

# The **HARTHILL** Plot

AS EVER

Scramble locks, and keep them clean; Park carefully; Don't block paths

Autumn Blockbuster

October 2022

## It's Autumn, time to plan pruning - oh, and a quiz...

OK, just for a change, identify these lines of a famous poem:

*"Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;  
Conspiring with him how to load and bless  
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eyes run".\**

(Clue for older readers, we usually refer to the first line of this poem in our Autumn newsletter.)

Anyway, it's **autumn** and therefore time to think about winter pruning, especially of trees that may be shading other plots. Some of these may have been identified in the recent round of plot inspections. The committee is also arranging for a tree survey of the whole site, mainly to look at the health of those trees around the perimeter.

**Planning for our AGM** - Autumn is also when we look forward to the **Annual General Meeting**, to be held on-line in November, so keep an eye out for that date. We always need more committee members, so why not think about putting your name forward. The site doesn't look after itself, the committee has to do that, obviously with the support of other tenants on group help days. Don't say you 'haven't got the time', none of us have the time and most committee members also have full time jobs.

There is **huge demand** for Allotments, so if you're not enjoying your plot or can't keep it up and want to give it up at the end of the year please let us know as soon as possible. Also, can everyone make sure their contact details are up to date.

**The Council's ban on fires** expires at the end of the month. It's not – in the view of *The Harthill Plot* – a well founded policy but it has rightly been **scrupulously observed on our site**. **When you light up again please make sure that no fires are left unattended in any circumstances.**

A highly successful **Group Help Day** in September saw the shed repaired and largely repainted. Our shed is one of the things that gives Harthill its unique, open character, so thanks to everyone who helped on the day. Many other essential tasks were completed, including the removal of a startling amount of rubbish, most of it thrown over the wall. Please keep an eye out for the next Group Help Day. You can of course help clear leaves at any time - please put them in the pen to the right of the manure heap.

More **manure** has now arrived so it can be rotted over the winter on your plot. There is, as you may have noticed, a plentiful supply of **wood chippings** so we're not looking for any more deliveries at the moment.

*\*It is of course Keats' 'Ode to Autumn' – "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness"*

