

Cavendish House Allotments *newsletter*

Issue No. 16 Autumn 2012



AGM 2012

Sunday 25 November at St Stephen's School, Winchester Road, St Margarets. Doors open 1400h, meeting from 1430h until 1530h.

Your opportunity to ask questions and hear what your committee has been doing,

Anyone unable to attend the AGM can e-mail (enquiries@cavendish-allotments.org.uk) or text their question (07505 668268).

Vote for your favourite plot. Bottle of wine for the plot with most votes.

Refreshments available.

On Site News

Committee

Fran Fitch has stepped down from the committee and

relinquished her plot, as she has moved to Hampshire.

Delivered Compost

There are still some bags of compost for sale @£2.75 per bag. Contact one of the committee to arrange.

All monies go to the Communal Allotment fund.

Communal Composting area

The communal composting bays will be opened on specific days which will be advertised on the allotment notice board (on these days you will also be able to take compost from the bays (which is free)

Horse Manure

A delivery of fresh horse manure is arriving this week and will be available on Sunday 7th October at the same time as the composting bays are open. £1 per barrow. Suitable for adding to compost or spreading on empty beds to rot down over the winter.

Sweetcorn and Squirrels

Many people have lost their sweetcorn to the pesky squirrels this year. A couple of suggestions are to place cut out plastic milk bottles over the maturing cobs and another to wipe vic around the base of the stem.



What to do on your allotment this Autumn:

Apart from tidying away and composting the faded leaves and stems and generally tidying up, there are many things you can do to make your garden productive over the winter and prepare for Spring.

Seeds

There are still seeds to put in the ground for winter growing such as

Pak choy, Mizuna and Rocket Spring onion White Lisbon Lettuce Winter Cos, Winter Crop and Arctic King

Sarah Raven lists several unusual seeds on her website such as Broccoli Rabi.

www.sarahraven.com

If you have uncultivated areas consider planting green manures otherwise cover with polythene sheets or tarpaulins to suppress weed growth and prevent the leaching of nutrients from soil.

Fruit

Grease band fruit trees to combat winter moth and ants.

Finish pruning early fruiting raspberries (that fruit on last year's stems), tie in new stems for next year's fruit.

Late fruiting raspberries (those that fruit on this year's stems) can be cut down to the ground later in the winter.

Herbs

Collect and freeze annual herbs.

Vegetables

To avoid slug damage dig up and store potatoes in a cool, dry and dark place.

Check for brassica whitefly. Remove any infested lower leaves. Spray with insecticidal soap if infestation is heavy.

Compost

Keep adding to your compost bins. If you run out of space or have slower composting material bring it to the communal composting area when open (see dates on notice board) or arrange a convenient time with a member of the committee.

For more information on what to do at this time of year, refer to: www.allotment.org.uk/grow-your-own/autumn/october

Recipes:

Sarah Blackmore's Beetroot Cake



Sarah's husband is a beetroot farmer in Devon

Serves 8-10

450g SR white flour
1tsp round nutmeg
1tsp mixed spice
275g light brown sugar
125g chopped walnuts
350g cooked beetroot grated
2 ripe bananas mashed
4 medium eggs
300ml sunflower oil
Cocoa or melted chocolate can be added to make a yummy chocolate version.

Icing (Optional)

225g half fat cream cheese
85g icing sugar
2tsp lemon juice

Sift the flour and spices. Stir in the sugar, nuts, beetroot and bananas. Make a well in the flour and add eggs and oil and beat until incorporated. Put into an 8in deep sided cake tin and bake for 1 hour or until an inserted skewer comes out cleanly.

To make the icing beat together the cheese, sugar and lemon juice till smooth.

Decorate the cake with the icing and enjoy!

-Yolanda Bloor

Contact us

-Rosemary Fulljames (4a) *Treasurer*
-Barney King (20)
-Paul Leonard (2) *Chair*
-Harald Molgaard (24)
-Christine Poppelwell (22) *Newsletter*
-Yolanda Bloor (21)
-Ann Warrington (28a)

Or visit our website on:

www.cavendish-allotments.org.uk

Mobile, accepting essential texts and messages, 07505 668268

