



MAY 2017

View from the Chair

I would have liked to keep the Broadcast light and airy but we have now had several incidents onsite including a large number of break-ins to tenants' sheds and also the break-in at the shop where a large amount of damage was caused. So I feel we need to remind all tenants not to store anything in their sheds that has a high or sentimental value. We also ask that all incidents on your plot be reported by yourselves to the police on 101.

I would like to thank all who donated or helped to carry out temporary repairs and tidy up so we could keep the shop and tea room open following the break-in.

This has put us on the back foot due to the extra work and if anyone can chip in and help out, not only in the huts but in general around the site, that would be appreciated.

On a lighter note, we had a good quiz night and it is nice that so many joined in with the fun.

There are several other events planned including a plant sale and gardening talk on the 13th May so keep an eye on the notice board for details.

The sun has got a bit stronger but with little rain or no rain and cold nights there are still challenges to be had. Nobody has ever said growing is easy but enjoy the time on your plots regardless.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at our 1st open committee meeting of the year on Tuesday 2nd May in the huts at 6.45 for a 7pm start.

Tony (MRALGA Chair)

Gardening Club

Our first talk was thoroughly enjoyed by all. David Oz and Jake told us all there is to know about growing onions and leeks and how to get the most out of our plots.

Mike Thurlow from TV's Gardeners' World is coming to give 2 talks on Plant Sale day so make sure you book your seats asap at the shop as we're limited to 60 seats.

Another **Willow Weaving Day Workshop** will be held on Saturday 10th June when you can learn how to make your own obelisks for your garden or plot. The day is limited to 8 lucky people so get your tickets now at the hut.

Shop News

We still have seed potatoes, onions and garlic in stock. We also have seeds, plants, 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.

Events

The Easter Event proved a great success with lots of children running around trying to find Easter eggs under the guidance of our very own Easter Chick.



Our **Plant Sale** this year will be on **Saturday 13th May** from 10am – 4pm. There will be more vegetable plants, fruit, herbs and flowers than ever before! Make sure you tell friends and relatives about the sale so they can also get plants at very competitive prices. There will also be a **Hanging Basket** demonstration, a demonstration **Beehive** and a bric-a-brac stall. Following its success at our last event, there will be another **Meat Raffle**. Hot and cold food will be served from 12 onwards and drinks will be available all day.

Mike Thurlow from TV's Gardeners' World has agreed to come and give 2 talks on the same day as the Plant Sale. He'll be talking about Companion Plants at 11am and How to make the most of your Greenhouse or Polytunnel at 2pm. Make sure you book your **FREE** tickets at the shop asap as we're limited to 60 seats.

Put Saturday 9th September in your diaries – this is the date of our **ANNUAL SHOW** with an increased number of classes and attractions – the schedule of classes will be available soon.

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

General News

The maintenance team has been very busy updating the water system on site replacing tanks, pipes, connections etc as well as all the general maintenance and repair work around the site.

Clean Air!

You may have noticed how cleaner the air is around the site – a big thank you to all tenants for only lighting bonfires on the 1st full weekend of the month.

Rats getting you down?

If you have a rat problem on your plot, please let us know and our qualified rodent controller will be only too pleased to help.

If you have been issued with a poison bait box, please could you return it or let us know and we'll pick it up so Jake can re-use it.

Police Presence

We are lodging an insurance claim for damage to and theft from our communal areas. We have been told that we'd get a greater police presence if every tenant targeted by thieves could report the incident, even if it's small, to the police on 101.

Young children on site

Parents please remember young children are your responsibility on site and should be supervised at all times. There are many unseen dangers for young children.

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.

Enjoy your plot!
MRALGA Trustees