

JAA NEWSLETTER

March 2016

Maintenance Day – Sunday 24 April

Our first Maintenance Day is on 24 April at 10 o'clock and Jamie has detailed some jobs that need tackling:

- * Repair the roofs on the water stations
- * Possibly paint the sheds
- * Add another water container to a water station and a water delivery system fitted
- * Bug Hotel to build – we need 8 pallets, wood, bricks, twigs, ceramic plant pots. Grateful for all donations. Contact Emma through the committee email address, using the Bug Hotel in the subject line, if you have any materials
- * General tidy up and rubbish removal.



Your Committee are only human (in spite of what they might think!) and to be able to spread the load with others always makes life more enjoyable. Anyone with DIY skills, willing to give a hand and show the rest of us, would be welcomed. If planning to help, send a message to the Jubilee committee email, this will help with job and tea 'n' bun planning.

Keeping Chickens and JAA Shop Projects

At the AGM last month, the two projects were summarised by Chas and



Wendy. Following a show of hands from those interested in being involved, further detailed research is now being carried out. **Could the members that showed an interest in volunteering to help – Keeping Chickens and/or the JAA Shop – please send a message to the Jubilee committee email address, putting the project name in the title, so that your name can be added to the list for rota viability purposes.**



Seed and Plant Sale Again This Year – 22 May

It was decided to hold another Seed Swap this year, on Sunday 22 May. This is being combined with a Maintenance Day that was originally noted for 29 May and would now move to 22nd – to avoid Spring Bank holiday. So, maybe you started too many tomato seedlings and would like just a few cabbages. This is when plot neighbours can bring extra seeds, surplus seedlings and thinnings. You don't have to bring something to buy something! All plants/seeds must be identified. All profits go towards Jubilee funds. With soup being provided too, it should prove to be another good morning.

Water Bottles Missing

Jane Atkinson has reported that two full water bottles have disappeared from her plot and the cap has been removed from another. It would be appreciated if whomsoever has seen them, to please return same. It is worth noting that it's the plot holder's responsibility to take care of belongings on their own plot.

Plots Available

As usual at the beginning of an allotment year, we have a few plots available – if you know of anyone who may be interested please ask them to contact Vicky on the committee email.

Sowing and Planting

- You can sow chillies, peppers, aubergines, cucumber and tomatoes indoors, it is important to have somewhere warm and light enough to grow them on, once they have germinated. An unheated greenhouse or poly-tunnel will not ensure enough heat for these tender plants.
- Remember some plants don't respond well to transplanting. You can now sow –beetroot, broccoli/calabrese, Brussels sprouts, summer and winter cabbage, early carrots, celery, celeriac, kale, lettuce, radishes, rocket and spring onions.

FOUND

Woman's size 20 dark blue Regatta anorak at the allotment
Contact the Committee

On Your Plots

- If you still have brassicas growing, remove yellowed leaves from the plants or ground and compost them. To reduce the opportunities for pests and diseases – clear beds and dig over for new crops. Dig in compost or well-rotted manure though not on carrot or parsnip beds, which will encourage them to fork.
- Mulch fruit trees, bushes and canes with compost or well-rotted manure. If you are growing blueberries, feed with a suitable ericaceous plant food.
- Weed carefully around perennial plants like rhubarb, globe artichokes, asparagus, to avoid disturbing roots, before mulching with compost or manure.
- Tidy strawberry beds – remove dead leaves and any remaining 'runners'. Clear old strawberry beds; 3 years or more and dig over the area, dig in compost or manure.
- Remove deep-rooted perennial weeds [dandelion, dock, couch grass, horse-tail, bind-weed, etc] before digging over beds – do not put on compost heap.
- As soon as areas are cleared and the ground is workable, start digging.
- Prepare seed beds and rake to a fine tilth so that the seeds can be sown into fine smooth soil.
- If you are adding lime - don't put it out at the same time as manure - they react together and the nitrogen will be lost in gas. Generally, spread lime before legumes and brassicas.

Rainton Garden Club invites you to an evening with BBC Radio 2's Allotment Gardener **Terry Walton**. For over 50 years Terry has worked on his allotment plot, sharing his tales on the BBC Radio 2 Jeremy Vine Show. Join us at Baldersby St James' Church, YO7 4PT
Tuesday 26th April — 7.30pm

Only £5.00 per ticket

Entry by ticket only from

Martin Fish 01845 577157

Email martin@martinfish.com

Price includes tea/coffee and cake

Raffle to be held on the night

The **FIRST POINT OF CONTACT:**
committee@jubileeallotments.co.uk
for any communications