



Romsey Allotment Holders Association

growing together

March 2020

Message from the Chair:

As I write this from Colorado, I am wondering if there will be an aeroplane to fly home on next week ! Covid-19 is affecting so many aspects of our lives. I was happy to read that treatment for the 1919 Spanish Influenza outbreak included plenty of fresh air and exposure to sun. While sun is in short supply, you can keep fit and healthy in the fresh air of your allotment plot while you prepare for Spring.

Moving onto Summer - I have spoken to a number of you with younger children about making an artistic creation for the open day of La Ronde on 12th July. Please e-mail me at info@romseyallotments.org.uk with a description of your art-work and I will arrange with you how to show it. Those of you with plots along the exit road particularly please also e-mail me if you will host said art-work.

Remember that we have a "Seed Swap" bin at the main notice board - the now pink bin. Put spare seeds in, take out what you want.

Pretty soon we will have a new notice board up - I hope you like it.

And I hope plot holders near the exit gate appreciate the reconfigured parking area Denise and her husband created. Please figure how to maximise car parking. If you park someone in - leave your plot number / name clearly visible on your car.

Coming so close to the February newsletter this is a short one, with information from the recent committee meeting that will be of interest to members. Enjoy.

Carole

Bird Boxes

If you have a vertical north facing surface and would like to host one of the association's bird boxes, please email info@romseyallotments.org.uk



Speed limit

Please remember that we have a 5mph speed limit on our roads. This is for safety and also to help maintain the road surface.



You may find that even by keeping your foot off the accelerator you are going faster than that!

Pot Holes

You will probably have noticed the many pot holes in our road, some quite deep, and the 5 MPH speed limit is to help prevent them getting worse.

Next time you are at the allotments please help by filling in a pot hole using material from the pile in the car park near the entrance – start with larger pieces to pad out the hole, then top up with the finer material to make it slightly higher than the road (cars will compact it as they drive over it). The holes near the crossroads that have already been filled with this method have held up well.

IF EACH PLOT HOLDER FILLED IN A HOLE IT WILL MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE – please don't leave it to the few who regularly help all of us.

Next inspection

Plot inspections begin on 1st April, when signs of cultivation and plot-tending will be expected.

Please re-read the Plot Inspection Procedure found on the RAHA Website

(<http://www.romseyallotments.org.uk/>) under the banner heading RAHA, and in the sub-heading Procedures.

Rent Increase

In October 2020 our rent will increase to £1.40 for each rod. An increase was agreed at the 2019 AGM to cover the increase of our rent to Broadlands. It still represents very good value, and is far lower than the rents at most other allotment sites. **225 days until rent day: 17th October.** You are welcome to pay before then. Any plot holders paying a month or more late will be sent a "notice to quit" letter.

Your Data

Be assured that the bare minimum of your data is kept safely, and is accessible only by the Secretary, Chair and Treasurer. It is only used for allotment business and is not passed on to anyone else without your permission. Legally we need to notify you of any General Meetings so we need your name and postal address at least. Your email address helps you to quickly receive news and be contacted if necessary (for example, if your shed has blown over!), and your phone number helps in case we've not had a reply to emails or written letters. If any of this causes concern, please email info@romseyallotments.org.uk

Dates for this year

12th July – La Ronde 5th Sept (hopefully) - the Allotments Show 12th Oct – AGM
12th Sept – Romsey Show

Next committee meeting: Monday 11th May 2020

If there is anything you'd like to be raised please email info@romseyallotments.org.uk

<i>Moving?</i> <i>New email address?</i> <i>New phone number?</i> <i>Need help with your plot?</i> <i>No longer need your plot?</i> Please remember to let us know!	Useful advice for all allotmenters can be found on the Royal Horticultural Society website: https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/grow-your-own Email: info@romseyallotments.org.uk Website: http://www.romseyallotments.org.uk/ Facebook: Romsey Allotments
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