



MARCH 2017

View from the Chair

A warm welcome to all Tenants old and new. Spring is in the air and as another season gets underway, let's hope the Great British weather is kinder this year by giving us sun during the day and rain at night. As one of the largest independent sites in the country it brings many challenges and the committee would like to thank everyone that helps out and supports us.

Several visitors have commented how friendly and welcoming the people onsite are and with your help we can improve it even further to make the site better for everyone. We regularly have new tenants joining the site and as you are all aware starting a plot can seem like a daunting task. We ask that you introduce yourself and even a good morning as you pass can help give a lift when the work seems never ending.

You will have noticed new notice boards in the front car park and I ask you check them regularly to see what is new. You can also get the new site contact details there.

There is a great events team pulled together by David Oz and they have arranged an exciting program of events catering for every taste in the coming year.

Lastly, we are looking for 2 dynamic, hardworking, fair minded, conscientious people to join the committee but we would prefer honest people that are willing to join in regardless of their skills. Please call in the shop for a tea and a chat with one of the committee if interested.

Tony (MRALGA Chair)

Shop News

We now have seed potatoes, onions, shallots and garlic in stock. We also have seeds, compost, fertilisers, soil conditioners, canes and gardening sundries. Chicken food and honey are also available. We work hard to keep prices as low as possible so pick up a price list when you are next around or view online at www.mralga.org

The Shop is now open Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 10-12 noon. Please make sure the gates are locked at all other times.

The Gardening Club

Members told us they wanted an informal Gardening Club so we've started one for you all. It's for newcomers and old timers alike and we plan to have monthly get-togethers, have guest speakers from around the country and generally share gardening knowledge and tips.

Details of the first 3 events will be emailed to you very soon.

Up-coming Events

Saturday 4th March from 10am. **FREE Pruning Demonstration and Workshop** in the Orchard. Please bring gloves, secateurs and sensible footwear. FREE lunch of hot soup and bread.

Saturday 18th March from 10am. **Willow Weaving Workshop**. 8 places only - £22.50 each. A 'Maria Special' Ploughman`s lunch pre-booked only £5.

Saturday 8th April from 11am. **Easter Event**. Free children`s Easter egg hunt. Win your Easter Meal in our Raffle. FREE refreshments. Please call in the shop and put your names on the list.

Friday 21st April 7pm. **Quiz Night** with a fish and chip supper £7.50. Limited to 50 places.

Tickets for all events are available at the site shop.

If you would like to join the events subcommittee see David Osborn or email events@mralga.org

General News

We've been busy with maintenance this month - some of the jobs undertaken include: building an external wood store for the wood burner in the hut, extending the greenhouse and growing area to allow us to continue to "Grow Our Own" for the plant sale and shop, up-grading the kitchen to meet hygiene regulations as we now have more events for members, stabilising the front gates and reinforcing the supporting structure in the events room.

The www.mralga.org website is up and running and constantly evolving. We'd love to have some of your photos to share on the website.

If you could spare an hour or two to help with jobs around the site or making cups of tea, please let us know - your help and support is always appreciated.

Please remember to consult your Bonfire Calendar before lighting up. Bonfire dates are also posted on the noticeboards.

The Plot Inspectors Call!

Plot inspections will commence Saturday 25th March and will be bi-monthly. Trustees will contact plot holders where necessary. **Please ensure your plot is accessible, thank you.**

Tip for the Month

It's now time to prepare your plots for early sowings of parsnips, beetroot, carrots, onion, shallots, peas and broad beans and also planting lettuce, summer cabbage, calabrese and cauliflower.

Have you any ideas or want to contribute to the next BROADCAST? We'd like as many of you as possible to join in so if you have any items or news you would like in the next edition, please e-mail broadcast@mralga.org or talk to a member of the committee - all ideas welcome!

If you haven't received this broadcast by e-mail, please contact broadcast@mralga.org

with your details to be added to the mailing list. This will help keep costs down - thank you.

We currently have plots available so please spread the word to friends and family.

Enjoy your plot!

MRALGA Trustees