c) The Committee have prepared an Information Pack for new tenants. It includes a set of Advice Notes for newcomers.

4) LIAISON WITH RICHMOND COUNCIL

- a) The Chairman has attended 4 sessions of the Councils' Allotment Steering Group. The minutes of these meetings are available on the Council website - <http://www.richmond.gov.uk/allotments>.

- b) The principal subject of the meetings has been the redrafting of the Tenancy Agreement and the Garden Rules. Members should receive the new documents with their rent renewal notices. There have been no major changes to these documents.
- c) Another subject has been Self Management of sites. The Committee have no intention of seeking this status.
- d) General liaison has continued with Peter Lewis, Allotments Officer.
- e) Committee members have assisted Peter by showing prospective new tenants around the plots that have become available. This has enabled us to get to know the new tenants.

5) EVENTS

- a) Spring Plant Sale 7th May – was well supported and there was an impressive selection of plants and produce available for this Open Day.
- b) Summer Festival 16th July – heavy rain for most of the event reduced the number of visitors and demonstrated our dependence on good weather.
- c) Autumn Festival 3rd September – included the awarding of prizes and cups in a number of categories for allotment plots and produce. We had a good stream of visitors from outside to see the allotments and enjoy refreshments.
- d) Barbeque 8th October - an internal event for the allotment community, funded from Shop profits and well attended.

6) MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- a) Parking controls at the main entrance have been provided by the Council. The Committee thanks the tenants who organised and signed a petition for these controls following a 'lock-in incident during the summer.
- b) Maps of the site have been posted on the Main Notice Boards showing the Committee Member who is nominated as your point of contact with the Committee. Please contact them for queries or if you have information for the Committee, such as a neighbour giving up their plot.
- c) There have continued to be sporadic thefts and reports of damage. Members are advised to be vigilant and report any incidents to their Committee representative or the Allotments Officer.
- d) The Committee has asked the Council to remove the rubbish bins. In future please dispose of your rubbish at home.

Thank you for all your support, efforts and feedback during the year. I trust that you also had an enjoyable and rewarding year at Bushy Park Allotments.

Phil Iddison
Chairman – Bushy Park Allotment Association.
Plot 308

BUSHY PARK ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION ACCOUNTS - 2011

Item	Cheque No	Pay No	Payment	Receipt	£
23/10/2010 Balance brought forward					2,305.63
13/04/2011 G de Vai (shop) Creosote , Padlock and key	28		£ 18.00		2,287.63
20/04/2011 G de Vai (shop) Petrol for community lawn mower and rotivator	30		£ 15.02		2,272.61
03/05/2011 Cash for Float	29		£ 100.00		2,172.61
09/05/2011 Plant Sale		500023		£514.88	2,687.49
25/05/2011 Cash John Whitby Removal of rubbish and buying scalplings	31		£ 420.00		2,267.49
12/07/2011 Cash for float	32		£ 50.00		2,217.49
25/07/2011 Open Day		500024		£195.62	2,413.11
11/08/2011 Cash - Squires Vouchers for Autumn Festival	33		£ 60.00		2,353.11
18/08/2011 T.Dodd - Cups and engraving for Autumn Festival	34		£ 60.00		2,293.11
31/08/2011 Cash - Float for Autumn Festival	35		£ 50.00		2,243.11
05/09/2011 Autumn Festival		500025		£ 336.64	2,579.75
29/09/2011 G de Vai (shop) Autumn Festival Winners Vouchers	36		£ 105.00		2,474.75
30/09/2011 Balance carried forward					2,474.75

NOTES

07/05/2011 Plant Sale = £414.88 profit
 16/07/2011 Open Day = £145.62 profit
 03/09/2011 Autumn Festival = £ 61..64 profit + £30.00 vouchers
 subject to cost of engraving of winners cups

