

## **Dates for your diary:**

### **February 7th - Elder Stubbs Volunteer Session 10am - 1pm.**

A focus on our orchards and communal fruit areas.

### **March 15th - Elder Stubbs Volunteer Session 10am - 1pm.**

A skip will be hired to clear old debris and carpets from tenants plots. Please note if you have problem rubbish on your plot and let me know if you need assistance to clear it.

### **March 28th & 29th - Rental Payment at Elder Stubbs 10-11 am**

By Restore buildings.

### **March 28th & 29th - Elder Stubbs Volunteer Session 10am - 1pm.**

Litter collection around site

### **August 15th - Elder Stubbs Festival & Vegetable Show.**

This is open to the public at noon. Do think about growing something to present in the show. Our next Newsletter in the Summer will have a category list included of how many of each variety are needed to be exhibited eg. 2 x sweetcorn & 5 x Tomatoes.

### **September 16th - Open Meeting 7pm.**

Held at the Restore building. Details nearer the time about our guest speaker and it is an opportunity to raise any issues with our trustees.

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

## **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.

**Site maintenance Volunteer Group:** A grateful thank you to everyone who has been involved in assisting with maintaining the site on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Our weekday volunteers contribute enormously to keeping Elder Stubbs habitat areas in a healthy state. There is a lot to do around Elder Stubbs particularly during Winter time. Do let me know if you would like to be notified of our work plans. Usual sessions are on Wednesday and Thursday mornings 9.30 - 1pm. It is a good sociable way to spend a morning and there is a wide range of interesting work requiring our attention - Woodland, orchard (lots of late summer and winter pruning), hedges, pond, wildflower meadow, osier bed etc. My contact details are at the bottom of this page. An odd hour or more to join us is fine and we can be located by calling my mobile.

**Estate Manager:** Phil Creme Telephone 07944417289 E-mail [philcreme@hotmail.com](mailto:philcreme@hotmail.com)

**Address:** Wychwood House, Winter Lane, West Hanney, Wantage, Oxfordshire OX12 0LF

This Newsletter was produced by Phil Creme

## Essential Information

**Sheds, Tunnels & Trees:** A reminder that permission needs to be sought if you are wishing to put up a shed, polytunnel, glasshouse or for planting a tree. Small trees only on plots, and fruit trees must be on a dwarfing rootstock.

**Carpets and construction materials etc.:** This was noted in the last Newsletter and is worth repeating because a lot of potentially useful materials are brought to Elder Stubbs and never used. The allotments must never be a dumping ground from home renovation!

There remains a lot of old building materials on site. Unfortunately tenants when they leave rarely remove this material on their departure! It has been noted as an unwanted and unnecessary task that Elder Stubbs has to bear the responsibility for this removal.

**Carpets are no longer permitted to be brought on site and the alternative of ground cover membrane is available at a reasonable price. Similarly building materials are not to be stockpiled unless they are to be used for a current project.**

Carpets that are already on site should be removed. March 15th we will have a skip organised. If there is a problem with this please discuss with Phil.

**Important Security:** Your tenancy at Elder Stubbs is for what you grow on your plot. Anything taken from anywhere else at Elder Stubbs without permission can be considered as theft and can lead to a loss of Tenancy.

**Vehicle access:** At least 2 days notice is needed to organise moving the bollard for access. Most Wednesday and Thursdays I am on site 9.30 - 1pm.

Useful contact numbers of people with a key.

Phil Creme - 07944417289 (as noted above and I am also a qualified first aider)

Gus - 01865725201

Bernard Clarke - 07540983103

Fred Pledge - 07804360845 Weekends(also first aider)

### Health and Safety:

**Elder Stubbs are family friendly allotments.** A reminder to parents that there are hazards around the site and they are responsible for their childrens safety at all times. The pond and climbing trees and Andy's pet dinosaurs are a temptation! Vigorous football or other such games are better suited to the local park.

**Adult beverages:** Consumption in moderation is ok. Allotments are not an appropriate place to drink to excess.

**Hazards with sharp edges: eg.** Corrugated metal compost bins should not be located near to main paths and ideally they should be located where no one might trip over them.