Please forward and share with as many plotholders as possible

MONTHLY ROUNDUP

BDAC

Serving Birmingham's Allotments

Birmingham & District Allotment Cooperative 2026 April Issue 12

On The Plot

The soil is warming up and the weeds are raising their heads so there is plenty of preparation work before getting seeds and plants in the soil.

The National Allotment Society makes the following suggestions for things to do on the plot:

- **Sow carrots, beetroot, spinach, leaf beet, salad onions, radish, lettuce, peas, turnips, swedes, kale, spring onions, broad beans, pumpkins, squashes, radicchio, and endive.** For those in cooler areas, it may still be better to wait a little longer to sow outdoor crops, especially tender varieties.
- Plant out courgettes, maincrop potatoes, celeriac, and celery at the end of the month once the risk of frost has passed.
- Earth up early potatoes to increase yield and ensure the plants remain stable and well-fed.
- Stake peas and erect frames for climbing beans. You can sow beans under glass or directly outdoors towards the end of the month.
- Start harvesting asparagus, as it should be ready now in many areas.
- Thin out seedlings from earlier sowings, such as carrots, to ensure strong and healthy plants.

Tip:
Keep an eye out for pests like slugs and snails. Use organic deterrents such as copper tape or beer traps to protect your young plants.

Read More

Watch it on Youtube

Dave's Allotment Garden and Ting
After a quick tour of his plot and sharing his plans Dave settles down with a cuppa to look at some OLDSCHOOL tips.

Watch the Video

A Touch of Nostalgia

Radio 4 Extra has been delving into the archives and are producing a series of 3 programmes **4 Extra Goes Gardening.** Starting at the home of Gertrude Jekyll, in Episode 1 the second features the first GQT from 1947.

The gardening advice may have changed but we can all learn something from the way things were done, even if it is not to do it like that.

Executive Feedback

BDAC are still waiting to hear from the FCA on the Rules Submission. Apparently staff shortages are causing a delay.
The Flo Pickering works are nearing competitions.
Plot enquiries are continuing to come in at approximately 8 per week, with most sites dealing with them within 10 days. However, problems do arise when associations have failed to update their contact details following an AGM.
The NHS funded initiative at Bordesley Green has started but sadly a reduced budget.
The government has approved the sale of land at Wyrley Birch Allotments whilst a couple of miles away another site is bringing derelict land back into cultivation assisted by Executive members.

Agendas have been sent to association secretaries. If you would like your own copy < Click here >

Find out more

Do you care about allotments?
The Executive needs people who care.

Find out more

Roots to Fruits are searching for the Best Gardener and running a number of free courses to help newcomers and experienced plotholder

Find out more

FREE WORKSHOPS
An opportunity to learn about how to get money for your association.

Find out more

Site Competitions

+ The Robins Trophy

In addition to the three Competitions held in 2025, Best Site, Best Plot and Best Newcomer, this year sees the return of the Robins Trophy for the most improved site. The judging criteria are available to read and download from our website. Whilst some of the competitions entries can only be submitted by the Association Secretary, individuals may enter their own plot.

Find out more

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