BUSHY PARK ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

SHOP ACCOUNTS - 2011

Income			Expenditure		
Sales to Allotment Holders			Purchase of Stock		
Date	Description	Value	Date	Description	Value
22/8/10 - 30/8/10	General sales	£ 20.00	4.9.10	John (Sainsbury)	£ 36.50
18/9/10 - 26/9/10	General sales	£ 57.30		Cleve	£ 20.00
2/10/10 - 31/10/10	General sales	£ 79.80	9.10.10	Compost	£ 117.50
6/11/10 - 21/11/10	General sales	£ 27.60	28.12.10	seeds	£ 27.00
04/12/10	General sales	£ 6.00	5.1.11	seeds	£ 30.00
8/1/11 - 30/1/11	General sales	£ 60.00	27.1.11	Key cut	£ 2.50
5/2/11 - 27/2/11	General sales	£ 132.80	2.2.11	Compost	£ 154.00
19/3/11 - 27/3/11	General sales	£ 169.00	19.2.11	Cup (best plot)	£ 15.00
2/4/11 - 17/4/11	General sales	£ 390.98	9.3.11	seeds	£ 15.00
2/5/11 - 30/5/11	General sales	£ 476.20	9.4.11	Fertilizers & sundries	£ 682.13
4/6/11 - 19/6/11	General sales	£ 153.50	15.4.11	Compost	£ 161.80
2/7/11 - 31/7/11	General sales	£ 136.10	30.4.11	seeds	£ 12.00
7/8/11 - 21/8/11	General sales	£ 52.90	25.5.11	Compost	£ 177.00
			18.6.11	Canes 8ft	£ 39.00
			24.6.11	Tomato Feed	£ 9.90
			25.7.11	Canes 8ft	£ 72.00
			13.8.11	Tomato Feed	£ 6.93
TOTAL SALES		£ 1,762.18			£ 1,578.26
PROFIT (Sales - Purchases)		£ 183.92			

ASSETS			YEAR END	YEAR START
			30/09/2011	30/09/2010
Stock Held				
29.9.11	Canes	£ 90.00		£92.00
29.9.11	Compost	£ 52.50		£112.75
29.9.11	Sundries	£ 166.50		£46.00
	Sub Total	£ 309.00	£	250.75
Building Society A/C				
	30.9.11 Balance	£ 439.73	£	289.90
	Total assetts	£ 748.73	£	540.65
CHANGE IN ASSETS		£ 208.08		

RECONCILIATION	£ 24.16
(= CHANGE IN ASSETS - PROFIT)	

BUSHY PARK ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

Meeting: -	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010
Date & Time: -	6 th November 2010 – 11:00 AM
Location	The Shop, Bushy Park Allotments
Minutes prepared by: -	Phil Iddison
Present: -	Bryan Basdell (Chairman), Phil Iddison and 30 other plot holders
Apologies: -	Not Applicable
Circulation: -	New committee members, notice boards, Peter Lewis

Item	Minute	Action by
1	Bryan welcomed the plot holders and stated that there were no minutes available for the AGM held last year. No agenda had been issued for the AGM but there was the usual AGM business be to completed	-----
2	<p>The Chairman summarised the main events of the last year as follows: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The shop had become operational again. He proposed a vote of thanks to all those who had made this possible. b) The woodchip and manure bins at the two car parks had been constructed and were partially operational. c) The letting of untended plots had improved significantly. Thanks were due to Dick Hughes for his support to Peter Lewis in this work. d) There had been four successful Plant Sales and Open Days. Again thanks were due to the organiser, volunteers and supporters. e) The Newsletter had been issued four times since the last AGM. The Editor Katy Makepeace had produced quality copy which was circulated by email. Due to new family commitments she was standing down and a new Editor was needed. f) The waste bins were a continuing issue, much compostable material and domestic waste from outside the allotments was being dumped in and around the bins. The Committee had taken the decision to advise the Council that the bin contract should not be renewed. g) The Chairman had maintained liaison with Peter Lewis, the Allotments Officer. The main item to report was that rents for 'out of Borough' renters had been increased for new and renewed 	-----

