

# The Bushy Times

Newsletter of the Bushy Park Allotment Association

Issue 27

March 2012

## ***COUNCIL UPDATE***

The Committee have assisted the Council by showing 11 prospective tenants around their new plots over the winter. If you meet a new neighbour we hope that you can welcome them personally to Bushy Park by introducing yourself.

The Council have advised that there are 187 names on the waiting list for Bushy Park so there is still considerable interest for plots.

The removal of the refuse bins has been successful. To date we have not had any rubbish dumped near the gates, thank you for your cooperation.

The water has been turned back on and the Council have attended to the initial leaks that seem to be the legacy of our new water system. John Whitby has been instrumental in solving these issues and will continue to monitor them.

The minutes of the last Committee Meeting are attached to the email version of this newsletter, as an alternative to reading them on the Notice Boards. We now have well over a hundred plot holders on our email list. Email Patsy at the email address at the foot of this letter if you wish to join the email list.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

At the Committee Meeting at the end of January we decided on the dates for our community events during this year. Please make a note of the following dates in diary if you want to attend and support these events.

- Plant sale on 12<sup>th</sup> May
- Open Day on 21<sup>st</sup> July
- Autumn Festival on 8<sup>th</sup> September with BBQ

The events will follow our usual format, running from 12 noon to 3 PM in the shop car park. The Committee welcome any assistance to set up and take down the events. We also welcome donations of food, plants, produce etc. Please come along and enjoy good food and a drink. There will be more information on the barbeque nearer the time.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on 27<sup>th</sup> October. We are holding it on a Saturday in the hope that more people can attend.

## SEED EVENT

We held a seed event on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February at the shop. Giuseppe had Italian vegetable seeds to sell and we also had supplies of seed saved by allotment holders to give away or swop.

A few remaining packets of free seed are available from the Shop for those unable to attend the event.



## ORGANIC GARDENING

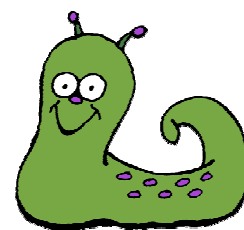
If you are trying to work your allotment organically then you will have a problem with slugs and snails. If you have not come across them the following products are suitable for targeting these annoying pests!

**GrowAid Slug Gone** These non-toxic pellets are made from concentrated sheep's wool which irritates the slugs when they slide over it and are suitable for organic gardening.

**Vitax Slug Death** A ready-to-use pelleted bait suitable for organic gardening. After consuming slugs stop feeding and expire discreetly!

**Advanced Slug Killer** Spray based on Ferramol and certified for organic use. Safe to use around children, pets and wildlife.

It has been a great year for the slug population. Fortunately the toads and frogs seem to have been able to expand their population as well. However I have yet to see one of the latter eating a slug. They just seem to co-hablt dark and damp spots!



Good luck in the battle!

## INCIDENT REPORTING

There have been incidents last year including thefts, harassment and rubbish dumping. If you have information about an incident please pass this to the committee. It is useful to have dates and precise locations such as plot numbers so that we can keep a record and take appropriate action with the Council's help. The Council are keen to follow up serious incidents.

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