



Newsletter February 2021

Committee Meetings

The Committee meet periodically and at present these are carried out via Zoom, the minutes of the last meeting are on our Website & notice boards.

Surplus Crop

For many year's tenants have left surplus crop, seeds and seedlings that they cannot give to friends, neighbours or charity by the main gates on both sites for other tenants to benefit from.

A Keen Tenant from Foxes Piece has suggested that we construct a small table or shelf structure near the gates to leave these goods off the ground. This was covered at the last Committee meeting and will be implemented asap.

Protecting Your Allotment Plot

The Association was originally formed almost 40 years ago to successfully protect the Allotment Sites from a very real threat of development.

The Committee remain vigilant and continue to be prepared to take any steps necessary to defend the sites from any further threats.

It is **VITAL** that we are supported by the majority of tenants, otherwise MAA does not have a voice to represent the sites should a threat arise.

Those that have not yet joined, please renew your membership on the attached form, thereby proving that you support your Allotment Site.

Neglected Plots

Any tenant that has personal problems or health issues which prevent them from attending site should notify Marlow Town Council.

During April the Council Officers plan to inspect all plots on both sites and will be contacting the tenants of plots that are uncultivated.

These neglected plots create huge problems to neighbouring tenants throughout the Spring and Summer with the spread of weeds.

If anyone is having issues or problems and would like to discuss this with a Committee Member, their contact details on the reverse page.

Blue Barrels

Blue barrels are currently no longer available, hopefully the supply will resume soon.

Manure

If any members would like to collect horse manure from a local source, please contact Sylvia who will supply more information.

Events

These are dependent upon the current situation, once the rulings are relaxed, there are plans to organise an Open-Air Picnic in Spring or Summer on site, and perhaps even a BBQ in the Autumn!!!

Spring is on the Way!!

Now is the time to get the allotment in order and prepare the ground to get ready for Spring planting, it is best to start now & get planting before the end of March, any later and it will be a constant effort to catch up on lost time with digging, planting and sowing.

Bonfires

Marlow Town Council are considering the relaxing the bonfire ruling, providing all tenants follow some simple rules to prevent creating smoky and offensive bonfires, MAA will liaise with MTC supplying a short guide of Do's and Don'ts when creating a bonfire.

Website

The MAA Website has now been live for some time, and is updated periodically with news and information, thank you to Juliette who has spent many hours working on this.

Please send her any photos or stories from your allotment that you would like to share.

Face Book

MAA now has a presence on Face Book, thanks to Juliette, who has toiled for many hours setting up, monitoring & updating this regularly, access is via: www.facebook.com/marlowallotmentassociation please let us have any notices & feed-back.

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 via email, plus periodic news updates regarding allotment matters please forward your email address to: marlowallotmentassociation@gmail.com

Wild Marlow

This exciting new group is raising awareness of a balanced ecosystem, encouraging all gardeners with ideas and ways to welcome wildlife. More information is on their website: www.wildmarlow.org.uk

Donated Tools

MAA has received donations of a variety of surplus tools, these are offered to all members for a donation to the Association. Please contact Sylvia.

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.

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.

There is a new option to place orders online via: <http://nsalg.kingsseeds.com>. Please contact Maren for a password & instructions.

*****Stop Press:** Kings are currently under severe strain due to Covid and have suspended the online order process. Orders can be placed via Maren on the green order form, but deliveries will take up to 8 weeks.

Lyme Disease

There are reports that the spread of ticks carrying Lyme Disease is now prevalent in the South of England, so care **must** be taken when in woodland areas (plus overgrown parts of the Hanging Hill Allotments where wild animals might roam). For further details and information on this incredibly painful, debilitating & incurable disease refer to: www.gov.uk/guidance/tick-surveillance-scheme

Allotments Competition

MAA is hopeful that these will be resumed this year and will be liaising with the Council in this matter once the present Covid rulings relax.

Discount

Hunts in Station Road continue to give discount on gardening items to Association Members.

Currently in stock they have 19 varieties of potatoes, these are sold loose so as many or as little can be purchased. They advise that it is best to start chitting as early as possible.

Soon onion & shallot sets will also be available & will be ready to plant out when the weather allows.

Woodchips

Woodchips are now be available in the Foxes Piece Site, at the entrance in Dedmere Road (near the rear School entrance), and there are four woodchip bays in the Hanging Hill site, these woodchips are available free of charge for all tenants. When collecting the woodchips, please ensure these areas are left as tidy and clear as possible to enable others to access the pathways.

Chicken Manure Pellets & Rabbit Manure

We have 20kg bags of chicken manure pellets available to members for £10.00.

Rabbit manure is free but any donations to the Association would be appreciated.

Please contact Sylvia Miller – 07939 097771.

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.

They attend periodic meetings each year to discuss on-going issues and ideas for projects and events, currently these are via Zoom, the minutes are posted on our website and notice boards.

There are also meetings held with Marlow Town Council during the year to cover various Allotment matters or issues & to propose suggestions & ideas.

If any Association Member would like to join the Committee and be part of the Team, or would like to attend a Committee Meeting to discover what is involved, please contact Sylvia Miller.

Chair – Juliette Chanoir (plot 127HH)

email: juliette.chanoir@gmail.com

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 – Richard Harker (plot 71a FP)
Email: richard.b.harker@gmail.com

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

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