	contracts this year.	
3	<p>The Treasurer had reported funds totalling £2,353.13 in the Bank Account. Details of the transactions during the year are appended at the end of these minutes.</p> <p>The Treasurer had submitted her resignation.</p>	-----
4	<p>Phil Iddison reported preliminary accounts for the Shop transactions which were being maintained separately from the Treasurer's accounts for the time being.</p> <p>Funding from three events had provided working capital of £900. Shop sales had a £620 turnover generating a small profit of £17.</p> <p>Full accounts would be prepared for the year end.</p>	PI + GdeV 31/12/10
5	<p>The Chairman announced that he was standing down from the Chair and Committee. He called for current committee members to confirm if they were prepared to continue and for volunteers to stand for the Committee. The following confirmed their interest in continuing on the Committee: - John Whitby, Giuseppe De Vài, Phil Iddison.</p> <p>The following volunteered to stand for the Committee: - Shelagh Secola, Robin Hewitt, Chris Pickard, Jenny Bevan, Ted Leppard. Dick Hughes had sent details of Sally Annereau who was also prepared to stand.</p> <p>The candidates were elected onto the Committee by a show of hands.</p>	-----
6	<p>Phil Iddison was the sole nominee for Chair and was duly elected. Robin Hewitt volunteered to become Secretary and was appointed. Jenny Bevan volunteered to become Treasurer and was appointed.</p>	-----
7	<p>The new Chair had circulated copies of a draft Constitution for the Bushy Park Allotment Association before the meeting and they had also been posted on the Notice Boards for a month. The Chair noted that the Committee would be accountable for the competent administration of the Association's affairs with the rules outlined in the draft. The Council were being consulted on the Constitution and pending their response the Chair proposed that the meeting vote to accept the draft Constitution. The plot holders voted to accept the draft Constitution.</p>	PI
8	<p>AOB</p> <p>a) A new Editor for the Newsletter was sought. The possibility of having a website rather than a newsletter was proposed. The Chair said that the new committee would discuss this at their first meeting.</p> <p>b) Shelagh noted that the water had been turned off which was inconvenient for those with animals or poultry. Bryan pointed out that the Council had instructed this to prevent damage to the system and substantial repair costs such as those incurred last winter.</p> <p>c) Henry asked why the manure was only being delivered to the lower car park. Bryan explained that the supplier had limited stocks and it would be up to the new committee to arrange further supplies.</p>	<p>Committee</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Committee</p>

9	The meeting closed at 12:30 and was followed by a brief Seed Swop session.	-----
---	--	-------

Date	Item	Payment	Receipt	Balance
23 September 2010	Opening Balance			£1,706.57
07 October 2009	deposit		£92.14	£1,798.71
25 March 2010	location fee - GMTV/Cleve West		£127.50	£1,926.21
01 April 2010	shop revenue		£81.00	£2,007.21
06 April 2010	location fee - GMTV/Cleve West		£22.50	£2,029.71
04 May 2010	shop revenue		£7.00	£2,036.71
04 May 2010	shop revenue		£15.00	£2,051.71
04 May 2010	location fee - Dick Hughes - received in cash 24 April 2010		£30.00	£2,081.71
04 May 2010	plant sale, open day		£375.96	£2,457.67
19 June 2010	signs supplies - cash reimbursement to Dick Hughes from Lizz Frost Yocum 30 May 2010 - chq 25 reimbursement to Lizz Frost Yocum	£34.85	£0.00	£2,422.82
20 July 2010	hot water urn - reimbursement Cleve West - chq 26	£69.69		£2,353.13
30 July 2010	Balance - 30 July 2010 Bank Statement			£2,353.13
20 July 2010	printing sale posters - reimbursement Cleve West - chq 26	£15.50		£2,337.63
15 September 2010	creosote, wire - reimbursement Dick Hughes - chq 27	£32.00		£2,305.63
	Closing Balance			£2,305.63

Notes:

- 26 June 2010 Lizz Frost Yocum stopped serving as Treasurer
- 30 July 2010 date of last bank statement received by Lizz Frost Yocum