

Cripley Meadow Allotment Association Newsletter January 2014

In spite of starting the New Year underwater, we hope this will be a good gardening Year for all. Please take care and do not wander through water. When the ground is sodden you can sink! Please remember do not drive on site when wet or frozen as it destroys the paths. At least last year we had a glorious summer in between.

2014 Committee meetings	Working Parties and Events
Wednesday January 8th	Sunday January 12
Wednesday February 5th (AGM admin)	Sunday February 9
	Sat Mar 8 is OXCLEAN Day
Wednesday March 5th	Sunday March 9 which is also
	Subscription Day at the Shed 11-12
	AGM March 17 St Barnabas

For your new diaries..... here are the remaining dates for 2013-2014 gardening year We hope you managed to enjoy some of the fruits of your labours over the festive season and you are thinking about your plots and crops for next year whilst the water is too high to do any work!

Next Working Party

Join us on Sunday January 12th for the first 2014 working party when we aim to try to stay out of the water... but you will need wellies. As usual we meet at the shed. We will be moving pallets and fencing weather permitting. There are now only a few opportunities left for you to do the working party commitment for this year that is part of your membership. If it is not logged in before invoices are sent it will be included as a donation on your 2014 invoice. All members make a commitment to do a working party or make a donation as required by our terms of membership.....and quite a few do a lion's share. Without these contributions we would have to increase subscriptions as part of their membership.

On Tuesday 7th January a temporary work compound was built by the gate on the raised ground. This is so that OXFORD UNIVERSITY can complete the jobs and planting agreed. They will be on site for a couple of months and will work when weather permits. They are aware of the problems of vehicles on site in wet weather and will repair any damage. This work is due to be complete by the end of February. As part of this they will reconnect the water taps so that IF a problem arises with our wells it will be immediately available. We will of course let you know immediately.

Wednesday 8th January was our first Committee Meeting of 2014. Wednesday February 5th is the next and it is the meeting where invoices are raised and AGM material agreed and sent out. Most members now have email which we use for the report and agenda but we usually post invoices so please make sure Alison has your present address. Contact her on alison@oxford-canal.demon.co.uk. It is easier and ...and greener. Let us know now if you have an item you wish to be discussed by the membership at the AGM or if you wish to be nominated to help with committee work as that will make planning easier.

Our AGM date is March 17th at St Barnabas School, Hart Street, Jericho. The Meeting starts at 7pm but members of the Committee will be present from 6.0pm for you to pay your subscription. There will be drinks and nibbles available from 6pm so it is a good time to chat to other members.

The trading shop will not be opening this Sunday, 12th Jan, - because of the flooding. It will re-open on Sunday 9th Feb, which is the next Working Party day. We'll be open 10 - 10.30 and 12.30 - 1pm (before and after the Working Party). We have bags of composted horse manure and second hand tools for sale. In a few weeks' time we will have a few other products - Enviromesh, canes and plastic ground cover. We'll keep you updated through the noticeboard and newsletter about the opening times and things for sale. Meanwhile if you want to buy the bagged compost or second hand tools before 9th Feb, you can contact Sarah on sarahjehome@aol.com to see if she can fix a time with you:

If you have not already ordered your seeds check our web site for codes to give you discounts or maybe organise with your plot neighbours to share plants and seeds. All the best Wendy