

# Fairfield Allotments Newsletter 15 – October 2007



## WE ARE GROWING!!

As from February next year (2008) Fairfield Allotments Association will have added to our acreage (or should that be hectareage :-), which will mean an extra 11 full, 22 half and even quarter plots will be available to help reduce our waiting list, which at this time of writing is 59 people.

If you are not looking after your plot, i.e. keeping it in reasonable order and cultivation, for whatever reason, please consider the situation! If you cannot manage a full plot, consider reducing to a half plot and if you cannot manage a half plot we have plans to introduce a few quarter plots. Please let the secretary John Lambert know if you have any problems or if you have decided to give up all together. The sooner he knows the sooner it can be re let to someone who wants to have a go allotmenting. The committee will be inspecting allotments again in the autumn and any plot that is persistently neglected and has not responded to letters about the state of the plot may find that they will be given notice to quit. Every care will be taken to consider personal circumstances of the plot holder, which maybe affecting the situation but it is your responsibility to inform someone about the situation.

*Not many people know this:-Fairfield Allotments covers 4.4 acres of ground, which is 57 full plots, and has a boundary of 576 metres. A full plot, by the way, is 10 rods or 300 square yards.*

## Fairfield Funday Allotment Stall

The rain faired up right on time and by 12 noon Veg., fruit and flowers and were fairly flying off the table. A great big thanks to everyone who contributed produce for sale on the day and to the many helpers (we could do with a few more next year) on the stall. After taking out the cost of table rent and prize money paid out to the children winners of mini garden and beastly veg. a grand total of **£96.64** was raised for the association on the day.

I believe the Fairfield Association is having an Apple day soon in the Millennium Orchard, watch this space <http://www.fairfieldassociation.org>



## The Fairfield Cookbook on Sale soon

## Follow this link for Seasonal tips For October

Also - As the nights draw in and the temperature plummets it is time to watch out for the first frosts. You can sow **lettuce** in cold frames.

New fruit bushes can be planted from the end of the month. *Prepare soil well before planting.*

**Rhubarb** can be divided and planted Lift and store carrots, beetroot, turnips, swedes, etc Plant out **garlic** cloves, Earth up **celery** and leeks. Cut down yellowing stems of **asparagus** and mulch the bed, cut **Jerusalem Artichoke** stems to prevent the wind blowing them over.

Carry on tidying plot and **don't forget the paths** and any grassy areas which need trimming.

### Interesting websites

<http://www.growfruitandveg.co.uk/gardenguide/index.php>  
<http://www.gardenersworld.com>

*“The chestnuts fall every now and then with quite a rustle and thud, and the whole house at the garden side is covered with a crimson ruin of creeper and the sunflowers are all leaning down, weighted by their heavy seeds. – William Butler Yeats*

A great big thank you to your outgoing Chairman Roy Stephenson Your committee is :

**Acting Chair:** Caroline Eames

**Secretary:** John Lambert, 6 Carr House Lane, Lancaster LA1 15W Tel: Tel. 01524 849371

[john@jlambert.f9.co.uk](mailto:john@jlambert.f9.co.uk)

**Treasurer:** George Burnett, 94 Westbourne Road, Lancaster LA1 5JX Tel. 01524 62585

Gillian Allen, Jon Barry, John Weedy & Sid Duncan

## Committee people needed

If any member does feel like helping out on the committee, or just coming to the meetings, you will be welcome. Committee meetings are held at **the Water Witch (but venue will be changing soon)** on **Thursdays (about every 2 months)** Meeting Dates for the coming year: 29.03.07, 03.05.07, 05.07.07, 06.09.07, 10.01.08, 14.02.08

(If you have received this newsletter by email make sure you click on all the coloured headlines and notes.

They will link you to other interesting web sites. If you have a paper copy but use email please let us know your email address for future newsletters)

### Reminder

Don't forget to fit guttering round sheds and greenhouses to fill water butts and conserve water. If you have got barrels you are not going to use, let John L have them and he can find them a good home.

### Autumn Word Search

C A G A V D H V B T F S  
C A Z  
V O P D P A N D T R W L  
Y H N  
Y A N B T P A O O C L Y  
P E G  
M R P K M E L S P E O V  
U T T  
G X R R E T T E L S W E  
N A V  
R N M E P R I T S V C K  
C V A  
S N I X B B S Z L T D H  
V I W  
B N C N E P L M H T U P  
K T E  
N R B J U I S G U T Z O  
S L L  
B O N F I R E A N F O C  
R U L  
L E A V E S P E R B I S  
I C I  
E K O M S R Y O K L Y E  
A S E  
T S O P M O C O R H V E  
P G S  
Y L B S O A O A G O U D  
E C R  
L V C S O C G G Y C W S  
R A Q

APPLES, LEAVES, BONFIRE, NEWSLETTER  
CHUTNEY, POND, COMPOST, PRUNING  
CONKERS, RASPBERRY, COOKBOOK, REPAIRS  
CULTIVATE, SEEDS, FROST, GARLIC  
SMOKE WELLIES

## NOTICES

**The Seed scheme** will continue again for the 2007/08 season If you want to view the seed catalogue on line here is the website <http://www.kingsseeds.com/Ko-Transact/catalogue.asp> **Please note:** you cannot order seeds on this website as part of your allotment order you will be getting your special catalogues and order forms in October / November

**“The Allotment” TV series** boxed set of 3 DVD’s is available for members to order direct at a special reduced price of £13.99 – please make sure you identify yourself as a

member of Fairfield Allotments Association when ordering in order to get a the special price

If you are not using the internet The DVD shows how allotments can be farmed collectively and produce traded as part of the Stroud LETS scheme. We receive invaluable advice on soil health and organic growing from Patrick Holford of The Soil Association and discover what makes an award winning allotment from the Allotments Officer before the winning plots are celebrated at the local flower show. We find Heath Robinson techniques for maintaining a water supply in high summer and a permaculture specialist teaches us how to harvest abundant colourful, organic and nutritious crops all through the year. We visit allotments with chickens, rare sheep, horses, rabbits and bees, witness performance art and painting, help with skip-raiding and recycling and cookouts. – write to Lee Cox, Wildfire productions, 85 Effingham Road, Bristol BS6 5 AY or Tel 0117 914 7826

**Manure** delivered by trailer load. Phone *Stuart Taylor* 01524 67446 (**please check ground conditions on delivery day**)

**Articles or comments for publication in the next Newsletter.** Send to John Weedy, 10 Sibsey Street, Lancaster LA1 5DF - Tel.01524 60131 [j.weedy@iln.org.uk](mailto:j.weedy@iln.org.uk) We're on the Web! [www.fairfield-allotments.co.uk](http://www.fairfield-allotments.co.uk)