

Hummersknott
Gardeners Association
SPRING NEWSLETTER

2023

Welcome plot holders to your new design newsletter.

First and foremost - gentle reminder to all that the committee members are unpaid volunteers, and should be treated with respect and not harassed in any way. Any official queries or complaints should be forwarded to the committee email address:

hummersknott@gmail.com.

We have appointed a new security liaison - Alan Jones, plot 3 - 17.

Email: alan2487@gmail.com.

Please join the committee in welcoming Alan to his new role.

The recent seed swap was a great success. Thank you to all that volunteered and attended.

We are fortunate in that we have FREE woodchip delivered onsite periodically. There is currently an overflow so please help yourselves!

The committee are looking for a volunteer with spot welding skills to assist with the repair of an apple scrapper. If you can help please contact the committee.

*You can find information such as the events calendar, Dobies discount code, sowing calendar, and recipes at the association website: **www.hgapondfield.co.uk.***

Plot Boundaries

The committee would like to ask that plot holders check their plot boundaries for rocks and debris/scrap and make sure these areas are made clear for grass cutting. Thank you.

Dates for your Diary

Coffee, Tea and cake dates:

Saturday 17th June 10-12pm

Sunday 9th July 10-12pm

Sunday 17th Sep 10-12pm

Open Day:

Saturday 12th Aug 10-1pm

If you could spare some time to volunteer at any of the events please contact:

catherine.boggon@gmail.com



Allotment Heroes.

A big thank you to clean up squad Catherine, Malcolm, Susan, Colin, Alan and Bri for cleaning up the tea cabin. 14 years of dirt and grime washed away! Fantastic job everyone!

Help us name the new community cabin! Scan the QR code below or go to:

<https://bit.ly/NameTheCabinComp>



Rat Control



A hot topic at the AGM!
One plot holder has had success with an essential oil Rodent repellent spray.

Homemade spray recipe:
<https://www.wikihow.com/Get-Rid-of-Animal-Pests-With-Hot-Pepper-Spray>

Do you have a rat problem?

Signs:

- Rats runs along fences/ boundaries.
- Holes in fences/sheds.
- Evidence of gnawed wood/ plants.

Non-toxic ways to deter rats and mice:

- Block obvious 'rat highways' and holes.
- Regularly disturb/water compost heaps.
- Place cotton wool soaked in peppermint/citronella/ eucalyptus oil in rat traffic areas.
- Provide less cover/clear debris and overgrowth.



Fostering Trees for a better tomorrow.

The Darlington Forest Project are looking for volunteers to foster saplings.

A charitable trust from Darlington - creating new woodland and planting trees to improve our town and help tackle climate change – are looking for volunteers to look after a tray of small trees for a couple of years until they are old enough to plant.

Please contact:

kendraullyart@gmail.com
07804905808.



Now that we are no longer having bonfires on site, there are some alternative ways to dispose of your garden waste.

Two new weed bays have been created at points A. and D. One at the top of row 1, and one in the main car park. PLEASE NOTE: there is a separate disposal site for branches and brambles, at site C. to the right of the woodchip bay.

PLEASE DO NOT DISPOSE OF BRANCHES AND BRAMBLES IN THE WEED BAYS. Thank you.

Summary:

Weed disposal: Site A.& D.

Leaf mould bays: Site B. C. & E.

Wood chip bay: Site C.

Branch and bramble disposal: Site C - in the gap to the right of the woodchip bay.

Thank you for your co-operation.