

Information for All Plot Holders at Alwins Field & Weston Avenue Allotments

(Issue 5 - December 2021)



<http://www.llaa.org.uk/>



[Leighton Linslade Allotment Association Group](#)

LEIGHTON LINSLADE
ALLOTMENT
ASSOCIATION

...The Chair's Scribble...



Here is our final Newsletter of 2021 so I would like to wish all plot holders at Weston Avenue and Alwins Field a happy and safe Christmas 2021 and a happy New Year for 2022.



LLAA Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on 2nd October via Zoom. Unfortunately, the weather put paid to the planned gathering for tea and buns after the event.



The major decision taken that affects all LLAA members is that from the 2022/2023 membership renewal date, full LLAA membership will increase from £5.00 to £7.00. Associate membership will remain at £3.00.

We have been able to maintain a £5.00 fee for many years without increasing but in recent years, given rises in NAS membership costs and insurance costs, it has become clear that an increase would need to be considered soon. Coupled with increased running costs it has now unfortunately become a necessity.

We still think the fee is excellent value given the benefits LLAA membership provides and we hope you think the same.

All current LLAA Committee members were re-elected and you'll find a list of members elsewhere in the newsletter.

The full minutes accompany this newsletter and will be put on our website soon.

Intruders at Weston Avenue

Unfortunately, we have had a couple of instances of intruders gaining access to the site at WA and causing some considerable damage and destruction as reported in the Leighton Buzzard Observer ([link here](#)).

A lot of work goes into developing individual plots and communal areas and it's heart-breaking for those affected.

If you see any suspicious activity then please report it to Bedfordshire Police.

Winter Shut Off Of Water Supply

The water supply to both AF and WA has now been switched off for the winter in order to minimise the risk of frost damage.



It's normally turned back on around March/April time.

As If By Magic

Well, a huge thank you to the person, or persons, who have donated a second trolley at Weston Avenue. It appeared overnight some months ago and it's very much appreciated.



Feel free to let us know if you made this donation so we can thank you personally. But there's no less thanks should you wish to remain a secret squirrel.

Also many thanks to the person who has planted and maintained the raised bed by the main gate at WA. Many thanks for your kind and thoughtful gesture.

Water Butts (Part 1)



Well, I've not had a water butt before but I'm very pleased with my new one supplied by LLTC via the LLAA. I put the guttering on my small 6ft x 4ft shed during October and am amazed how much water has been collected already.

I've seen some collecting water in their butts without guttering just by turning the lids upside down and funnelling the water in that way.

It is possible that a second batch may be available. Please see Water Butts (Part 2) for details.

Water Butts (Part 2)



There is the possibility of a second batch of water butts available to the LLAA, however at the moment we only have 3 applications for these, we would need at least 30 people interested in these for an order to be worthwhile, so if you didn't apply for a water butt in 2021 and would like one, (one per plot) then please e-mail your request to chair@llaa.org.uk



Once again, our Macmillan Coffee mornings raised a fantastic amount thanks to your support. While a small number of hardy folks, braved the rain of Friday 10 September thankfully the rain held off for the second event a day later and we had an excellent turnout.

Special thanks to Avril Marshall for organising and hosting, and of course thanks to all our helpers and donators.

Online Banking



We hope that those who used this facility to pay for LLAA membership and/or seed orders found it easy. Our Treasurer reports very few problems from his end.

So, drum roll please



The final total was **£500**, fantastic!!

Reducing The Use Of Single Use Plastics

Why not make 2022 the year to stop using single use plastics e.g. use jute string instead of cable ties for bean wigwams etc. So often bits of plastic end up the soil where they can stay for hundreds of years. The RHS has advice on their website

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/garden-inspiration/get-gardening/how-to-go-plastic-free-in-your-garden>

If you find plastic in the soil of your plot, please remove it.

If WA plot holders have empty plastic compost bags, these can be folded up and left in the small green shed behind Louis' Place. These are needed for ground cover works and getting wood chips.

However, please ensure the bags are in a usable condition, i.e. not torn, as they still need to be able to hold materials.



LLAA Events For 2022



The LLAA Committee are starting to consider what events to hold next year, thinking positively that we'll be less restricted by COVID, fingers crossed.

Usual favourites will hopefully go ahead such as a summer BBQ and the Macmillan Coffee Mornings. Hopefully we can have a spring seed & plant swap event on site rather than a virtual one online. Watch out for details in next year's newsletters, gate posters and/or emails.

Your LLAA Committee Members

If you want to speak to a committee member on site then this is where to find us: -

Barnaby Adams	WA 48A
Peter Bate	WA 77A
Matt Bateman	AF 23B
Janice & Stephen Bennett	WA 92B
Paul Frost	WA 88A
Michael Hildreth-Bell	WA 2A
Phil Jones	WA 27B
Avril & Simon Marshall	WA 90A
Mark McGarvie	WA 27A
Rob Salisbury	WA 50A

Or email: membership@llaa.org.uk