



**EARLS COLNE
ALLOTMENT
ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER
JUNE 2010**

Haven't we been busy bees!?! 7 weeks on and the site is unrecognisable. We have had multiple erections, seeds have been planted and things are sprouting! A fantastic effort has been made by everyone! Here's an update with what we have been up to over the last few weeks.

THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN GOING ON SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER

- € Car-park completed.
- € Fence completed and plots marked out. Thanks to those who helped with this.
- € All allotments are taken and we have a waiting list.
- € Everyone has their key and membership cards.
- € Thank you for moving your stones from the inside of the fence.
- € Set up a facebook site – please feel free to put your photos of the allotment on there.
- € Many thanks to Richard Curtis for his brilliantly prepared and thorough introduction to allotmenting which was attended by over 60 people – “ Beginners Guide to Allotments” raised in excess of £100 for ECAA funds.
- € Our first social event which was a Beetle Drive and Buffet was great fun. We raised just over £150 for ECAA funds. Thanks to Colne Valley Tandoori, Rickisu, Graze, Ziel, PJ's and Britvic for providing some great raffle prizes.
- € As you may have noticed a number of trees have been planted in the woodland area. These are being looked after by members of the committee and other volunteers.
- € Sheds have been delivered – many thanks to Peter and Jenny at Fork 'andles.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY – OFFICIAL OPENING EVENT

To be held during the afternoon of Saturday 4th September 2010. Mr Hobbs will be there to formally open the site and we are planning to celebrate our achievements.

Planned ideas so far are a BBQ or hog roast, fun competitions such as best scarecrow, biggest pumpkin, tallest sunflower, etc. More details to follow.

SPONSOR A TREE

There is an opportunity for members to be able to sponsor a tree for example in memory of someone dear to you or because you just like trees! For £30 you will be able to choose a tree from the woodland plan and be the sole sponsor / carer of that tree. If you are interested please contact Tamsin Beaumont on Tel: 224413 or email tamsin.m.beaumont@gsk.com who has details of the trees available.

WATER

Mr Hobbs is very generously filling up 3 water tanks for us free of charge every week but please be frugal with it and don't use it to fill your water butts.

The Parish Council are in discussions with Anglian Water and awaiting costings to put in a permanent water source. We are hoping to be able to cover the cost of water usage from the existing ECAA annual fee however, this will be reviewed when we know actual costs. This may incur a slight increase to the annual fee. We will keep you informed.

REMINDERS AND BITS AND PIECES

- € Please shut the gates! – the entrance gate and car-park gate have been left open a couple of times.
- € If you are not planning on doing anything with your plot until the Autumn please make sure that you keep the weeds on your plot under control as per rule no4!
- € Seeds for next Spring – we are planning to do a bulk order from Kings where we have managed to obtain a tremendous discount. A catalogue will be lodged in the library – watch out for more communication.
- € PC Paul Andrews – our Neighbourhood Specialist Officer is going to prepare some laminated posters that we can put on our sheds and on the perimeter fence saying that we do not keep valuable tools in our shed as a deterrent to would-be thieves. Paul's details if you have any non-urgent security issues are paulandrews@essex.pnn.police.uk or 07974 442984.

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

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