



NEWSLETTER

BDAC Annual General Meeting

The BDAC Annual General Meeting was held at Bordesley Green Allotments on May 21st. It was the first AGM we have been able to hold since 2019. Elections were held for Officers and Executive members. According to our Constitution a third of Executive members must be re-elected each AGM. Sadly, our President Alderman Brenda Clarke, has decided after 15 years' service, to stand down due to health problems. She has been a great support to the Executive. She will be missed by us all and we wish her all the best for the future.

Officers elected for 2022 are as follows:

Chairman: Clive Birch
 Secretary: Barbara Smith
 Treasurer: David Rawlings
 Minute secretary: Dave Hubball

The following Executive members were re-elected Peter Thomas (May Lane), Richard Long (May Lane) and Joe Brown (May Lane) Paul Clark (The Brambles) and Clive Fenn (Birches Green) were also formally elected to the Executive after being Co-opted during the year.

Life Vice President: Executive member David Taylor received this honour in recognition of his work to re-establish 3 sites. He has worked tirelessly to resurrect Longmeadow and Hall Hayes in Shard End, also Shaftesbury Road in Sheldon.



Dates for your diary

The next **Executive meeting** will be on 1st August at Bordesley Green Allotments. Meetings starts at 7 p.m. (Meetings are generally on the first Monday of the month)

If you wish to attend any meeting as an observer please contact Clive Birch

BDAC Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Competition
 Saturday August 20th

National Allotments Week
 August 9th to August 15th^h

In this edition:

Page One AGM

Page two Management Agreement updates and Annual Show

Page three

Scam to be aware of
 Event on Greenleigh Allotments

Page four Contacts,
 Water Plus surveys

Management Agreement up date

The Working Party has now finished a re-draft of the Management Agreement. It has been sent to Darren Share Assistant Director of Street Scene, for his comments. If he looks upon it favourably then it will be sent out to Associations for scrutiny.

The Working Party is also looking into whether a system of Self-Management would be a better option. In other parts of the country some Associations lease the land off their Council and run the site independently. Taking on more responsibility but able to raise funds and go for grants.

Another possible system is where a voluntary body is set up that negotiates to take on the leases of Allotment sites in an area. This is an "Umbrella" body that takes over the responsibility of running the sites, replacing the Council. Any system of Self-management will need careful consideration and will require significant numbers of committed plot holders to be actively involved in the running of allotments. In the case of an "Umbrella Organisation" will need the commitment of a representative group of plot holders with the correct skills and knowledge who are committed to the long-term health of Birmingham's Allotments and also the willingness to give of their time.

In the coming months it is hoped that the Working party and the BDAC will hold important meetings to explain options to Associations. It will be important that all Associations attend these.

Your opinions on Self-Management are very welcome.

BDAC Fruit, Flower and Vegetable Show

The BDAC will be holding a Fruit, flower and vegetable competition this year at Bordesley Green Allotments.

The number of classes has been increased from 2021 including several classes for novice growers. So, it has never been so good to have your first go at showing. Derek Cullen our Show Secretary is more than happy to visit your plot to see what you have got, give you advice and let you know what is show worthy

There will also be an **Association Flower Display competition** and many individual classes to enter including ones for children.

To enter download the schedule from our website where you will also find the entry form and instructions of where to send your entries. Alternatively, contact the Show Secretary Derek Cullen on 07476057915 or email Barbara Smith on bdac.allotments@gmail.com and request a schedule.

IMPORTANT message to all those who have already downloaded the schedule note this amendment!

Important update 21/05/21 for Vegetable Competition Exhibitors.

Schedule change to Exhibitors Access for Vegetable Competition at Bordesley Green.

Access to Competition benches for exhibitors from 8.0am Friday 13th August 2021.

- A. Competition Arena will be closed for judging at 4.0pm Friday 13th August 2021.
- B. Only those persons officially appointed shall be present during the judging of exhibits.
- C. No exhibit is to be removed before 5.00pm on Saturday 14th August 2021.
- D. Competition Arena will open to view at 9.00am Saturday 14th August 2021.
- E. Competition Closes 5.0pm Saturday 14th August 2021.

