

**BEVERLEY PARK ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION
NEWS LETTER – JUNE 2008**

FORWARD PLANNING!

After the brilliant day at our first plant sale we plan to hold another next May. So please bear this in mind if you are dividing any plants from your garden in the Autumn and pot up a few for the sale next year.

OPEN AFTERNOON - SUNDAY JULY 6TH 2 - 5pm. Come along and enjoy the afternoon.

Plans are well under way.

Plant Stall

David Wyld and Charlotte and David Mustill are organising the plant stall, including cut flowers and produce if anyone has anything to spare on the day. They need donations of plants too, so if you have anything, spare seedlings, divisions from your garden etc. please give to the plant sale. Please bring them to the site by 1pm.

Refreshments

Louise Williams, with Elaine Cross helping, is organising the refreshments stall, selling tea, coffee, soft drinks and cake to eat in or take away!

I will be ringing round to ask for donations of cakes or you could email me. I will also be asking for helpers to man the stall. Please bring cake donations to the site by 1pm.

Sustainable Gardening Information and Composting Display

Ann Lynn assisted by Peter will be running this stall. Ann will also be selling her book 'From Pasture To Park', a history of Beverley Park and the allotments.

Scarecrow Competition

Brenda Kelly, Chairman of the Malden Fortnight committee, will be judging the scarecrow competition at 3.30ish at the Open Afternoon and she will present the PRIZE - a £15 voucher. Scarecrows should be put up on your plot by 12 o'clock at the latest, on Sunday 6th.

There will be an entry charge of 50p for adults to the Open Afternoon. (Visitors only, ploholders free!)

N.B. The driveway will be closed to vehicles all day on Sunday 6th July..

CARPETS - No more to be brought on site.

The committee has been discussing the problems with carpet used on the site.

Although it works as a weed suppressant in the long term it has proved a real problem, mainly with its disposal. Levering it off the ground complete with meadow growing on top is not much fun either.

As the Council has now announced that there will be no more free skips for allotment sites it was agreed that no more carpet should be brought onto the site.

Existing carpet can remain on a plot but not on the pathways between plots (it causes problems with the strimmer). It is up to each ploholder to dispose of their unwanted carpet.

I have been looking at alternatives and Mypex, the black woven geomembrane, would seem to be the most suitable for paths between beds where a permanent covering is needed. Do contact me if you've used it, I'd be interested to hear what you think of it, the cost and where you bought it.

Some ploholders have used plastic tarpaulins to cover larger areas, they are light to handle, easy to store and apparently they are inexpensive. With a layer of cardboard, newspaper or thin black plastic sheeting underneath, to ensure all light is excluded, they seem to be as efficient as carpet at killing off grass etc. without the associated problems.

Gloria Wallis. Sec.

I will be using a new email address in future -

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