

Alers Road Leisure Gardens Association Newsletter – March 2024

Chairman:	Adrian Hawthorne	Plots 99
Secretary:	Debra Collins	Plot 5
Treasurer:	John Hollands	Plots 62/110

Welcome: Spring is a wonderful season with the blossom showing on the trees and supposedly warmer, sunnier days, if only the rain would stop. It's a busy time at the allotment, and many of the plots are looking lovely with everyone working very hard.

AGM: The AGM is on the **5th April**, 7.45pm at the Bexleyheath Boys Brigade. I hope everyone has seen the notice and received the information either by email or post. If anyone would like to raise any matters these must be received by the Secretary in writing with 1 weeks notice

Bonfires: A friendly reminder that bonfires are not allowed after the **1st April**. The allotment has many residential properties neighbouring it and we need to be considerate and respectful to all our neighbours. Any plot holder that has any bonfires after the 1st of April will be in breach of their tenancy agreement and are at risk of having their tenancy terminated.

Water: With all the rain we have been having hopefully all your water butts are full. Water is our biggest financial cost and it is important for both our finances and the environment that we collect as much rain water as possible. If you would like advice on setting up a water system, please speak to a committee member or other plot holders.

Please can I remind everyone that when the water is put back on that hoses are not permitted to be connected to the water system or electric pumps placed in the water butts.

Plots: currently on our waiting list, we have 8 new prospective members as well as 5 current members looking for additional plots. We have several new members who have taken on plots on our allotment site. Some have experience where others are beginners to the allotment community, I am sure everyone will make them welcome and offer tips and support to help them settle in and succeed.

Site Security: Security of the site is everyone's responsibility. Please can I remind everyone to lock the gates when they enter and leave the site. It is a large site, and is good for all members to feel secure when working on their plots.

Log Book: Just a reminder that the log book is kept in the toilet block for all members to record any incidences relating to the site. Often plot holders will mention things to committee members as they are working or walking around the site, understandably things may get forgotten. If it is recorded in the book it can be managed properly. Committee members regularly check the book and share any incidences at the regularly committee meetings.

Website & Social Media – Our Website is currently not being used to its full potential. The Committee would like to encourage all plot holders to think about any articles that they could write and share. Articles could be around things you have found works, asking for advice and sharing ideas. If anyone has any content or suggestions for content on the website, please let the committee know. The website could be an additional tool for novice's and experienced members.

We would like to have a presence on social media, if any plot holder who has experience in this area and would be interested in helping set up Facebook or Instagram please feel free to contact one of the committee members.

Committee Meeting Dates: The Committee meets every other month; on a Sunday at 10.30am. We have an Open Access slot on the agenda at the beginning of each meeting for any member who wishes to address the committee with any allotment matters.

Debra Collins (Secretary)

Debra Collins – Secretary, 07951 723874, secretary@alersroadallotments.org