BRIDPORT and DISTRICT ALLOTMENTS SOCIETY

Newsletter **Winter 2019-2020**

Christmas Get-together 18th December 2019

All members and friends will be welcome to come along to the Society's annual Christmas Get-together, to be held at Mountfield (Bridport Town Council offices) at 7 pm on Wednesday 18th December.

There will be a Christmas Gardening Quiz, plus our usual convivial drinks and nibbles and the opportunity to exchange views and garden chat.

Bridport Seed Potato Day

Saturday 4th January 2020
United Church Hall (East Street)
10.30 a.m. – 1.30 p.m.
Free admission - Light refreshments

Kick-start your gardening year by coming along to this ever-popular annual event. Pennard Plants will be bringing 60+ varieties of seed potato, all for sale by the single tuber, Plus onion and shallot sets, planting garlic bulbs, heritage seeds, fruit trees, soft fruit, kitchen garden plants and much more.

The event is being organised by members of BADAS alongside a dedicated team of helpers who have been involved with this event for several years. Delicious refreshments including tea, coffee and homemade cakes will be available all morning, plus from mid morning, jacket potatoes with a variety of fillings. This year all surplus income from the sale of refreshments will be donated to Word Forest, a locally based charity which funds the planting and management of trees in Kenya.

All BADAS members are eligible for a discount on purchases from Pennards, on production of a current (2020) membership card.

If anyone could help on the day or donate cakes/ biscuits/buns to the cake stall please contact Mandy Rathbone [redacted]



A soggy autumn, 2019— Allotments at Skilling (photo Robin Wilkinson)

Bridport Seed Swap

Ropemakers Inn, West Street
Saturday 25th January 2020
10 a.m. -12 noon
for more information call Eileen: [redacted]

Shed break-ins

Members are reminded to report these to the police and Bridport town council, also to BADAS (we can keep members informed).

Reminder—subscriptions

Reminder to renew BADAS membership before 31st December 2019, if you have not already done so. Or Mandy will accept subs. at Potato Day (*left*).

BADAS Christmas Get-together—Wednesday 18th December
Christmas Quiz, chat, festive drinks and nibbles
at Mountfield (Town Council offices), starting at 7 pm. All members welcome.



Bridport Cohousing's Allotment Plot at Flaxhayes

We are a group of people who are building a cohousing neighbourhood of affordable homes for local people up near the Community Hospital in North Allington. Our values are about living in a supportive way, sharing some resources and reducing our impact on the planet. Growing some of our own food comes into this philosophy and we have been lucky enough to get a plot on Flaxhayes which gives some of those gardeners in our group an opportunity to practise vegetable and fruit growing using organic principles and a no-dig method.

We took the site on in 2017 and had a job on our hands with heavily compacted clay and lots of perennial weeds that the council had (unhelpfully) rotavated into the soil and took many hours of work to remove (we are still working on that one!!). Cardboard sheet mulching was our preferred method of tackling the plot, which we planted into during the first season.

Today things look very different and this summer we had a bumper harvest of fruits and vegetables, which are picked and taken to meetings for people to share whenever there is a glut of anything. We love our plot and spend many happy hours there.

Lin Scrannage



Your Committee and contact details

The committee and officers of the Bridport and District Allotment Society, elected at our AGM in September, are:

Colin Sparkes (Chairman) [redacted]

Lynne Atkinson (Secretary) [redacted]

Mandy Rathbone (Treasurer and Membership Secretary) [redacted]

Charles Wild, Newsletter Editor [redacted]

Committee members: John Abbott, Brian Atkinson (acting minute taker), Fiona Dare, Mary Ibbotson (Burton Bradstock representative), Roger Pollock.

A warm welcome to John and Mary who are new to the committee, and thanks to Geoff Adderley for his contribution over a number of years, and as a welcoming host to the BADAS summer visit to the Burton Bradstock allotments in 2017.

Any member who would like to help the Society with its work supporting and promoting allotment work in the Bridport area would be welcome to join the committee—contact Lynne, Mandy or Colin (details above).

Newsletter contributions

Contributions to the BADAS newsletter are always welcome—news of forthcoming events or from allotment sites, articles on gardening topics, and photographs, which can be sent to the Editor, Charles Wild [redacted] at any time.

The newsletter is published quarterly, and the deadline for material for the next issue is 23rd February 2020.

Bridport and District Allotments Society

Membership of the Bridport & District Allotments Society costs £2 per annum, and gives entitlement to discounts e.g. on some items at Groves. Our Membership Secretary/Treasurer Mandy Rathbone will be pleased to receive your subscriptions at [redacted] For information please contact Mandy by email [redacted]

Receiving the newsletter: We now send out the newsletter, meeting agenda and minutes by email — *if any member is unable to receive these by email, please contact the Secretary, Lynne Atkinson, on* [redacted] to receive a copy by post or hand delivery.

Website: visit our website at:
www.bridportallotmentsociety.co.uk

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