

Elder Stubbs Charity Allotments

2015 Newsletter - July Edition

The summer is already well upon us and I hope this Newsletter finds you with your growing season well underway and with you winning your battle against the weeds!

THE ELDER STUBBS FESTIVAL & VEGETABLE SHOW

will soon be with us. An excellent time to think about how to dress up your plot and also what flowers and vegetables to enter in the Vegetable Show.

Do make an effort to be a part of it. John Purves has kindly agreed to judge the Show and it will be great to make it a memorable occasion in recognition of the enormous contribution John has made to Elder Stubbs over many years. Winning for a best in show category is good but taking part is most important and being a part of creating a good display.

I would again welcome assistance with setting up the show from 8-10am on Saturday 15th and with auctioning the vegetables, flowers etc at around 4.30pm.

Volunteers will be welcomed on the day and in the lead up to it. Please let me know if you are available to assist and do speak to Katie or Patrick to help Restore 01856 747176 or on site if you see them.



GOOD QUALITY SEED AT A REASONABLE PRICE.

Steve Brookes unfortunately has lost his source of Thomson & Morgan seed and will not be appearing at the Festival this year. He has made a significant contribution to our Vegetable Show with judging the entries, dispensing seed packets generously to winners and also donating significant quantities of seed to our supported charities.

Steve's stall will also not be making an appearance.

We will again be providing Kings Seed catalogues around September/October for collection from Elder Stubbs. Common seed varieties can cost from 60 pence and usually represent a cost reduction of around a third of the usual price. Look out for a sign to say the catalogues have arrived and that will let you know where to pick up your copy.



SMOKING FIRES have been a continuing problem with some of our neighbours. It is reasonable for our neighbours to be able to air their homes and dry washing! Many councils and allotment sites do not allow fires between April & September. This is what I will propose, and is to be discussed with our trustees prior to becoming a part of the Tenancy Agreement. **Some Tenants have not been responsible and have been burning damp green material or not watching the wind direction.**

DUMPING OF RUBBISH OR COMPOST IS NOT PERMITTED ANYWHERE AROUND ELDER STUBBS.

Heaps of dumped compost or rubbish are appearing in woodland areas or along the Rymers lane hedge. As well as creating a significant nuisance to remove, it also results in a loss of plot fertility with removing weeds and soil.

Please also keep weeds and debris off paths which helps to keep the grass healthy and reduces obstacles when mowing and strimming.

If you are moving home or changing your telephone it is necessary to pass on your new details.

It will be really helpful if you have decided not to continue with your plot to let me know as soon as possible. This could enable a new tenant to make a start with preparation for this season.

OPEN MEETING WITH GUEST SPEAKER.

September 16th - 7pm. All tenants are welcome to attend our Open Meeting. Our guest speakers will be from our supported charities - Restore and Steppin' Stones and they will be giving feedback about their link with Elder Stubbs and what is currently of importance with their charity and members. They will also suggest for those of us who are interested about how we can help them with their important work. The meeting also provides an opportunity to address any issues with our trustees.

CLEAN WATER SUPPLY FOR TROUGHS.

It is an issue that tenants have brought to my attention. Please use a bucket when washing your vegetables or tools rather than doing it directly in the trough!

VOLUNTEER SUPPORT WITH SITE MAINTENANCE.

A big thank you to everyone who has been a part of the volunteer work which has provided a significant help with maintaining the site, keeping it well looked after and cleared of rubbish. Work continues and tenants are welcomed to assist on Wednesday and Thursday 9.30am - 1pm with as much time as you can spare.

SECOND HAND AND REFURBISHED TOOLS.

Orinoco provides an excellent service with some good deals. Open 11am - 4pm on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. You can telephone them on 01865 761113 / 07960 661748 to find out if they have what you require and what sort of price.

Dates for your Diary:

August 15th - Elder Stubbs Festival & Vegetable Show.

This is open to the public at noon.

September 16th - Open Meeting 7pm. Held at the Restore building.

Late September/early October: Kings Seed catalogues will be available for collection from Elder Stubbs. Look on the notice boards for details. The seed is very good value.

March 2016: Rental payment is due by the end of March. Details will be in your Winter Newsletter.

Items available for sale:

Ground cover membrane: 4 meters wide and charged at £2.60 per meter length.

Bed Labels: Your plot needs to display your plot number. Robust metal labels are available at cost £5.50 each.

Logs: These are periodically available and useful for open fires and wood burning stoves. Log sales help to offset the cost of essential tree surgery work. Ask Phil for details and about a price.

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This Newsletter was produced by Phil Creme