

BRIDPORT and DISTRICT ALLOTMENTS SOCIETY

Newsletter

Summer 2018

Summer Event and BBQ Thursday 14th June, 7pm

This year the BADAS Summer Meeting will be an allotment walkabout on the Skilling allotments. This will be held, rain or shine, on the evening of Thursday 14th June 2018 starting at 7 pm.

This is always a popular and enjoyable evening – having a wander around other people's allotments – but this year the committee has decided to make it a bit more of a social event by organising some **light refreshments (BBQ and drinks)** on Plot 12 of the South Skilling members' allotments.

So after a pleasant wander round the allotments seeing who is doing what and how, there will be the chance to gather together with a glass and a bite and exchange ideas. *There will also be a gardening expert from Groves Garden Centre on hand for an informal question and answer session.*

This will be a lovely opportunity to catch up with other members and have a good moan about the latest allotment frustrations – drought/floods/plagues of slugs – who knows?! We are also endeavouring to arrange for some gazebos to be available to give us some cover just in case the weather is not ideal!

We would love it if everyone can join us, - if you can let us know if you plan to attend, that will help with catering arrangements - **contact Lynne or Mandy at 01308-250260; Email: bridportallotmentsociety@gmail.com.** Put the date in your diary – Thursday 14th June, 7 pm – and come and join us. All members welcome.

Bridport Food Festival

If you are not able to join us for the summer event and BBQ at Skilling on Thursday 14th June (or even if you are), we will be at the Bridport Food Festival two days later, on Saturday 16th June. We will have a table in the Bridport Town Council gazebo with displays and information/advice leaflets, and will be there from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., so please come and visit us there.



News from the Bridport Community Allotment

Our 2018 season started on the 22nd March with ten allotmenters turning out. We also had a visit from Pam who is involved with the NHS START initiative and who wanted to find a small plot for their Bridport members, plus three new people who have recently moved to the area - so we are thriving!

After a very dreary start to the year all is now beginning to catch up. We sowed lots of seeds in trays this year and they have done very well in the polytunnel. The next few weeks will see most of them planted out I hope. This season we are growing for the first time some Borlotti beans, Black Opal tomatoes and Romanesco broccoli. We've also invested in more "Veggiemesh" as it kept all the caterpillars off the brassicas last year.

We shall be holding our usual **Allotment Open Afternoon in August** (with plenty of cakes!) but this time it will be on the **15th which is a Wednesday** rather than the usual Thursday. Hopefully we shall attract a few more of the passing public who've been to the market.

Jenn Baker
Community Allotment Co-ordinator

BADAS Summer Meeting - Thursday 14th June 2018

As reported above, the next meeting of the Bridport and District Allotments Society will be an outdoor event with refreshments and BBQ, at Plot 12 on the South Skilling allotments, starting at 7 pm. All members welcome..

Town Council seeks to provide more allotments

Bridport Town Council is investigating the feasibility of a new allotment site on land adjacent to the cemetery (Walditch), which could provide up to 28 plots. This is in line with the town council's support and positive attitude to the provision of allotments.

In 1929/30 Bridport had 533 allotments covering nearly 34 acres; in 1961 it had 150 on just under 10 acres; in 1985 only 99 allotments on 6.5 acres – and that number was further reduced to 81 on just 5.4 acres by 2008.

Since then, in close consultation with the Bridport and District Allotments Society (formed in 1998), the town council has made great efforts to reverse this decline, opening up new allotments at Skilling North, West Allington, Priory Gardens, the Community Orchard, and St Cecilia's, and now provides a total of more than 180 plots.

In this modern age, pressure upon urban open space of any kind is considerable, and allotments, especially if they are under-used, are potentially vulnerable, as has been demonstrated in other parts of the country. Currently in Bridport, six plots are due to be lost at Gundry Lane following a planning application for a small residential development on the allotments owned by Palmers Brewery, though plotholders have been assured that the majority of the site will remain as allotments and open space.

The town council has a waiting list of 31 Bridport residents and another 37 from surrounding parishes, so the possibility of new allotments near the cemetery is encouraging.

Data Protection

As you are probably aware, the new General Data Protection Regulations came into force in the UK on 25th May.

You receive this newsletter as a paid-up member of the Bridport & District Allotments Society (BADAS).

Your data (name, address, email, telephone number) is securely held and is solely used for the distribution of the BADAS agenda, minutes, newsletter and other notices. It is not shared with any other party.

If you would like to keep receiving mailings from us, you don't have to do anything. If you do not wish to receive them, please let us know by email to bridportallotmentsociety@gmail.com or by telephone (01308-250260).



David Barnikel (1933-2018)

Sadly David passed away on 29th March 2018 - he will be greatly missed by those of us that had any involvement with him over the years. My dealings with him were mostly through the Burton Bradstock Allotment Association where he was always available for help and advice. He owned the Burton Bradstock Cliff Hotel (now the Seaside Boarding House). and It seems most of the village worked for him at one stage.

Nothing was ever too much trouble to David and the use of the "Big Room" at his home for allotment meetings and Camera Club get-togethers are well known. He was also involved with the Bride Valley Gardening Club. His more recent request was that the BB Allotment Association be known as the Green Fingers Club – a group that used to meet in The Dove and continued at The Burton Cliff Hotel – many stories reflect the goings on with that group of people, all very entertaining. We will do our best to refer to the allotment association as the Green Fingers Club.

David is a very fond memory and he will be missed by all who knew him.

Geoff Adderley

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]

[REDACTED] For information please contact Mandy by email at [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