

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2016



The 2016 Annual General Meeting

Reports, seasonal advice, committee elections,
plot awards winners and membership renewals

The HAS would like to invite you to the 2016 AGM, where you can find out how the Society works and to meet other members and the Committee. We will receive reports about activity during the past year and the 2015/16 financial accounts. The AGM is also required to elect officers for the coming year. If you have an item you'd like to have addressed, please send a brief outline to secretary@hackneyallotments.org.

SPEAKER

We were hoping to offer members a different style AGM this year, one which focused on sharing the knowledge and experience of members in successfully growing a selection of veg and fruit, but unfortunately we had no volunteers to give advice, so we are reverting to a business AGM and a speaker of interest. This year the speaker is Margaret Willes who will be telling us about the subject of her recently published book, *The Gardens of the British Working Class*.

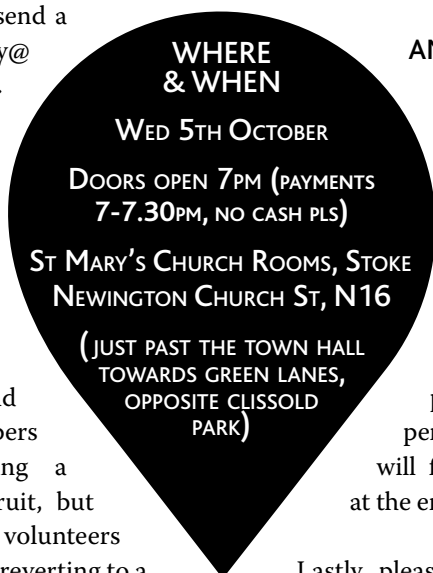
SITE VISITS

In July this year the annual site inspections took place. Their purpose is to provide an overview of all sites, and to award prizes to individual ploholders based on variety of crops, most improved, creativity and productivity. The winners will be announced on the night.

ANNUAL RENT

Plot holders are reminded to note that following the increase agreed at the 2014 AGM, the full plot rental is now £26. Membership fees and plot rents must be paid by 5/10/2016, or in person at the AGM. You will find more information at the end of this newsletter.

Lastly, please remember that it is your responsibility to ensure your fees are paid on time. If they are not, you will be charged an additional administration fee and you risk losing your plot or your place on the waiting list.



30% OFF ORGANIC SEED ORDER

Sarah Kissack is doing another group order from the Organic Gardening Catalogue, which will give discounts of up to 30%. You can access the Catalogue at www.organiccatalogue.com or phone 01932 253666 for a paper copy. If you want to participate, email the details of your order to sarah.kissack@uwclub.net or give her a paper copy at the AGM, or post to 25 Listria Park, Stoke Newington, London N16 5SW by the end of October. You pay for your order with relevant discount on collection from her at address above, usually in January. Should the total not be enough to qualify for the discount she'll let you know. Please email or call Sarah on 07754 095062 if you have any queries.



SOWING CALENDAR

www.realseeds.com

IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

... time to get some last sowings of winter salads and greens in the ground, and think about ways of protecting crops over the winter. Cloches, mini-tunnels and fleece are all useful ways of extending the season.

OUTSIDE

- Spring cabbage (early September, warmer areas only)
- Winter salads and greens including winter lettuce and oriental vegetables
- Bunching onions (early September)
- Broad beans and hardy (round seeded) peas to overwinter (from mid September)

IN A POLYTUNNEL/GREENHOUSE

- Hardy oriental greens, particularly mustard greens, komatsuna, mizuna, Tsoi Sim and chinese cabbage.

PROUD TO PRESENT:

Some of our allotments' best.

Take part and share your successes or design features in the next newsletter! Email your pictures to hasnews@mac.com or secretary@hackneyallotments.org.uk



All pictures are of crops grown on the Overbury Street site.
See more on twitter @overburyallot.



Psychedelic
beetroot



Surprisingly snail-resistant Kohlrabi



USE IT OR LOSE IT

Many allotmenters have said that this year was particularly difficult - a cold and very wet spring, delayed summer with little sun (until August). Yet the site inspections which took place at the end of June showed that there were many really good plots that were using all available space with some lovely looking crops. At the same time, there were some plots that were pretty disastrous - it was obvious that the plot holders had not been attending to their plots for months, not just weeks.

