



Horfield & District Allotments Association

Summer Newsletter 2022

Dear Member/Associate Member,

Here is a catch-up on things that have happened on the allotments and in H&DAA in the last few months. Most of the articles below have appeared on the H&DAA website since the last Newsletter was sent out in December. Hopefully, most of you will have enjoyed a productive year on your allotment plot.

You are receiving this newsletter in paper format as we do not hold an email address for you. Email versions of this newsletter have built-in hyperlinks to the articles, so are easier to navigate. If you would like to receive future newsletters by email, please send your email address to pltmgr@horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk.

Among the articles listed below are some interesting suggestions on how to help your plot survive hot, dry conditions we have been suffering from. We also have details of the H&DAA AGM that was held in May when certain decisions were made. There is news of the upcoming Golden Hill Harvest Fair and a report on the Spring Fair that was held, both run by our friends at the Community Garden. There are many other snippets that you should find useful.

In this newsletter we will cover:

- [How to cope with drought conditions on the allotment](#)
- [H&DAA AGM 2022 summary & minutes](#)
- [Golden Hill Harvest Fair in September 2022](#)
- [Donations of surplus produce wanted](#)
- [New BS7 Wildlife Group](#)
- [Helping Bristol Prison](#)
- [Vandalism on Birchall Road site](#)
- [Organic Orchard Events at Golden Hill](#)
- [Grow Wilder Pesticide Workshops](#)
- [City Nature Challenge](#)
- [Spring Fair 2022](#)
- [Bristol Seed Library](#)
- [Allotment Supplies](#)
- [Advice & Tips](#)
- [Contacting your Field Rep](#)
- [Field Rep phone contact details](#)

Coping with drought conditions

This year has been one of the driest in living memory. Conditions like these are likely to become a common trend owing to climate change. Thus, we should all become aware of how to garden in hot dry conditions. This article has some links to websites which explore this issue in detail.

<https://www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk/news/drought-on-the-allotment-how-to-survive-it/>



Horfield & District Allotments Association

Annual General Meeting Summary and minutes

The Allotment Association's AGM for 2022 was held in May. For a summary of the proceedings and a link to the full draft minutes of the AGM go to:

<https://www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk/news/2022-agm-summary-minutes/>

Upcoming Golden Hill Harvest Fair - 24th September

The Golden Hill Community Garden are running a Harvest Fair at the Golden Hill allotment site on 24th September 1pm to 4pm. All are welcome. Full details of the event are given in:

<https://www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk/news/golden-hill-harvest-fair-24th-september/>

Donations of fruit & vegetables to Family Food Action

Lucy at the Community Garden is organising a delivery of surplus fruit and vegetables every Tuesday to the Ardagh, where it is parcelled up to give to families in need and to provide meals for kids clubs in deprived areas of the City. Please leave any surplus produce you have in the shelves inside the Golden Hill site gate.

<https://www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk/news/donations-of-surplus-food-requested/>

New BS7 Wildlife Facebook Group

A new Facebook group has been launched which all interested people can join covering wildlife in the BS7 area. Allotments are an important corridor for wildlife in the city and this new group means that all our allotment sites now have a local Wildlife Group.

<https://www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk/news/new-bs7-wildlife-group/>

Helping Bristol Prison

One of our closest neighbours at the Golden Hill site is Bristol Prison. One of the committee attended a recent community meeting with the prison authorities. They are keen to hear from anyone who can help them fight the problem of substance abuse in prisons. They are also keen to receive other comments and suggestions.

<https://www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk/news/helping-bristol-prison/>

Vandalism on Birchall Road Site

Unfortunately our Birchall Road allotment site suffered from extensive damage caused by vandals in July. This is not the first time that plots have been affected. It is a particular problem on this site as there is open access to the public, so security gates cannot be installed. We would urge any plotholder or local resident to be vigilant and report any suspicious activity to either the police or your Field Rep.

<https://www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk/news/vandalism-at-birchall-road-site/>

HOCO event in June

The Horfield Organic Community Orchard resumed its events after lockdown by holding a Midsummer Orchard Open Day on June 18th at their site at the top end Davies Field in our Golden Hill site.

<http://www.community-orchard.org.uk/public-events>

Grow Wilder Pesticide Workshops

As part of the Festival of Nature in June, there were two workshops held which discussed how to garden in a more wildlife-friendly way, without using pesticides. The speaker was a MSc student from UWE who we hope to invite to our next AGM to give a talk about her findings.

<https://www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk/news/grow-wilder-free-pesticide-workshops/>

City Nature Challenge

The annual nature challenge returned in the Spring, giving everyone the opportunity to record wildlife on their allotment or any other green space in the City.

<https://www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk/uncategorized/city-nature-challenge/>

Spring Fair at Golden Hill site

The first Spring Fair for 3 years was held in May at the Golden Hill allotments. All the usual activities were there, with music, dancing and children's activities. It was a great event for the local community to attend and raised valuable funds for the Community Garden.

<https://www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk/news/fun-at-the-fair/>

Bristol Seed Library

Earlier this year the first seed library for Bristol was launched in our local Bishopston Library. This is a new initiative where people can "borrow" seeds from the library to plant and then deposit any spare seeds they may have back into the library. Anyone can borrow or return seeds whenever they can.

<https://www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk/news/bristol-seed-library-opening-in-bishopston/>

Allotment Supplies

Don't forget to look at the H&DAA website pages for Suppliers of all types of items you require for your allotment plot. This includes, compost, manure, seeds and many other items. H&DAA does not have a shop ourselves, but the Ashley Down Store is close by, and we also list many other local suppliers.

<https://www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk/advice/allotment-supplies/>

Advice & Tips

On the H&DAA website, there are lots of pages with advice and guidance for you to make the most of your allotment plot, whether you are new to allotment gardening or an old hand. Subject areas include:

- Growing techniques
- Recipes
- Pests & diseases
- Gardening Talks and Courses
- Links to other gardening websites



Horfield & District Allotments Association

<https://www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk/advice/>

Contacting your Field Rep

Each of our allotment sites or fields has one or more Field Reps. They can be contacted by email using the email addresses on the noticeboards (if present) or as detailed in the following link:

<https://www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk/policies/field-representatives/>

Field Rep plot numbers are also in the following Table:

Baptist Field Reps			Longs Field Reps		
Plot	Name		Plot	Name	
19	Joe McSorley		23a, 31a	Steve Morgan	
33a, 34	Kathryn Sadler		10a/10	Dominic O'Dwyer	
33a, 34	Pete Bill				
Birchall Field Reps			St Agnes Field Reps		
Plot	Name		Plot	Name	
26a	Joe Baxter		7	Pete Clee	
8a	Kirstin Whimster		49, 50	Neil Pirie (Chair)	
9a	Tony Jones				
Grahams Field Reps			Davies Field Reps		
Plot	Name		Plot	Name	
Telecoms 15	Helen McCreadie		18,18a,19a	Steve Soffe	
Highbury 29a	Jamie Darke		2	Sarah Newns	
Useful names					
Name		Phone Number	Name		
Neil Pirie - Chair			Phil Hopkins – Treasurer		
Debbie Bradley - Secretary			Steve Soffe- Plot manager		
			Phil Hopkins – Website Manager		

That's all for now. If you have any comments, questions or ideas for future Newsletters, please send them to info@horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk

The H&DAA Team