



First Quiz Night a bloomin' success

THE Association's first Quiz Night was a great success with a good attendance and a great deal of fun had by all. The results were very close with just a few points separating the first three places. Added to that we managed to raise nearly £300 for the Association. A big thank you to all who attended and to the committee who made it all happen.

- **FUND raising** - If you have any ideas for fund raising events please let us know, we are very open to suggestions
- **THANKS** to all those members who helped out on the recent Work Party Day. A lot was achieved in clearing the area for the manure and chippings. It is hoped that we will have another day shortly in an effort to improve the site overall which appears to be an issue with the Council. (*See Council letter which has been placed on notice boards around the site*).
- **OUR shop** continues to be successful with a steady turnover, it could be better, so as much support as possible from the Plot Holders is needed. Okay, so you can save a few pennies buying from the super-market but every purchase from the shop helps the Association so please bear us in mind. *There is a list of items available attached* and also details **below** of the shop opening times during the Winter months.

The shop now has in stock Winter Onions and Garlic

- **BONFIRE Night** – There will be the usual celebration on Saturday 8th November with a barbecue involved as well. So please make every effort to attend and let off steam a bit. More details will follow.
- **GRASS cutting** continues to be an issue. Plot holders are reminded that they are responsible to see that the grass areas around their plots are cut (*see item 6.1 in your tenancy agreement*), NOT the Council, OR the Committee members. Letters are being sent round to all plot holders (*See Council letter*).
- **COUNCIL letter** - Your Committee has posted a letter received by our Chairman from the Parks Technical Officer, Paul Jenkinson, on the notice boards, because of the serious matters it contains. Our Chairman also had a telephone conversation on these issues and it was made clear to him that if the items mentioned are not addressed then the Council would consider taking over the management of the site from the Association. Clearly nobody would want that to happen. So we would ask those plot holders detailed to address the issues on their plots or to discuss their situation with the Site Manager - Ray How.

PTO

TRADING SHOP — WINTER OPENING HOURS

November

Sundays only 2nd,
9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

December

CLOSED

January

Open Sunday 18th
and 25th only

INFORMATION FROM OUR RECENT COMMITTEE MEETING

- **EQUIPMENT** - It has been decided to cease hiring out our equipment - except the Lawnmower. This is due to Health & Safety issues and the cost of repairing the equipment.
- **RENTS** - Ray How reported that all plot rents had been collected. There will be a slight increase in our water rates for next year.
- **SHOP VOUCHER** - It was agreed that a £5 voucher would be given to the plot holder who spends the most money in our shop.
- **ELECTRICITY in the Trading Hut** - The Committee has decided to explore the cost of getting power to our trading hut. A survey is required by UK Power which will involve cost, but it was felt the expenditure was worth it and it has been budgeted for.
- **NEXT MEETING** - The date of the next committee meeting is Tuesday 21st October, if you have any issues to raise or suggestions please let a member know and it will be discussed.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- **OUR Chairman** wishes to offer his personal thanks to all those plot holders who helped out on the recent work party day. A good deal was achieved but he appeals to more plot holders to come forward and offer their help. As the old Chinese proverb goes "Many hands make light work".
- **THANKS** - He would like to thank the following committee members for the work they have undertaken: Terry Burrige and Steve Reynolds for completing the compostable toilet. Debbie and Andy Gordon for running the quiz night and supplying the wire for gate repairs, David McDonagh for organising the raffle, and finally David Catchpole for producing the posters, tickets and handouts for the quiz night.
- **NEW GATE AND FENCING** - He is talking to the Council about supplying a new gate at the hammer head and new fencing next to the main entrance to improve security.

STOP PRESS + + + + STOP PR

- **WHO said allotments were boring?** Take this Saturday 27th, 12 noon, the sun is shining, plot holders working on their plots. When suddenly sirens from all directions, blue lights, police cars, fire engines, bomb disposal teams all descend on the Airport. Then a police woman comes rushing up and demands that we all evacuate the area immediately because of a bomb scare at the airport. Spades and forks down, leave everything, go NOW, what excitement! We haven't had that much excitement since Ray opened his wallet at the bar!!!

TRADING SHOP — WINTER OPENING HOURS

November

Sundays only 2nd,
9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

December

CLOSED

January

Open Sunday 18th
and 25th only