



## Newsletter January 2022

### Welcome Wildlife

Pixies Plot is a maze of homes for a huge variety of wildlife.



This has been created with an old frame, broken pots, pieces of rotten wood & a few wooden blocks with holes drilled in them. From the start of Spring the bees and insects were crazily flying & buzzing around the structure! Then, throughout early summer solitary bees would come and go – what a hive of activity!

The bees were placing pollen in the holes, laying an egg & creating a tiny partition wall.

They added more pollen, laid another egg & wall, this process was then repeated until the hole had been completely filled. Finally, the hole was carefully sealed with chewed up pieces of leaves & wood.



If anyone would like advice or help with creating their own wildlife haven, please contact Sylvia.

### Communal Tables

There is now a Communal Table in Hanging Hill at the entrance at Prospect Road & in Foxes Piece at the entrance by the flats. Tenants can leave surplus seedlings and crop to share with others, there are also Pots Swap areas on both sites to enable tenants to help themselves, and leave any unwanted pots that others can benefit from.

### Manure

If any members would like to collect horse manure from a local source, please contact Sylvia.

### Review of Trees

The trees on both sites have been reviewed by MTC with Denise Bagge (Committee Member) to ensure that dangerous or overhanging trees are dealt with. As a result of an inspection over both sites in November, areas at Foxes Piece and Hanging Hill have been identified for maintenance works, which is expected to commence over the next few months.

This will need to be a multi-year programme for MTC to get on top of neglected trees and bushes, if any member has concerns regarding trees or bushes near their plot, please contact Denise Bagge.

### Website

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

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

### No More Cheques Please

Unfortunately, the bank now charges MAA for each cheque that is deposited into the account or paid out, therefore, if possible, please make payments for membership, donations or seed orders either by bank transfer or cash to a Committee Member.

MAA is keen to monitor and control funds closely, should we again need to protect the Allotments Sites from a possible threat of development or takeover.

### 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.

### Bonfires

The bonfire ban was temporarily lifted for a short period during the end of January this year, as a direct result of a request from your Committee. The ban has resumed for the foreseeable future, however, the Committee plan to bring this topic forward at the next AWP meeting with MTC.

### Events

There are plans this year for more talks and hopefully we can organise an event in the Orchard at Hanging Hill, our Communal Area.

### 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.

## 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.

## Spring is on the Way!!

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

## 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 receives a discount from Kings against every order submitted.

For a catalogue, please contact a Committee Member as listed. Maren Talbot is the Seed Secretary & Treasurer; all orders should be sent to her with the payment (cash or bank transfer) in the envelope provided. Alternatively, there is now the option to place orders online. Please contact Maren for a password & instructions.

## Lyme Disease

There are reports that the spread of ticks carrying Lyme Disease is prevalent, so care **must** be taken when in woodland areas. For further details and information on this painful, debilitating & incurable disease for more information go to:

[www.gov.uk/guidance/tick-surveillance-scheme](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/tick-surveillance-scheme)

## Newsletters by e-mail

The majority of tenants now have their Newsletters delivered electronically, which still leaves around 25 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 on allotment matters, please forward your email address to: [marlowallotmentassociation@gmail.com](mailto:marlowallotmentassociation@gmail.com)

## 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 the areas are left as tidy & clear as possible to enable others access to the paths.

## Face Book

MAA has a presence on Face Book, thanks to Juliette, who monitors & updates this regularly via:

[www.facebook.com/marlowallotmentassociation](http://www.facebook.com/marlowallotmentassociation)  
please let us have any items of interest.

## 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, the minutes are posted on our website and notice boards. There are also meetings held with Marlow Town Council throughout the year to cover various Allotment matters or issues & to propose suggestions & ideas.

**If any Association Member would like to join the Committee & 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](mailto:juliette.chanoir@gmail.com)

**Treasurer** – Maren Talbot (plot 24 HH) 4, Hazel Cl, M Bottom Tel:486640 Email:[mtalbot@talktalk.net](mailto:mtalbot@talktalk.net)

**Secretary** – Sylvia Miller (plot 87HH) 3,The Chase Tel:07939 097771 Email:[sylvia@sbmiller.plus.com](mailto:sylvia@sbmiller.plus.com)

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

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

**Member** – Richard Harker (plot 71a FP)  
Email: [richard.b.harker@gmail.com](mailto:richard.b.harker@gmail.com)

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

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

**Member** – Huw Stephenson (Plot 28 FP)  
Tel: 07967 697921

**Member** – Richard Maidment (Plot 39HH)  
Tel: 486366