Regards Derek Cullen



If you haven't entered before have a try, it's fun to take part.



Concerning Scam

An Allotment Site in Harborne were contacted by a gentleman stating that he was setting up an Allotments What's App page for all Birmingham's Allotment holders. This must be a scam. Those of you on What's App are aware that your contact phone numbers are used in the App. If set up, this individual will end up with your contact phone number. Should you be approached please disregard this gentleman. **There will not be a city wide What's App group in Birmingham.**



PlayGROUND Art and Environment, Connecting People



Celebrating Communities

-mark the City's status as host for the 2022 Commonwealth Games-

Workshops & Garden Party

@Greenleigh Road Allotments, Billesley, B14 4JL

Workshops 11am - 1pm

Tuesday 2nd August

Wood Engraving - etch a map on our DIY pallet table, make a personalised coaster/printing block

Wednesday 3rd August

Stones & Flags - paint real/imaginary flags on stones, place them on our DIY table top map

Fruit and Veg with Hannah - explore their origins, uses and how to grow them

Thursday 4th August

88 Rainbows Bunting - paint national/imaginary flowers

Scrapbooking - cut and paste, Commonwealth, facts, opinion, humour, personal histories

Garden Party 2 - 6pm

Saturday 6th August

'Why has the Commonwealth survived so long and will it ever escape the shadow of the British Empire?'
Talk by Philip Murphy - Director of History & Policy at the Institute of Historical Research, University of London (former director of the Institute of Commonwealth Studies) 2.30pm

Walk About with Phil - identify a wide variety of plants, culinary, medicinal, creative uses, pollinators and associated fauna 4.00pm

Sample Delicious Cuisine - national dishes, recipes.

88 Rainbows Head Band - express your flower power

Art/Nature Works - Geodesic Dome, bottle gourds, Standing Leylandii, Mapping Table, National Flower Bunting, scrapbook.

Commonwealth vibes and hula hooping

Bring food and drink to share

playground@mail.com / 07984 955 976

<https://www.facebook.com/PlayGROUND.CIO/> <https://playground-cio.org>

Plot and Site Competitions up date

The Cliff Jones and Flo Pickering Competitions have been judged and results sent to our Chairman Clive Birch. He will inform entrants shortly.

The Florence Pickering Trophy competition for the Best Newcomer to Allotmenting

The Cliff Jones Memorial Trophy competition for the Best Plot

The Thorpe Trophy competition for the Best site

The Robins Trophy competition for the Most Improved Site

Contact the BDAC

Chairman: Clive Birch phone 0121 354 1512 e-mail: clivebirch@blueyonder.co.uk

Secretary: Barbara Smith phone 07746062410 e-mail : bdac.allotments@gmail.com

For lots of information visit our Website www.bdacallotments.co.uk Join us on our Facebook page-

BDAC Birmingham allotments <https://www.facebook.com/groups/674161326681373>

Follow us on Twitter [@BDAC_allotments](https://twitter.com/BDAC_allotments)

Water Plus Surveys

Thank you for the Associations that have already sent in the Water Plus Survey to the BDAC. The increasing hot summers will no doubt continue and pose challenges to Associations to cover the cost of water. The Council are not intending to increase the amount they allocate to us for water so many Associations are using their own funds to cover the bills. So in order to better support Associations the BDAC need to have a full picture of all sites experience in dealing with Water Plus.

It would be good if anyone could share any creative ideas on how to better harvest and store rainwater . I will happily put these in the next Newsletter out in the Autumn.

If an Association has yet to send in the survey we will be very happy to receive them.

And finally,

**DON'T FORGET TO ENTER OUR SHOW IN AUGUST,
OR JUST COME TO SEE THE EXHIBITS.!**

Use this link to download a schedule.

<https://bdacallotments.co.uk/social-events/annual-flowers-fruit-vegetable-competition/exhibitors-information/>