



Newsletter January 2025

Competition Changes

It appears that quite a few tenants have no interest in the Allotments Competition which is run each year in and Judged by District Judges.

There has been a suggestion to run a more relaxed form of competition, which will aim to be communal & fun for all.

Therefore, please would each tenant complete the attached form and email to Sylvia or hand to a Committee Member. Thank you

AGM Minutes

Attached to this email are the AGM minutes. Please advise Sylvia or John of any amendments, corrections or comments.

Woodchips

There are two woodchip bays at Foxes Piece and four at Hanging Hill, thanks to the volunteers who are organised and constructed of these.

The woodchips delivered to these bays are for all tenants to use on their allotment plot, if they wish. When collecting the woodchips, please ensure the areas are left as tidy & as clear as possible to enable others access to the pathways.

Please note that only one local tree surgeon is authorised to access the sites to deliver these. Any tenant with queries or questions over this, please contact Sylvia.

Donated Tools

MAA has received new donations of a variety of surplus tools, these are offered to members in return for a small donation. Any additional donations of tools or equipment would be very welcome. These are invaluable to newcomers & novices. Please contact John.

Spring is on the Way

Now the evenings are drawing out is the time to get onto the plot and prepare for Spring, clearing any weeds & debris, preparing beds for Spring planting and start work on the planting plan for the coming year.

Stay Safe on the Allotment!!

Tenants should check with their Doctor about their Tetanus Inoculation, if a booster is needed should arrange to have this as soon as possible.

Plot Numbering

The Council hope to begin this huge task later this year, volunteers would be appreciated, please contact Sylvia.

Seedling & Small Plant Stand at Foxes Piece

This has been a huge success each year, when small plants & seedlings that had been donated by Members were available to tenants & newcomers, for a small donation to the Association.

It was only a success due to all the seedlings that were donated by Members, Thank you.

If possible, please would Members do this again by sowing a few extras seeds, with the aim to donate surplus seedlings to this event which is a huge help for newcomers.

A selection of second-hand tools will also be available. MAA plan to repeat this event this year at FP in May & HH in June, full details will be in the next Newsletter and email circulations.

Hops and Manure

MAA has organised deliveries to both sites of hops and horse manure, these will be alternated between the two sites in turn. The hops are sourced from The Rebellion Brewery and the manure from a local resident who keeps his own horses. Both are a good addition to the allotment as a soil improver, however, as the manure is quite fresh so it would probably be best to add to this to the compost bin, and will be an excellent activator speeding up the process of composting garden waste.

Memberships

Please note that our Annual Membership Renewal runs from 1st November to 31st October the following year, hence the reason that we have the Annual General Meeting each November. For those that have not already done so, Membership can be renewed as detailed on the attached renewal form – members that are renewing do not need to complete the form as their details are already in the records, please follow the instructions on the form. Thank you

Review of trees & large shrubs

The trees and large shrubs on both sites are reviewed on a regular basis, Denise, who has been a Committee Member for many years, is overseeing this & liaising with MTC. Priority will be given to any trees or large shrubs considered to be dangerous. If any tenant has concerns over this, please contact Denise (her contact details are on page 2 of this newsletter) or the Council.

Join the Committee

If any Association Member would like to help support the Association by joining the Committee, please do not hesitate to contact a Committee Member to discuss this and come along to the next meeting, as a spectator, to see the type of matters that we handle.

Bonfires

At present Bonfires or barbeque are not allowed on site. MAA plan to request the Council relax this rule either later this year or early in 2026 at the next Allotment Working Party meeting.

Next meeting with MTC

The Committee hope to attend an Allotment Working Party Meeting with the Council in Spring, to cover Allotment matters & issues. If any tenant has any matter of concern that they would like MAA to discuss with the Council, please contact a Committee Member.

Protecting Your Allotment Plot

The Association celebrated 40 years since it was originally formed, to successfully protect the Allotment Sites, at the time from a serious threat from Property Developers.

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

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

Those that have not yet joined, please arrange your membership on the attached renewal form as soon as possible. Thank you

Seed Scheme

Catalogues & order forms for the National Society Seeds Scheme 2024 are available, plus Members can also download the digital catalogue via <https://nسالگ.kingsseeds.com/nسالگ-catalogue>.

Seeds, onions, garlic, potatoes, plants, fruit bushes & trees, sundries & tools are competitively priced & of high quality, supplied by the Kings Seeds Company. Orders can be placed via the NSALG link online at <http://nسالگ.kingsseeds.com>. Please contact Maren Talbot, our Treasurer & Seed Secretary, for registration and instructions.

For those without internet access, orders can still be placed using the paper order form supplied with the catalogue, to obtain one please contact a Committee Member. These orders should be sent to Maren with the cash payment in the envelope provided or payment can be paid by transfer into the MAA bank account, details are on the form.

Please note MAA receives an annual payment for Commission from Kings, in respect of every order submitted. This is a valuable addition to our Fighting Fund, ensuring that we are prepared, should we need this again.

Stay Safe on the Allotment!!

Tenants should check with their Doctor about their Tetanus Inoculation, if a booster is needed should arrange to have this as soon as possible.

No More Cheques Please

Unfortunately, the bank now charges MAA for cheques paid into or out of the account, therefore, please make payments to MAA by bank transfer or in cash to a Committee Member.

Newsletters by e-mail

The majority of tenants now have their Newsletters delivered electronically, which still leaves around 20 delivered by hand. A big THANK YOU to the volunteers who do this.

Communal Tables

There are Communal Tables in Hanging Hill at the entrance in Prospect Road & in Foxes Piece at the entrance by the flats. Tenants can leave surplus seedlings & crop to share with others.

Also, spare or surplus pots & trays are left in that area so that others can benefit from these.

Please remove any broken or damaged items.

Your 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 allotment issues along with ideas for projects & events, the minutes are posted on our website & 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 attend a Committee Meeting to discover what is involved, please contact Sylvia Miller.

Chair – John Stilliard (plot 2 HH)

Treasurer – Maren Talbot (plot 24 HH)

Secretary – Sylvia Miller (plot 87HH)
Email: marlowallotmentassociation@gmail.com

Member – Denise Bagge (plot 66 FP)

Member – Pete Cooper (plot 23HH).

Member – Shaun Kennedy (plot 69aHH)

Member – Harry Ferris (Plot 81FP)

Member – Fred Tillier (plot 53 FP)