



Newsletter May 2020

Coronavirus

As we are all aware, we will probably be in this situation for some time. All tenants attending both sites have been carefully following the Governments Guidelines by using gloves at the entrance gates & when using taps and most importantly ensuring adequate distance from each other – this does turn a conversation into more of a shouting chat!

Everyone has shown how much they appreciate the opportunity to get to the allotment for fresh air, exercise and of course home grown produce in these difficult times.

If anyone is in need of help or advice please contact Sylvia.

Ground Safes

Safes have recently been found on site buried under a structure at Hanging Hill allotments site. It is not known how long these have been there, they appear to be empty. Pictures of these are available at MAA Face Book and on our website.

Queen Wasps

Spring has arrived, and with it the Queen wasps are appearing from their winter hibernation, so keep a look out for the beginnings of a wasp nest in your shed or any unkept corner of your plot. Now is the time to encourage her to move on, if you see activity of a large wasp (probably buzzing around your head), the start of her nest will not be far away, it will be white, perhaps cone shaped, with appearance of wafer-thin tissue paper. Should you need help or advice with this please contact Sylvia.

Membership

Those of you who have not yet joined the Association or renewed membership for this year will receive a membership application form along with this newsletter. Once the membership fee has been paid, please let us know if you require a Seed Catalogue and Membership Card – the card will give you discount at Hunts Hardware Store in Station Rd.

Spring Weeding

For those of you able to attend your plot, now is the time to get to grip with the weeds. If you can conquer the battle in this month, it will be much easier to control the weeds that return afterwards with regular use of the hoe.

It is also important to try to keep the grass down, once this goes to seed it creates many problems for you & neighbouring allotment holders.

Allium Leaf Minor

Be prepared for this pest, the larvae bore into the stems and bulbs of leeks, onions, chives and garlic. Affected plants often develop secondary infections and rot. The only practical control is to cover the crop from March to June and September to November, with insect protective mesh or fleece.

Regularly check the leaves for signs or evidence and remove any affected leaves, hopefully before the pest has done its damage to the plant.

Damaged plants should be uprooted & removed from site or burned, especially during the winter months when the pupae are dormant, digging or turning the soil can expose any that may be buried for insect eating birds. For further information please refer to RHS website.

Chicken Manure Pellets & Rabbit Manure

We have Chicken Manure Pellets that we purchased in bulk, to give members the best price possible.

The 20kg bags of chicken manure pellets are available to members for £10.00 per bag.

Fresh rabbit manure is available to members free of charge, but a small donation to the Association would be appreciated.

Please contact Sylvia.

MAA Email Address

As a result of the new Website structure, we now have a dedicated email address for MAA which will be monitored & checked regularly by members of the Committee: marlowallotmentassociation@gmail.com

Seed Scheme

Catalogues and order forms for The National Society Seeds Scheme are now available to all Association members.

The seeds, onions, garlic, potatoes, plants, fruit bushes and trees plus sundries and tools are competitively priced & all at an equivalent standard to those available from other suppliers.

They are supplied through Kings Seeds Company and MAA receive a discount from Kings against every order submitted.

For a catalogue please contact a Committee Member as listed. As Maren Talbot is the Seed Secretary & Treasurer; all orders should be sent to her with the payment in the envelope provided, or sent via email making payment by bank transfer.

There is a new option to place orders online via:

<http://nsalg.kingsseeds.com>

Please contact Maren Talbot for a password & instructions.

Website

The MAA Website has now been live for some time, and is updated periodically with news and information.

Please send us any photos or stories from your allotment that you would like to share to : marlowallotmentassociation@gmail.com

Face Book

MAA now has a presence on Face Book, thanks to our newest member Juliette who has set this up and updates the page regularly. This can be accessed via:

www.facebook.com/marlowallotmentassociation

please also let us have any feed-back regarding this.

Newsletters by e-mail

More than 180 tenants now have their Newsletters delivered electronically, which still leaves around 50 delivered by hand.

A big THANK YOU to the volunteers who do this. If any tenant would like to receive the newsletter, plus news updates relating to allotment matters, please contact us at the MAA email address: marlowallotmentassociation@gmail.com

Change of Address

If you have recently changed your home address, email or phone number, please let us have the new details as soon as possible.

On site emergencies

Considering the implications of a situation with the need to contact the Emergency Services. If it is not possible to unlock the gate or if there is no one else on site the Emergency Services will require access. Therefore, Marlow Town Council have posted notices on the gates of both sites, with contact phone numbers to be used in the case of an Emergency.

Your 2020 Committee

Committee Members can have several roles but perhaps most importantly, is keeping an eye open for matters of concern at both sites and ensuring that the Council is informed. They attend periodic meetings each year to discuss on-going issues and ideas for projects and events, there are also several meetings with Marlow Town Council each year to cover various matters or issues & to propose suggestions & ideas related to the Allotment Sites.

Chair – Fred Tillier (plot 53 FP) tel: 07910 904407

Secretary – Sylvia Miller (plot 87 HH) 3, The Chase tel: 07939 097771 Email: sylvia@sbmiller.plus.com

Treasurer – Maren Talbot (plot 24 HH) 4, Hazel Cl, M Bottom tel: 486640 Email: mtalbot@talktalk.net

Member – Denise Bagge (plot 66 Foxes Piece). 35, Claremont Road. tel: 483192.

Member – Pete Cooper (plot 23 HH). 2, Stanley Cl Tel: 07941 315786. Email: petecooper61@gmail.com.

Member – John Stilliard (plot 2 HH) 5, Langley Way. tel: 483909. Email: jstilliard@outlook.com.

Member – Juliette Chanoir (plot 127HH) email: juliette.chanoir@gmail.com

If any Association Member would like to be part of the Team, or would just like come along to a Committee Meeting to see what it is all about, please contact Sylvia Miller.