

The HARTHILL Plot

PLEASE

*Park carefully!

*Keep paths clear!

*Scramble locks!

Nearly Spring Issue

February 2022

Are you ready?

Winter might be a relatively quiet time on allotments but that doesn't mean that no work has been done, indeed we've been very busy and now is the time to get ready for Spring. And with some of the Covid restrictions having been relaxed we have a bit more freedom to get the site into shape. So:

Plot inspections will be starting again on 1 March so please make sure your plot is cared for and ready for planting etc. We have a waiting list of 27 so it's not fair to keep them waiting if anyone doesn't really want to get on with it. No need to panic – we're not expecting borders to be trimmed with nail scissors – but all plots do need to be cultivated.

We can **burn** tough weeds, wood etc. up to mid-March, after which the council (following national guidance) will be banning fires on sites. This does not apply of course to barbecues, should you be so inclined.

If you have a **plot on the boundary** you can help by cutting back the hedges, again before 1 March when the nesting season starts.

We are doing our best to get new supplies of **manure**. The Police Mounted Section has changed its contractor so it's been a bit difficult to sort the supply out. You can of course always go the Beechley Stables and fill your boots. Well, your wheelbarrows anyway.

The **Group Help Day** in January was a great success and we'll be having another one in February, with regular dates throughout the year.

BIN LID BINGO – *Lots of bin lids, tarpaulins and other items were blown away in the recent storms. Can everyone make sure that anything belonging to them is reclaimed as soon as possible.*

An Editor writes...

I've had a plot at Harthill for over 20 years and been on the committee for about ten but I have to say I haven't always been aware of the amount of work done by committee members behind the scenes. The recent clearance of one badly overgrown half plot took about 60 hours of work by a small number of committee members! Remember, most committee members (not me!) also have full time jobs, so please do your bit to help us keep our beloved Harthill in great shape. This includes, keeping your plot cultivated and coming to Group Help Days.

Keeping in touch

As well as this excellent newsletter, plot holders can keep in touch via our equally excellent Facebook page and our website www.harthillallotments.org.uk.

RHA Gardens

As we are members of the **Royal Horticultural Association** our members are entitled to reduced price tickets (£10) to RHA gardens. If you're interested, contact Alan Taylor on site or via any of the above routes.