



# THE ALLOTMENT

HAMPTON COURT WAY ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

## SUMMER SITE SUMMARY FROM JILL, SITE MANAGER

**Dear All,**

**As most of you already know our Lease is due for renewal this year. It is expected that a draft Lease will be available by August 2017; this will be generic to all 13 local sites and may run in conjunction with a site specific sub-Lease. Unfortunately it will not be possible for EMGS to relocate the trading hut to our site until the new Lease is in place. This means that Plot 1 will continue to be vacant for the foreseeable future and will require regular maintenance by HCWAA members.**

**Plot watering** continues to cause discontent and whilst we don't have a hosepipe ban, that doesn't mean water can be wasted. There are many plot holders on site, all of whom wish their crops to live and flourish. If you use the mains supply please be considerate and limit the time you have a hose connected. The water pressure is excellent when only two or three people use hosepipes but more than that reduces it to a trickle. If possible wait or perhaps use

watering cans. Please take care when trailing a hose through a neighbour's plot not to damage their crops! Also **never** leave a running hose unattended or go off site leaving it connected to a tap, whether running or not.

There has been much concern about the number of people using **strong chemical weed killers** and pesticides. If you must use these products please do so with great care. They are **extremely toxic** and have the potential to cause you serious harm. Never use these products on neighbouring plots or shared pathways. Many plot holders prefer to cultivate organically.

**The scrap dealers have not taken the metal next to Plot 1 so we will have to dispose of it ourselves. If anyone is doing a dump run it would be really helpful if you added some of the metal to your load. With luck it should only take a few trips to clear. The paving/brick rubble can stay; this will be used for hardcore when the trading hut is installed.**

**Don't forget** there is a one way system operating on our site - this applies to all modes of transport; cars, vans, bicycles, scooters.

Unfortunately the speed hump intended for installation was damaged and unusable so the site entrance at Broadfields continues to be a danger spot, particularly for pedestrians and cyclists. **The 5mph speed limit is there for a reason. For safety sake STOP SPEEDING!**

We have experienced unwelcome visits on site recently and the question of site security was again discussed at the last committee meeting. **These are the options: A) lock the gate at the Broadfields entrance; i) both sides or ii) one side to allow easy pedestrian access . B) install solar powered CCTV or C) do nothing. Do any members have any other suggestions or particularly favour any of the above? It would be helpful to know your thoughts.**

Lastly, a reminder that **paving slabs are not permitted on site other than to create a base for sheds or greenhouses. It is permissible to have a slab or two in front of a shed or greenhouse doorway. If you still have paved areas or pathways on your plot these must be removed asap. Concrete and cement must never be used on site.**

JILL

## THE ANNUAL BBQ

**Held on the allotment picnic area by the main entrance. BREAD, SALAD AND PUDDING WILL BE PROVIDED**

**Please bring a chair, cutlery, crockery, glasses, food for the grill (we will happily cook it for you) and refreshments.**



**Saturday July 15th  
5.00pm onwards**

**£3 per person - pay on the day  
GUESTS WELCOME**



# Pest repelling plants

Natural ways to control unwanted pests in your home and garden.

Are you an insect magnet? If so there are ways to fight back against mosquitoes, gnats, flies and other insects that doesn't involve engaging in chemical warfare. Essential oils in some plants act as repellents and insects tend to avoid them. Plant them around your garden or use some of these plants to make your own natural repellent.

## **Basil - Repels mosquitoes and flies.**

Plant Basil in containers by outside doors and in outdoor areas where you sit.

**Repellent spray recipe.** Pour 4 ounces of boiling water on to 4 to 6 ounces of clean, fresh basil leaves (stems ok too). Steep for several hours then remove the basil squeezing out all moisture. Add the liquid to 4 ounces of (cheap!) vodka, mixing well. Store in the refrigerator and apply as a spray when going outdoors. Be sure to keep the spray away from your eyes, nose and mouth.

## **Lavender - Repels moths, fleas, flies and mosquitoes.**

Plant it in sunny, well drained areas of the garden or near outside doorways to help keep those areas pest free.

Bundles or bowls of dried lavender around your home should help keep flies outdoors. Lavender oil can be used as a mosquito repellent. Added benefit - lavender oil has a calming effect that induces sleep.

## **Mint - Repels mosquitoes.**

Mint in the garden or on the patio will help keep nearby plants insect free. Mint cuttings in mulch can help broccoli, cabbage and turnips. Make a repellent of mint oils combined with cider vinegar and cheap vodka (or witch hazel)

## **Rosemary - Repels mosquitoes and a variety of insects.**

Rosemary has many uses as well as being an effective insect repellents.

To make a repellent spray boil 4 cups of dried rosemary in 4 cups of water for 20 to 30 minutes. Cool and strain into a sealable container and add 4 cups of cool water. Store it in the refrigerator. To use, put the repellent liquid in a small spray bottle. Discard the refrigerator repellent when it no longer has a strong smell of rosemary.

**There are also flowers that can help keep plant-attacking insects at bay.**

**Alliums - Repel numerous insects including slugs, aphids, carrot flies and cabbage worms.**

Plants that benefit from Alliums include tomatoes, peppers, potatoes, cabbage, broccoli, kohlrabi and carrots. Alliums include herbs such as chives and garlic chives, leeks and shallots.

**Chrysanthemums - Repel spider mites, ants, Japanese beetles, ticks, silverfish, lice, fleas, bedbugs, harlequin bugs and root-knot nematodes.**

Chrysanthemums contain pyrethrum, which can kill flying and jumping insects, Although chrysanthemum flowers can be used to make an insecticide, pyrethrum can be carcinogenic to humans and care should be taken in using it in this form.

**Marigolds - Repel Mosquitoes, Aphids and rabbits**

The roots of marigolds are well-known to repel nematodes, but require a year to take effect. Marigolds interspersed throughout your veg plot can also spur on the growth of certain plants.

**Nasturtiums - Repel whiteflies, squash bugs, aphids, many beetles and cabbage loopers.**

Nasturtiums - the ultimate companion. They release an airborne chemical that repels insects, thereby protecting other plants in the vicinity. However they do not repel the all-important bumblebee.

**Petunias - Repel aphids, tomato hornworms, leafhoppers and squash bugs.**

Petunias are nature's pesticide. Available in a variety of colours they are low maintenance and grow anywhere. Plant them in sunny areas near your vegetables.

## **RHS GOLD MEDAL WINNERS At Hampton Court Flower show**

**EMGS: Centenary Celebration**

**Best Flower and Vegetable Boxes.**

Congratulations to all those involved!



## Literary Compost

When the bee comes to your house, let her have beer; you may want to visit the bee's house some day.

Proverb from the Congo

If you want to live and thrive, let the spider run alive.

Turkish Proverb

### **SITE REMINDERS:**

Site speed limit is 5mph; This applies to everyone! Please respect the limit.



**Bonfires are NOT permitted until 1st October.**

**Please don't wash your veg or tools in the water tanks.**

Please make sure your plot number can be clearly seen



### **DIARY REMINDERS**

**15th July - Summer Barbecue**

**19th August - EMGS Flower Show**

**7th & 8th October - Site work (am)**

### **Who's Who**

CHAIR - Julie Smith  
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TREASURER - Tom Appleton  
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SECRETARY - Sheena Clarke  
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SITE MANAGER - Jill McDermott  
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TRUSTEES - Sheena Clarke,  
Marie Mullard & Tom Appleton

MEMBERSHIP / LETTINGS -  
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