

BRIDPORT and DISTRICT ALLOTMENTS SOCIETY

Newsletter

Summer 2023

Thankyou Lynne for everything.



**BADAS Secretary
Lynne Atkinson
1949 - 2023**

**Our lovely secretary Lynne passed
away on 13th April 2023.
Her husband Brian has written a few
words about Lynne's busy life.
We will all miss her tremendously.**

Remembering Lynne

Lynne was born in New Cross, South East London. She had one older brother, Roy and several older half brothers and sisters and was married to husband Brian in 1984.

Both she and Brian were keen cricketers: Brian playing and Lynne scoring throughout SE London and Kent.

She had a long career in the NHS and was medical records officer of a hospital in Kent, when she and her husband took early retirement in 2007 and they moved to a house in Bridport, where they had previously had a caravan - and then a flat.

They only had a small garden and thus applied for an allotment. Lynne took over as Secretary in 2012 and has contributed greatly to the smooth running of BADAS since then, organising meetings, liaising with the Council and coordinating communication with the members. Lynne was also the treasurer of the Asker Nature Reserve Project.

She was always friendly, helpful and outgoing with a lovely sense of humour. She battled gallantly against the myeloma that was finally diagnosed in 2018 - after a long period of back pain, and was still at home until the beginning of the week in which it finally overwhelmed her, and she died peacefully in Dorchester hospital on Thursday 13th April. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Should you wish to, you may make a donation to The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance in memory of Lynne.

Dates for your diary and other notices

Next BADAS Meeting - Members' Summer BBQ

**Saturday 8th July 2023
7 p.m. at the BADAS Hub**

There is no charge for this event but
please let us know if you are coming so
that we can cater accordingly.



Bridport Food Festival

Saturday 17th June

BADAS will have a stall in the
Bridport Town Council Marquee

Please let us know if you would
like to help for a short time on the
stall. We will be repeating our very
popular "plant a seed" activity for
children.

Please come along with your family
on the day to say hallo to us.

Free Books

Burton Bradstock member,
Carol Brown, has kindly
donated a whole box of lovely
gardening books to BADAS

These will be available at all
our forthcoming events for
members to have free of
charge, though a small dona-
tion can be given if wished.

Come along to our Food Festi-
val Stall and have a browse!

Chedington Compost (chedingtoncompost.co.uk)
have offered BADAS Members 5% discount on their bulk bags of composted manure etc.
See BADAS website for details of how to claim this discount.

BADAS Membership 2023
Don't forget to renew your BADAS membership
Contact Membership Secretary, Mandy Rathbone,
by email at manwell52@hotmail.co.uk for infor-
mation on how to renew.

Newsletter contributions welcome
If you have any items you would like to see included in
future issues of our Newsletter, (Published quarterly)
please contact our Newsletter Editor (Mandy)
manwell52@hotmail.co.uk

Contributions for the next edition welcome at any time
before **16th August 2023** please.

Help needed for Community Allotment



Many of you will know the Community Allotment which is part of, and adjacent to, the Community Orchard behind St Mary's Church in South Street.

The whole allotment site was created about 12 years ago and originally two of the plots were set aside to run a community enterprise. At that time there was funding to employ a gardener who ran it for a couple of years. Alas, the funding ceased and the management of the plots was taken over by volunteers from the orchard - and that's the way it's been run ever since.

I have been organising the sessions for quite a few years now but, at the end of 2023 I intend to "retire" and step down from the orchard committee as well.

We would really like to see the allotments continue as a community resource in some form but, sadly, I have been unable to find a successor to take on the work.

Is there anyone (or more than one) out there who would be interested in carrying on this valuable community asset? If no one comes forward I guess the plots will revert to private plots allocated by the council.

The Community Allotment currently comprises three full plots, the third being acquired in 2016, two sheds, a large polytunnel bought with help from the West Bay Car Boot Fund in 2020 and a multitude of tools and gardening equipment. There is also a gas burner and all the necessary kettles, teapot, cups etc to provide refreshments.

In winter the allotment sessions are run once a month to keep things ticking over, then in mid to late March the sessions start weekly through to about mid-October. All the sessions are currently held on Thursday afternoons from 2-4pm but needn't stay the same - in fact a change may be a good idea, maybe with some evening sessions thrown in.

As leader of the allotments I am an Orchard committee member and that meets once a month (apart from December). The allotments do not charge for membership but we do ask each person for 50p, when they attend, to cover the cost of refreshments, composts, seeds etc. The allotment also has an agreed annual budget from the Orchard funds for larger purchases. The whole allotment area belongs to the Town Council and, accordingly, we have to pay for the three plots we use. To raise funds for this we hold an annual allotment open afternoon in August to coincide with National Allotment Week. We put out publicity and invite the public to come and see what we do and also set up a refreshment tent (with splendid cakes provided by our volunteers) along with any available produce and any preserves that we have made. This event normally raises the majority of the plot fees thanks to the generosity of the locals.

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Community Allotment Appeal continued

We would really like the community aspect of the allotment to continue so if there are any keen organisers out there please contact me or pop down on a Thursday afternoon for a chat.

Jenn Baker
Chair, Bridport Community Orchard
bcog.allotment@btinternet.com



And finally some exciting news from our Chair -

Pergola planned for the Hub

The Committee have passed plans, and permission has been granted by BTC, for a wooden pergola to be built at The Hub.

We will be able to cover it with a tarpaulin if the weather is poor for any planned event that we have. Up until now, we have had to postpone several events because of forecasted rain and that seems to put members off coming to the rearranged event.

A quote for the pergola has been obtained and accepted, but we are awaiting a date for the work to be done.

Fiona Dare—May 2023