The committee is mindful of those on the waiting list whose interests are of equal importance to those of plot holders. Having an allotment is NOT

compulsory. If you don't want it, all you have to do is let your site rep know that you wish to give up and we will allocate the plot to someone else. This year, we have issued 18 Neglected Plot letters to plot holders whose plots were assessed unacceptable.

If you know in advance that you will be unable to attend to your plot for a significant period of time, a result of which it will look overrun with weeds, TELL YOUR SITE REPRESENTATIVE IN ADVANCE so that they will know what is going on. Do not think it will not be noticed!

We are not being tough but we are being

rigorous. If you have a plot, we expect it to be worked. In June, at least 75% of the plot should have produce growing.

- If a whole plot is too much for you, tell us and we can arrange for you to have a half-plot - less of a time and energy commitment.
- If your current circumstances are such that you cannot manage your plot, you can surrender your plot free of weeds and go on the waiting list, to be offered the next available plot when you are ready.

Having an allotment is a serious time commitment. If you don't use your plot, you will lose it, no excuses accepted.

PAYING MEMBERSHIP FEES AND PLOT RENT FOR 2016/17

All fees are due to be paid before or at the AGM on the 5th October, and it would be a great help if you could meet this deadline. If you do not, there is now a £1 late payment fee that will be due in addition to membership and plot rental.

HOW TO PAY ELECTRONICALLY

This is the process used to pay from a Smile account; different banks may have slightly different processes:

- Select 'Pay Bills' option
- Bill type 'Other'
- Recipient organization 'HAS'
- Reference from your bill '[your name]'
- Recipient account number 65555383
- Recipient sort code 089299

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU USE YOUR NAME AS THE REFERENCE ON THE PAYMENT, not any reference number given to you. We need to know whose rent/membership is being paid, otherwise we will chase you for non-payment. If you pay electronically, no receipt will be posted to you as you will already have a record of the payment. There is also no need to complete and post the form below, but please email nancylkorman@hotmail.co.uk with any

changes in contact details or AGM business you would like discussed, including if you would wish to stand for any office.

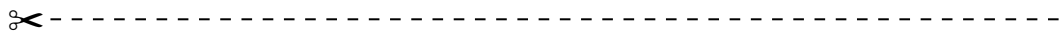
If you use **telephone banking**, you can pay that way using the HAS account details above.

HOW TO PAY BY CHEQUE

If you do not use electronic banking then please complete the slip below and return it to Nancy Korman, 21 Northchurch Terrace, London N1 4EB with your cheque made payable to HACKNEY ALLOTMENT SOCIETY by 1/10/16 or bring it in person to the AGM.

NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE BACK OF THE CHEQUE PLEASE.

You will receive confirmation of payment by email if possible, or by post if requested. Paper receipts will also be available on request at the AGM.



HAS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP & PLOT FEES 2016/17

Name: _____

 Address: _____

 Tel: _____
 email: _____

I ENCLOSE:

- £4 membership (waiting list)
 - £30 m'ship and rent (full plot)
 - £17 m'ship and rent concs
 - £17 m'ship and rent (half plot)
 - £12.50 m'ship and rent concs (half plot)
- please provide proof of status for concessions*

To keep costs down, all communication from HAS will be by email unless you tick this box to receive paper copies by post

I would like to stand for election to the following post:

I would like the following to be discussed at the AGM:

HAS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

CHAIR

Penny Miller -
pmshrink@yahoo.com

VICE CHAIR

Ruth Gladwin

SECRETARY

Nancy Korman -
secretary@hackneyallotments.org.uk

TREASURER

Hugh Naylor

HAS SITE REPRESENTATIVES

ADEN TERRACE

Sue Sharples

CHURCH WALK

John Clarke and
Maggie Wilkinson

LEASIDE ROAD

MJ and Helene Gulleksan

OVERBURY STREET

Jane Hough and
Amanda Scope

QUEENSBRIDGE ROAD

Phillip Turner

SPRING HILL

Phillip Pearson, Jon
Fuller, Beth Webber and
Frederica Brook

SPRING LANE

Helen Bishop

SPRINGDALE ROAD

Mairin Power and
Annie Wilson

ST KILDA'S ROAD

Henrietta Soames